

# Hidden Markov Models

## From Theory to Applications

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Romanian Asociation for Artificial Intelligence

October, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012

PART 1.

## **Intro**

PART 2.

## **Theory of HMMs**

PART 3.

## **Demo & Discussions**

# Outline

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## 1 ARIA Education Workshops

- ARIA's Mission
- ARIA Education
- Workshop Program

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# ARIA EDU

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# Outline

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# Today's Program

9:00	Registration
10:00	ARIA
11:00	HMM Theory

# Outline

- 2 Machine Learning Applications for HMM
  - Machine Learning
  - Where do HMMs fit into Machine Learning?
- 3 Theory of HMMs
  - The 3 things you want from an HMM
  - Mathematical Foundations for HMMs
  - Notation Conventions & Framework Description
- 4 Implementing HMMs
  - Using the Model for Estimations: the Forward-Backward algorithm
  - Learning from Observations: Baum-Welch algorithm
  - Uncovering Hidden states: Viterbi algorithm

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# What is Machine Learning?

## Machine Learning

A computer program is said to learn from experience  $E$  with respect to some class of tasks  $T$  and performance measure  $P$ , if its performance at tasks in  $T$ , as measured by  $P$ , improves with experience  $E$ .

# Machine Learning Applications

- Computer Vision: Google Car
- Machine Translation: Google Translate, new Speech-to-Speech technologies
- Speech Recognition: Siri, S Voice
- Recommender Systems: Amazon, Netflix, YouTube
- Intelligent Advertising: every big player :-)

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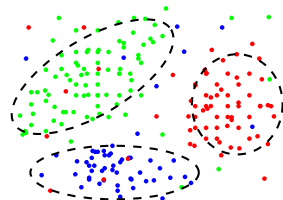
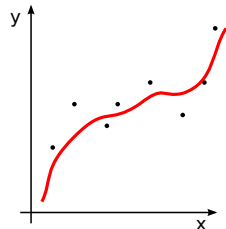
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# Machine Learning Classification

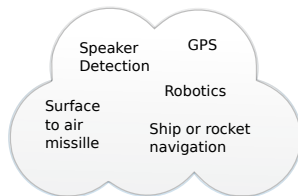
## Types of Machine Learning Problems

- Regression
- Classification
- Reinforcement Learning
- supervised learning (eg. ..)
- unsupervised

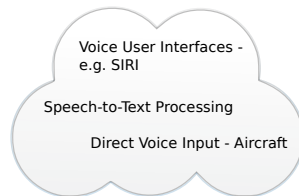


# Sequence / Temporal problems (I)

## OBJECT TRACKING



## SPEECH RECOGNITION



## GESTURE RECOGNITION





# Sequence / Temporal problems (II)

## BIOINFORMATICS

Protein Sequencing

Modeling of a Gene  
Regulatory Network

## ECONOMICS

Stock Price Prediction

Econometrics

- estimate a country's economic indicators across time -

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Models

Consider some of the previously presented problems ...

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How do we model such dynamic situations?

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## States and Observations

- The process of change is viewed as a series of **time slices (snapshots)**
- Each time slice contains a set of random variables
  - $\mathbf{O}_t$  - set of all **observable** evidence variables at time  $t$
  - $\mathbf{Q}_t$  - set of all **unobservable / hidden** state variables at time  $t$

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Assumptions

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## Stationary Process

The process of change is governed by laws **that do not themselves change over time**.

**Implication:** we need to specify conditional distributions only for the variables within a *representative* timeslice.

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Assumptions

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**Implication:** we need to specify conditional distributions only for the variables within a *representative* timeslice.

## Markov Assumption

The current state in a process of change depends only on a **finite history** of previous states.

**Implication:** there is a **bounded** number of “parents” for the variables in each time slice.

$$P(Q_t | Q_{1:t-1}) = P(Q_t | Q_{t-1}) \quad P(O_t | Q_{1:t}, Q_{1:t-1}) = P(O_t | Q_t)$$



# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Inference

What are the basic inference tasks that must be solved?

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## Filtering (monitoring)

The task of computing the **belief state** - the posterior distribution over the **current state**, given all evidence to date.

$$P(\mathbf{Q}_t | \mathbf{o}_{1:t})$$

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## Filtering (monitoring)

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$$P(\mathbf{Q}_t | \mathbf{o}_{1:t})$$

## Evaluation (likelihood)

The task of computing the **likelihood** of the evidence up to present.

$$P(\mathbf{o}_{1:t})$$

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Inference

## Prediction

The task of computing the posterior distribution over the **future state**, given all evidence to date.

$P(\mathbf{Q}_{t+k} | \mathbf{o}_{1:t})$ , for some  $k > 0$

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Inference

## Prediction

The task of computing the posterior distribution over the **future state**, given all evidence to date.

$$P(\mathbf{Q}_{t+k} | \mathbf{o}_{1:t}), \text{ for some } k > 0$$

## Smoothing (hindsight)

The task of computing the posterior distribution over a **past state**, given all evidence to the present.

$$P(\mathbf{Q}_k | \mathbf{o}_{1:t}), \text{ for some } 1 \leq k < t$$

Provides a better estimate of the state than was available at the time.

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Inference

## Most likely explanation

Given a *sequence of observations*, find the **sequence of states** that is **most likely** to have generated those observations.  $\operatorname{argmax}_{q_{1:t}} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{q}_{t+k} | \mathbf{o}_{1:t})$ , for some  $k > 0$

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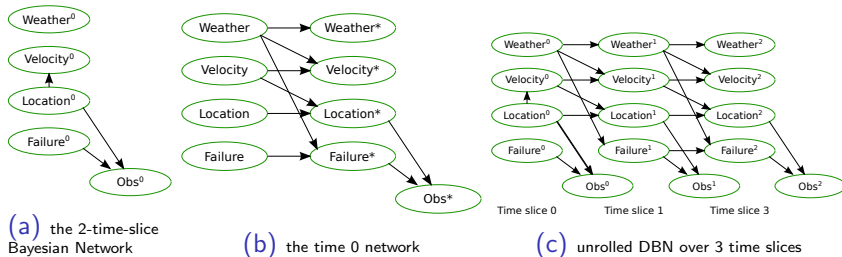
## Learning

Given a set of *observation sequences*, find a method to learn the **transition** (e.g.  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{q}_{t+1} = s_j | \mathbf{q}_t = s_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i, j < N$ ) and **sensor** ( $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{o}_t | \mathbf{q}_t)$ ) **models** from the observations.

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Known Methods

## Dynamic Bayesian Networks (DBN)

A DBN is Bayesian network that represents a temporal probability model.



**Figure:** A highly simplified DBN for monitoring a vehicle (Koller and Friedman 2009)

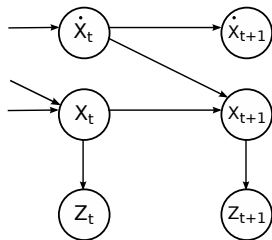
Applied in problems like: object tracking, human activity recognition, protein sequencing etc.



# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Known Methods

## Kalman Filters (Linear Dynamical Systems)

A temporal model of one or more real-valued variables that **evolve linearly** over time, with some **Gaussian noise**.



- can be viewed as DBNs where all variables are continuous and all dependencies are linear gaussian
- wide application in **object tracking**

**Figure:** BN structure for a linear dynamical system with position  $X_t$ , velocity  $\dot{X}_t$ , and position measurement  $Z_t$

# Probabilistic Reasoning over Time - Known Methods

## Hidden Markov Models (HMM)

An HMM is a temporal probabilistic model in which the state of the process is described by a **single discrete** random variable. The possible values of the variable are the possible states of the world.

Used successfully in applications like:

- Handwriting Recognition
- Gesture Recognition
- Speech Recognition
- Part-of-Speech Tagging
- DNA Sequencing

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## The 3 fundamental problems (Rabiner 1989)

- Particularization of temporal inference problems to the HMM case
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Given a model and a sequence of observations, how do we compute the probability that the **observed sequence** was produced by the model?

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### Best Explanation of Observations Problem

Given a model and a sequence of observations how do we choose a corresponding sequence of **states** which *gives meaning* to the observations?  
How do we *uncover* the hidden part of the model?

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### Model Estimation (Training) Problem

Given some observed sequences, how do we adjust the **parameters** of an HMM model that best tries to explain the observations?

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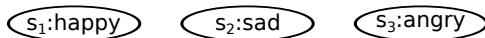


# An example problem: Emotional states

Let's consider a simple example:  
a robot that tracks the emotional states of a player.



# An example problem: Emotional states



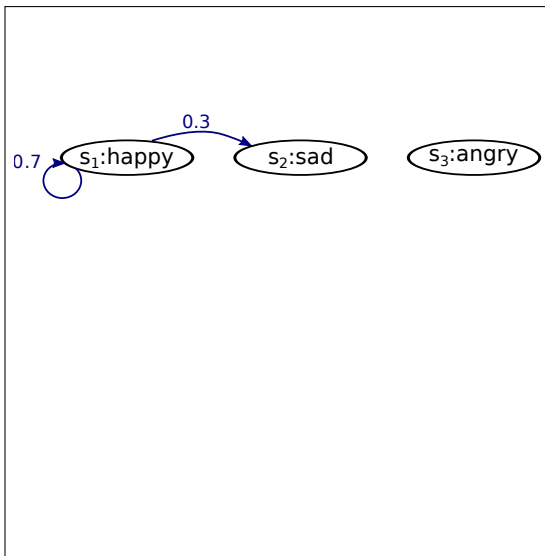
**N** - number of states

$$\mathbf{N} = 3$$

states:

- $s_1$ : happy
- $s_2$ : sad
- $s_3$ : angry

# An example problem: Emotional states



**A** - state transition probability distribution

$$\mathbf{A} = \{a_{i,j}\}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq N$$

$$a_{i,j} = P(q_{t+1} = s_j | q_t = s_i)$$

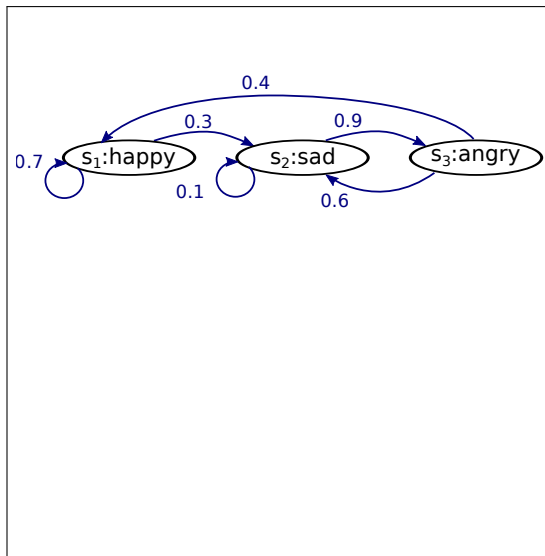
- $a_{1,1} = 0.7$

- $a_{1,2} = 0.3$

- $a_{1,3} = 0$

$$\sum_{j=1}^N a_{i,j} = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

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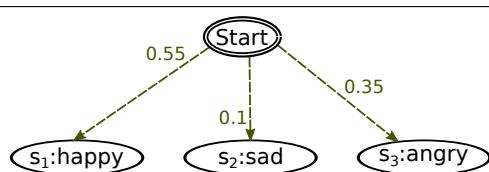
- $a_{1,2} = 0.3$

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$$\sum_{j=1}^N a_{i,j} = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} s_1 & s_2 & s_3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 & 0.3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.9 & 0.1 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

# An example problem: Emotional states



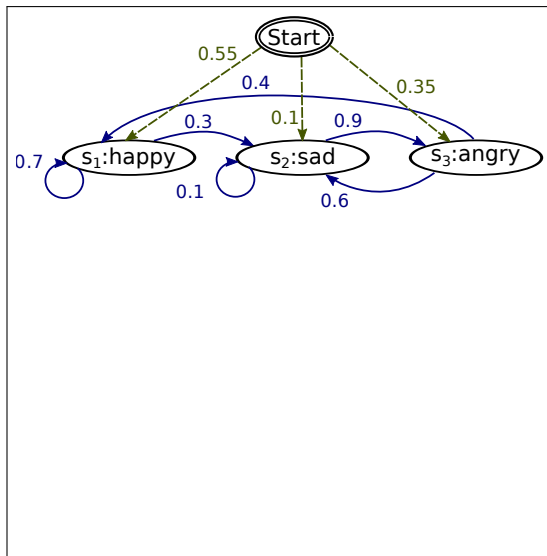
$\Pi$  - initial state distribution

$$\Pi = \{\pi_i\}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

$$\pi_i = P(q_1 = s_i)$$

	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$
$\Pi =$	$(0.35$	$0.1$	$0.55)$

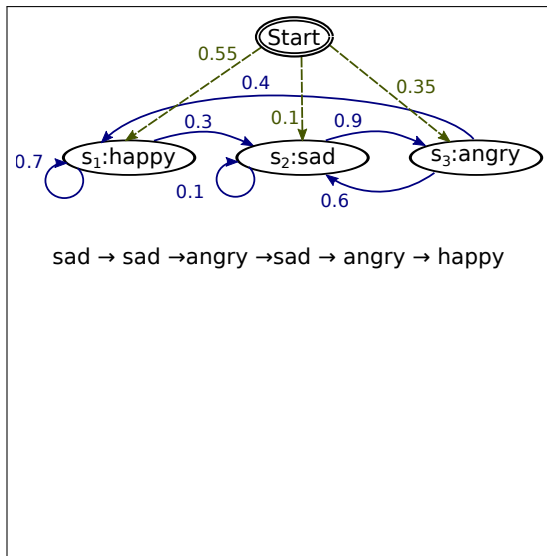
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$$A = \begin{matrix} & s_1 & s_2 & s_3 \\ \begin{matrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 & 0.3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.9 & 0.1 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

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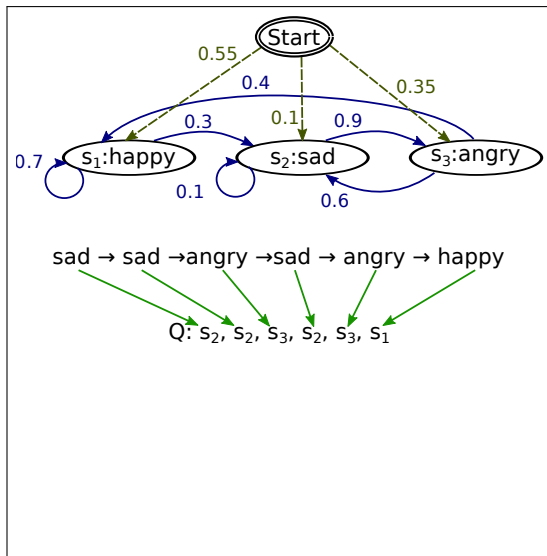
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$$\Pi = \begin{pmatrix} 0.35 & 0.1 & 0.55 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Q = [q_1 q_2 \cdots q_T]$$

$$P(Q|A, \Pi) =$$

$$= \pi_{q_1} a_{q_1, q_2} \cdots a_{q_{T-1}, q_T}$$

$$P(s_2, s_2, s_3, s_2, s_3, s_1 | A, \Pi) =$$

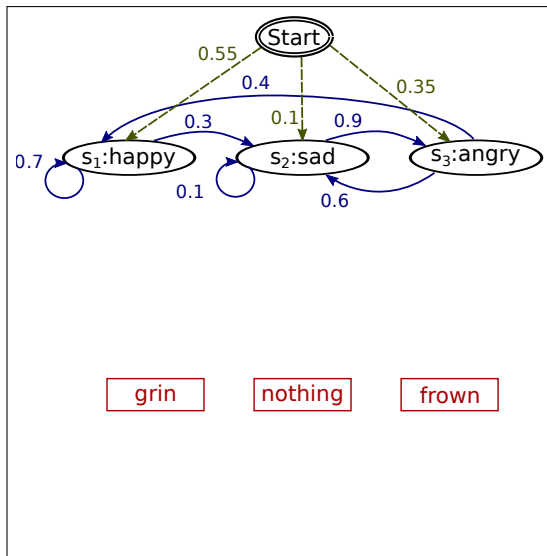
$$= \pi_2 \cdot a_{2,2} \cdot a_{2,3} \cdot a_{3,2} \cdot a_{2,3} \cdot a_{3,1}$$

$$= 0.1 \cdot 0.3 \cdot 0.1 \cdot 0.9 \cdot 0.6 \cdot 0.9 \cdot 0.4$$

$$= 0.0005832$$



# An example problem: Emotional states



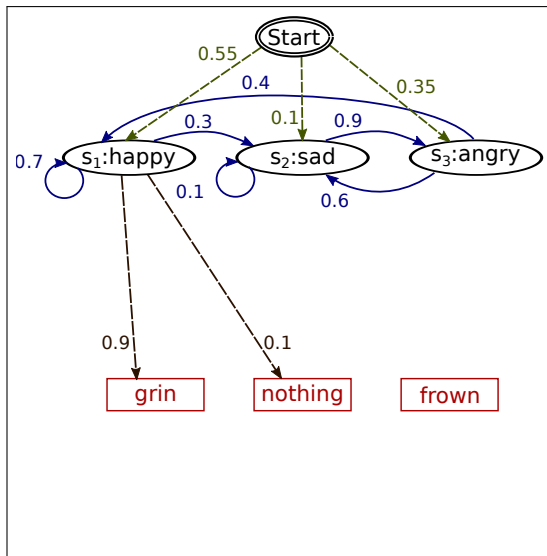
**M** - number of distinct observable values

**M** = 3

values:

- $v_1$ : grin
- $v_2$ : nothing
- $v_3$ : frown

# An example problem: Emotional states



**B** - observation values probability distribution

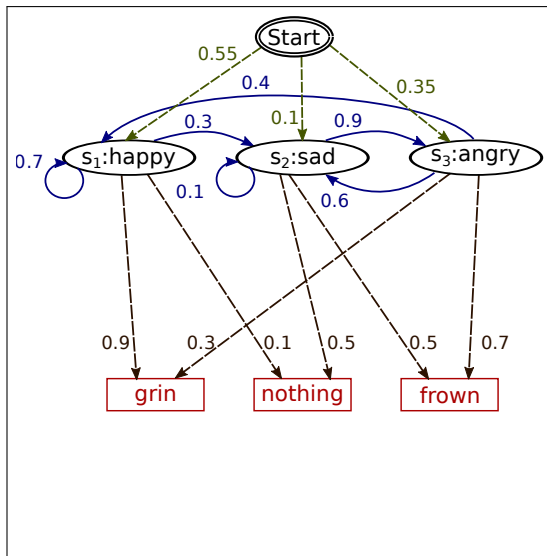
$$\mathbf{B} = \{b_{j,k}\}_{1 \leq j \leq N, 1 \leq k \leq M}$$

$$b_{j,k} = b_j(v_k) \\ = P(o_t = v_k | q_t = s_j)$$

- $b_{1,1} = b_1(\text{grin}) = 0.9$
- $b_{1,2} = b_1(\text{nothing}) = 0.1$
- $b_{1,3} = b_1(\text{frown}) = 0$

$$\sum_{k=1}^M b_{j,k} = 1, \quad 1 \leq j \leq N$$

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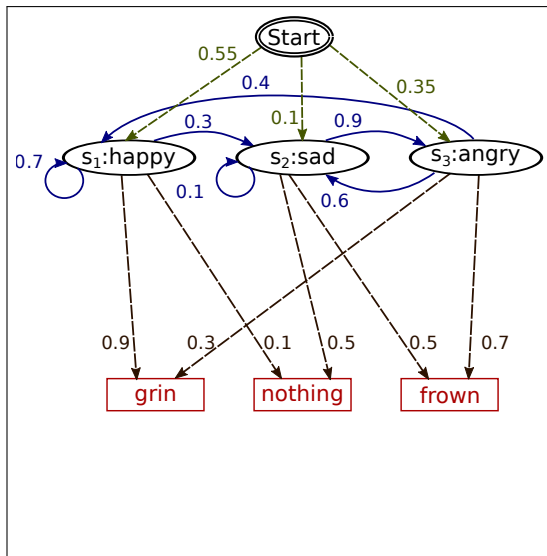
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# An example problem: Emotional states



$\lambda$  - parameters of the model

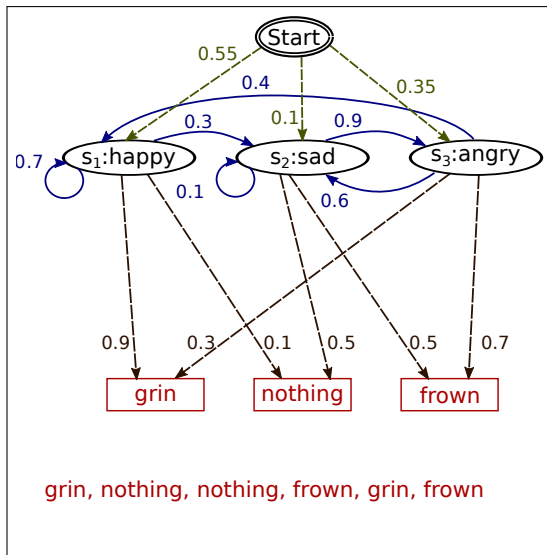
$$\lambda = (A, B, \Pi)$$

$A$  - state transition probability distribution

$B$  - observation values probability distribution

$\Pi$  - initial state distribution

# An example problem: Emotional states

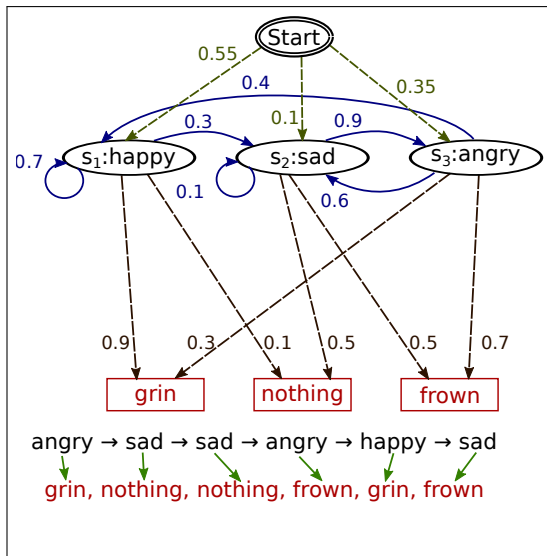


$\mathbf{O}$  - observation sequence

$\mathbf{T}$  - length of observation sequence

$$\mathbf{O} = [o_1 o_2 \cdots o_T]$$

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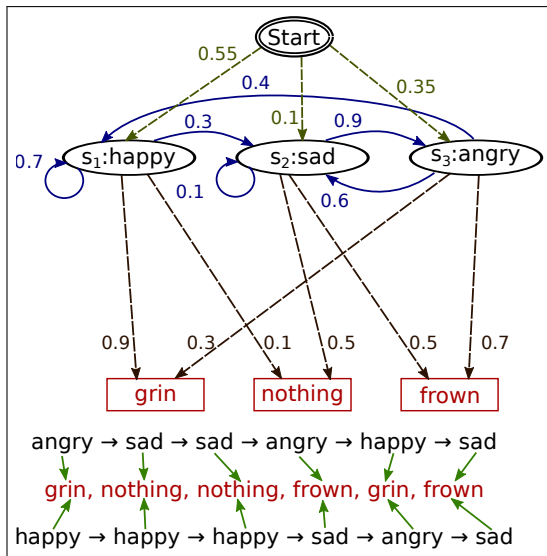


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# An example problem: Emotional states

- Example inspired from:

R. Zubeck (2006). "Introduction to hidden markov models". In: *AI Game Programming Wisdom 3*, pp. 633–646



# Restating the three fundamental HMM Problems

## Evaluation Problem

Given a model  $\lambda$  and a sequence of observations  $O$ , how do we compute the probability  $P(O|\lambda)$  that the observed sequence was produced by the model?

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Given a model  $\lambda = (A, B, \Pi)$  and a sequence of observations  $O$ , how do we compute the probability that the observed sequence was produced by the model?

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- Enumerate every possible state sequence:

$$P(O|\lambda) = \sum_{\text{all } Q} P(O|Q, \lambda) \cdot P(Q|\lambda) \quad (1)$$

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$$P(Q|\lambda) = \pi_{q_1} \prod_{t=2}^T a_{q_{t-1}, q_t} = \pi_{q_1} \cdot a_{q_1, q_2} \cdot a_{q_2, q_3} \cdot \dots \cdot a_{q_{T-1}, q_T} \quad (3)$$



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$$P(Q|\lambda) = \pi_{q_1} \prod_{t=2}^T a_{q_{t-1}, q_t} = \pi_{q_1} \cdot a_{q_1, q_2} \cdot a_{q_2, q_3} \cdot \dots \cdot a_{q_{T-1}, q_T} \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(O|\lambda) &= \sum_{\text{all } Q} P(O, Q|\lambda) = \sum_{\text{all } Q} P(O, |Q, \lambda) \cdot P(Q, \lambda) \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } Q} \left( \pi_{q_1} \cdot b_{q_1}(o_1) \cdot \prod_{t=2}^T b_{q_t}(o_t) a_{q_{t-1}, q_t} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

# Restating the three fundamental HMM Problems

## Best Explanation of Observations Problem

Given a model and a sequence of observations  
how do we choose a corresponding sequence of **states**  
which *gives meaning* to the observations? How do we  
*uncover* the hidden part of the model?

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- There is no single answer.
- The sequence of individually most likely states:

$$Q_{\text{best}} = [\hat{q}_1 \ \hat{q}_2 \ \cdots \ \hat{q}_T], \quad \hat{q}_t = \underset{s_i}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(q_t = s_i | O, \lambda) \quad (4)$$

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- The best path

$$Q_{\text{best}} = \underset{Q}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(Q | O, \lambda) = \underset{Q}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(Q, O | \lambda) \quad (5)$$

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## Model Estimation (Training) Problem

Given some observed sequences , how do we adjust the **parameters** of an HMM model that best tries to explain the observations?



# Restating the three fundamental HMM Problems

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Given some observed sequences  $\mathcal{O} = [O_1 O_2 \cdots O_L]$ , how do we adjust the **parameters** of an HMM model that best tries to explain the observations?

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## Model Estimation (Training) Problem

Given some observed sequences  $\mathcal{O} = [O_1 O_2 \cdots O_L]$ , how do we adjust the parameters  $\lambda = (A, B, \Pi)$  of an HMM model that best tries to explain the observations?

- The above question can be asked formally:

$$\lambda_{\text{best}} = \underset{\lambda}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(\mathcal{O}|\lambda) \quad (6)$$

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# Notation Conventions

# Variables in Octave

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## $\alpha$ (forward) variables

- Can we *efficiently* compute  $P(O|\lambda)$ ?

Yes, using the **forward-backward** algorithm



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- Introducing  $\alpha$  (forward) variables:

$$\alpha_{t,i} = P(o_1, o_2, \dots, o_t, q_t = S_i | \lambda) \quad (7)$$
$$1 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq i \leq N$$

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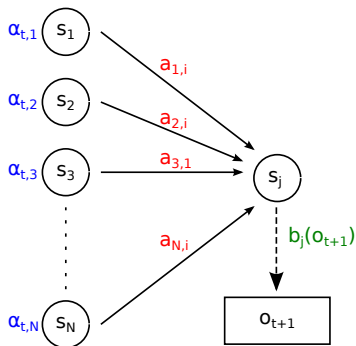
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$$1 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq i \leq N$$

- Relation between  $P(O|\lambda)$  and  $\alpha$  variables:

$$P(O|\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{T,i} \quad (8)$$

# Computing $\alpha$ variables

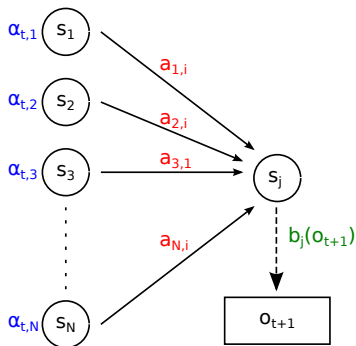


- $\alpha$  variables initialization

$$P(o_1, q_1 = s_i) = P(o_1 | q_1 = s_i) P(q_1 = s_i)$$

$$\alpha_{1,i} = \pi_i b_i(o_1), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$$

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- Induction step

$$\alpha_{t+1,j} = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{t,i} a_{i,j} \right] b_j(o_{t+1}), \quad \begin{matrix} 1 \leq t \leq T-1, \\ 1 \leq j \leq N \end{matrix}$$

- Probability of the observed sequence

$$P(O|\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_{T,i}$$

## $\beta$ (backward) variables

- Introducing  $\beta$  (backward) variables:

$$\beta_{t,i} = P(o_{t+1}o_{t+2} \cdots o_T | q_t = S_i, \lambda) \quad (9)$$

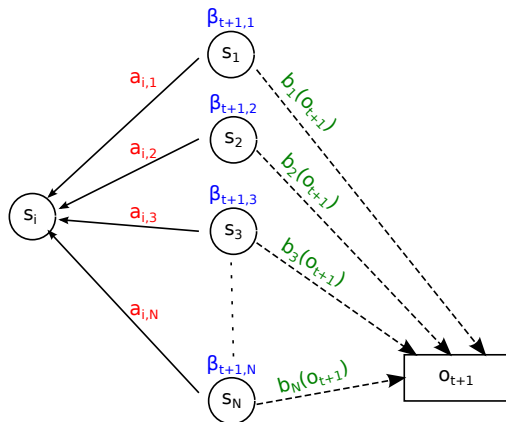
## $\beta$ (backward) variables

- Introducing  $\beta$  (backward) variables:

$$\beta_{t,i} = P(o_{t+1}o_{t+2} \cdots o_T | q_t = S_i, \lambda) \quad (9)$$

- $\beta$  variables are not needed to compute  $P(O|\lambda)$ , but they are useful for the other two problems
- $\beta$  variables can be computed in a similar (efficient) way to the procedure for the  $\alpha$  variables

# Computing $\beta$ variables



- $\beta$  variables initialization  
 $\beta_{T,i} = 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N$

- Induction step

$$\beta_{t,i} = \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} b_j(o_{t+1}) \beta_{t+1,j}, \quad t = T-1, T-2, \dots, 1, 1 \leq i \leq N$$

# Scaling problems

- Remember  $P(O|\lambda)$ :

$$P(O|\lambda) = \sum_{\text{all } Q} \left( \pi_{q_1} \cdot b_{q_1}(o_1) \cdot \prod_{t=2}^T b_{q_t}(o_t) a_{q_{t-1}, q_t} \right)$$



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- for large sequences, terms are very close to zero and exceed precision range
- a scaling mechanism is needed

# The Forward-Backward algorithm with scaling

- $\hat{\alpha}_{t,i}$  - scaled  $\alpha$  variables
- $\hat{\beta}_{t,i}$  - scaled  $\beta$  variables
- $C_t$  - scaling coefficients

- Scaled  $\alpha$  variables

$$\bar{\alpha}_{t,i} = C_t \cdot \alpha_{t,i} \quad (10)$$

- Scaled  $\beta$  variables

$$\bar{\beta}_{t,j} = C_t \cdot \beta_{t,j} \quad (11)$$

# Computing scaled values

$$[r]\ddot{\alpha}_{1,i} = \alpha_{1,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \quad (12)$$

- *Scaled*

initialization:

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^N \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i}} \quad (13)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_{1,i} = c_1 \cdot \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \quad (14)$$

# Computing scaled values

$$[r]\ddot{\alpha}_{1,i} = \alpha_{1,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \quad (12)$$

- *Scaled* initialization:

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^N \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i}} \quad (13)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_{1,i} = c_1 \cdot \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \quad (14)$$

$$[r]\ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i} = \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \hat{\alpha}_{t,i} a_{i,j} \right] b_j(o_{t+1}) \quad (15)$$

- *Scaled* induction step:

$$c_{t+1} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^N \ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i}} \quad (16)$$

$$\hat{\alpha}_{t+1,i} = c_{t+1} \cdot \ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \quad (17)$$

# Computing $P(O|\lambda)$

- Introducing scale factors prevents exceeding the double precision
- The  $P(O|\lambda)$  is related to the scaling factors:

$$P(O|\lambda) = \frac{1}{C_T} = \prod_{t=1} T_{c_t} \quad (18)$$

# The forward-backward algorithm

---

## Algorithm 1 Compute $\alpha$ variables

---

```

for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
2:    $\ddot{\alpha}_{1,i} \leftarrow \pi_i \cdot b_i(o_1)$ 
end for
3:    $c_1 \leftarrow (\sum_{i=1}^N \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i})^{-1}$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
6:    $\hat{\alpha}_{1,i} \leftarrow c_1 \cdot \ddot{\alpha}_{1,i}$ 
end for
8: for  $t = 1$  to  $T - 1$  do
   for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
10:     $\ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i} \leftarrow \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \hat{\alpha}_{t,i} a_{i,j} \right] b_j(o_{t+1})$ 
   end for
12:    $c_{t+1} \leftarrow (\sum_{i=1}^N \ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i})^{-1}$ 
   for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
14:     $\hat{\alpha}_{t+1,i} \leftarrow c_{t+1} \cdot \ddot{\alpha}_{t+1,i}$ 
   end for
16: end for

```

---

## Algorithm 2 Compute $P(O|\lambda)$

---

$$P \leftarrow \prod_{t=1}^T c_t$$


---

---

## Algorithm 3 Compute $\beta$ variables

---

```

for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
2:    $\hat{\beta}_{T,i} \leftarrow \cdot c_T$ 
end for
4: for  $t = (T - 1)$  to  $1$  do
   for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  do
6:     $\hat{\beta}_{t,i} \leftarrow \sum_{j=1}^N a_{i,j} b_j(o_{t+1}) \hat{\beta}_{t+1,j} \cdot c_t$ 
   end for
8: end for

```

---

# Let's write some code

- You will implement now the forward-backward algorithm in Octave

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# Learning from observations - Reminder

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Adjust the model parameters  $\lambda = (A, B, \Pi)$  to obtain  $\max_{\lambda} P(O|\lambda)$

The observation sequence used to adjust the model parameters is called a **training** sequence.

Training problem is crucial - allows to create best models for real phenomena.

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## Problem

There is no known way to analytically solve for the model which maximizes the probability of the observation sequence.

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## Solution

We can choose  $\lambda = (A, B, \Pi)$  such that  $\max_{\lambda} P(O|\lambda)$  is **locally maximized** using an **iterative procedure** such as *Baum-Welch*.

The method is an instance of the *EM algorithm* (Dempster, Laird, and Rubin 1977) for HMMs.

# Baum-Welch algorithm (I)

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We first define some auxiliary variables:

$$\xi_{t,i,j} = \xi_t(i,j) = P(q_t = s_i, q_{t+1} = s_j | O, \lambda)$$

The probability of being in state  $s_i$  at time  $t$  and in state  $s_j$  at time  $t + 1$ , given the model and the observation sequence.



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$$\gamma_{t,i} = \gamma_t(i) = P(q_t = s_i | O, \lambda)$$

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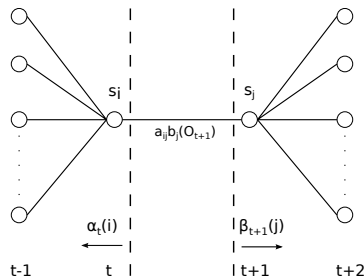
$$\gamma_{t,i} = \gamma_t(i) = P(q_t = s_i | O, \lambda)$$

The probability of being in state  $s_i$  at time  $t$ , given the model and the observation sequence.

From the definitions it follows that:

$$\gamma_t(i) = \sum_{j=1}^N \xi_t(i,j)$$

# Baum-Welch algorithm (II)



**Figure:** Sequence of operations required for the computation of the joint event that the system is in state  $S_i$  at time  $t$  and state  $S_j$  at time  $t+1$  (Rabiner 1989)

$$\alpha_{t,i} = P(o_1, o_2, \dots, o_t, q_t = S_i | \lambda)$$

$$\beta_{t,i} = P(o_{t+1} o_{t+2} \dots o_T | q_t = S_i, \lambda)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_t(i, j) &= \frac{\alpha_{t,i} \cdot a_{i,j} \cdot b_j(o_{t+1}) \cdot \beta_{t+1,j}}{P(O | \lambda)} \\ &= \frac{\alpha_{t,i} \cdot a_{i,j} \cdot b_j(o_{t+1}) \cdot \beta_{t+1,j}}{\sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{l=1}^N \alpha_{t,k} \cdot a_{k,l} \cdot b_l(o_{t+1}) \cdot \beta_{t+1,l}} \end{aligned}$$

# Baum-Welch algorithm (III)

How do these auxiliary variables help?

$$\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \gamma_t(i) = \text{expected number of transitions from } S_i$$

$$\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \xi_t(i, j) = \text{expected number of transitions from } S_i \text{ to } S_j$$

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$\bar{\pi}_i =$  expected no. of times in state  $S_i$  at time  $(t = 1) = \gamma_t(i)$

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$$\begin{aligned} a_{i,j} &= \frac{\text{expected no. of transitions from } S_i \text{ to } S_j}{\text{expected no. of transition from } S_i} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \xi_t(i,j)}{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} \gamma_t(i)} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \bar{b}_{j,k}^- &= \frac{\text{expected no. of times in } S_j \text{ observing symbol } v_k}{\text{expected no. of times in } S_j} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{t=1, O_t=v_k}^T \gamma_t(j)}{T} \end{aligned}$$

# Baum-Welch algorithm (V)

The routine for the general case:

```
1   Initialize uniform  $\pi_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq N$ 
2   Initialize random (stochastic)  $a_{i,j}$ 
3   Initialize uniform  $b_{j,k}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq M$ 
4
5   Repeat until convergence
6       E step:
7           compute auxiliary variables  $\xi_t(i,j)$  and  $\gamma_t(i)$ 
8           using current  $\pi_i$ ,  $a_{i,j}$  and  $b_{j,k}$ 
9
10      M step:
11      compute updated parameter models  $\bar{\pi}_i$ ,  $\bar{a}_{i,j}$ ,  $\bar{b}_{j,k}$ 
```

Baum-Welch Iterative Update



# Baum-Welch - Let's write some code

LET'S WRITE SOME CODE :-)

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$$\gamma_{t,i} = \frac{\alpha_{t,i}\beta_{t,i}}{P(O|\lambda)} = \frac{\alpha_{t,i}\beta_{t,i}}{\sum_{k=1}^N \alpha_{t,k}\beta_{t,k}} \quad (20)$$

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- Problems?

# Better optimality criterion

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- Single best path

$$Q_{\text{best}} = [\hat{q}_1 \hat{q}_2 \cdots \hat{q}_T]$$

$$Q_{\text{best}} = \underset{Q}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(Q|O, \lambda) = \underset{Q}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(Q, O|\lambda) \quad (6)$$

- **Viterbi algorithm** - dynamic programming



## $\delta$ variables

- Introducing  $\delta$  variables:

$$\delta_{t,i} = \max_{q_1, \dots, q_{t-1}} P([q_1 q_2 \dots q_{t-1} s_i], [o_1, o_2, \dots o_t] | \lambda) \quad (21)$$

- $\delta_{t,i}$  - the highest probability for a sequence of  $t$  states that ends in  $s_i$  which accounts for the first  $t$  observations

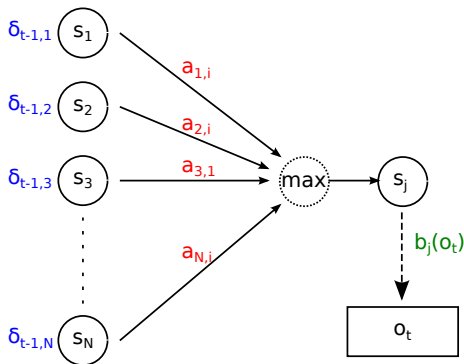
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- $\delta_{t,i}$  - the highest probability for a sequence of  $t$  states that ends in  $s_i$  which accounts for the first  $t$  observations
- the relation between *sequential*  $\delta$  variables:

$$\delta_{t,j} = [\max_i \delta_{t-1,i} \cdot a_{i,j}] \cdot b_j(o_t) \quad (22)$$



# Viterbi algorithm (I)

## 1 Initialization:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{1,i} &= \pi_i b_i(o_1), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \\ \psi_{1,i} &= 0\end{aligned}\tag{23}$$

## 2 Recursion:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{t,j} &= [\max_i \delta_{t-1,i} \cdot a_{i,j}] \cdot b_j(o_t) \quad 2 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq j \leq N \\ \psi_{t,j} &= \operatorname{argmax}_i \delta_{t-1,i} \cdot a_{i,j} \quad 2 \leq t \leq T, 1 \leq j \leq N\end{aligned}\tag{24}$$

# Viterbi algorithm (II)

## 3 Termination:

$$\begin{aligned} P(Q_{\text{best}}|O, \lambda) &= \max_i \delta_{T,i} \\ \hat{q}_T &= \operatorname{argmax}_i \delta_{T,i} \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

## 4 Backtracking:

$$\hat{q}_t = \psi_{t+1}(\hat{q}_{t+1}), \quad t=T-1, T-2, \dots, 1 \tag{26}$$

## 5 A Case for HMMs in Symbol Recognition

# A simple symbol recognition application

Features:

# A simple symbol recognition application

Features:

## Define

Define, organize and visualize a dataset of symbols defined with mouse movements.

# A simple symbol recognition application

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Train a HMM-based recognition engine on a symbol dataset.



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Train a HMM-based recognition engine on a symbol dataset.

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Recognize new symbols and view classification metrics.

# A simple symbol recognition application

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Define, organize and visualize a dataset of symbols defined with mouse movements.

## Train

Train a HMM-based recognition engine on a symbol dataset.

## Recognize

Recognize new symbols and view classification metrics.

Default included symbols: **left arrow**, **right arrow**, **circle**, **square**, **infinity**

# A simple symbol recognition application - A View

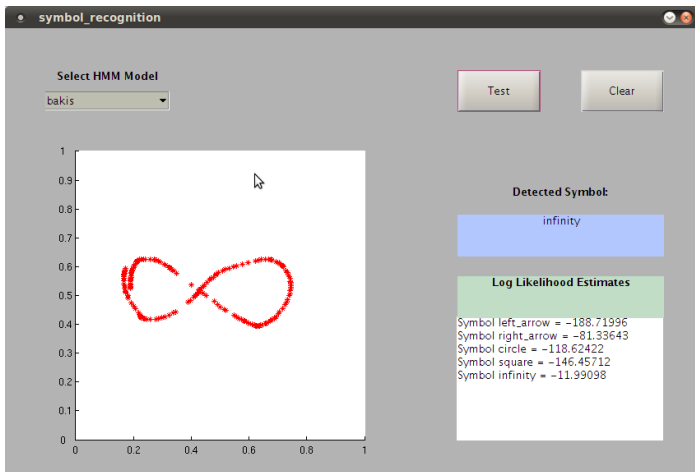
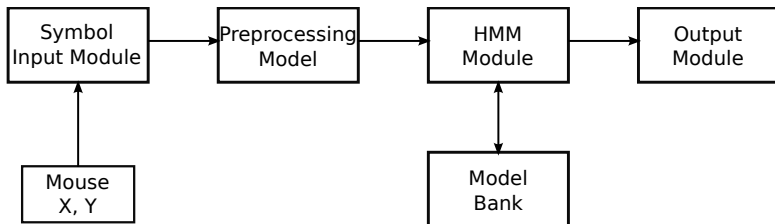


Figure: A view of the symbol recognition application GUI

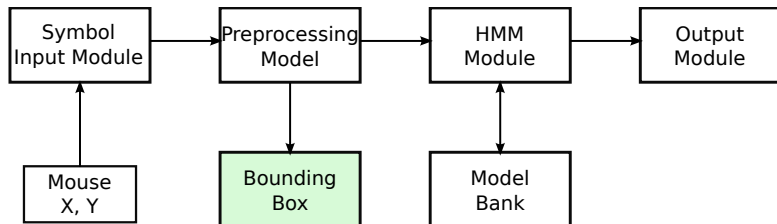
# A simple symbol recognition application - Approach (I)

Adapted from (Yang and Xu 1994).



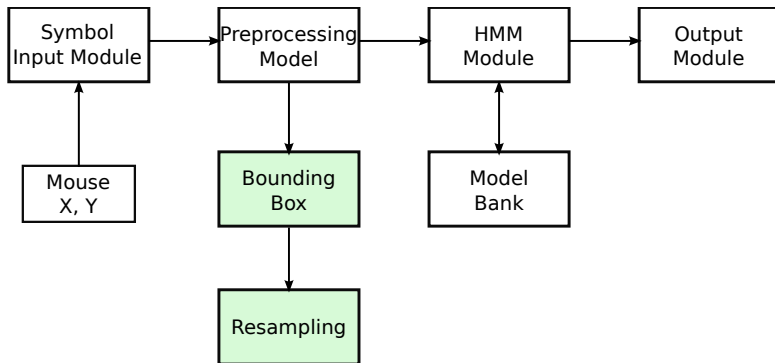
# A simple symbol recognition application - Approach (I)

Adapted from (Yang and Xu 1994).



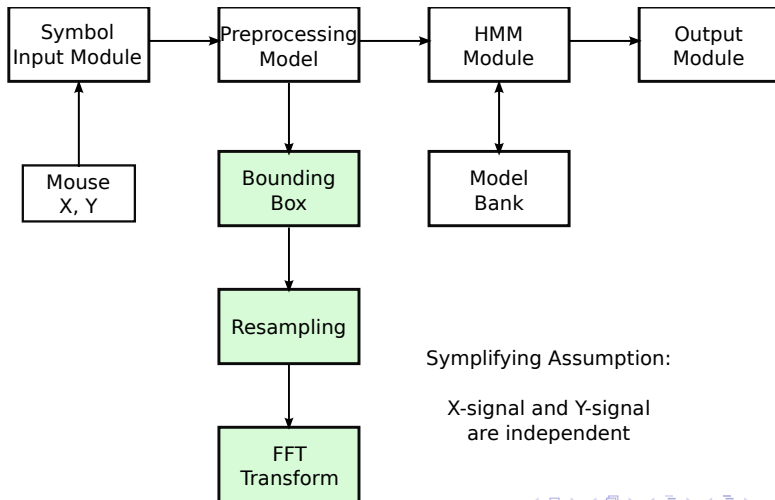
# A simple symbol recognition application - Approach (I)

Adapted from (Yang and Xu 1994).



# A simple symbol recognition application - Approach (I)

Adapted from (Yang and Xu 1994).



Simplifying Assumption:

X-signal and Y-signal  
are independent

# A simple symbol recognition application - Approach (II)

Adapted from (Yang and Xu 1994).

## HMM Structure

$N(\text{number of states}) = 8$

2 discrete observable variables per state -  $\text{coef}_{FFT}(x)$ ,  $\text{coef}_{FFT}(y)$

$M(\text{number of values for each observable variable}) = 256$

Transition model:

- Bakis
- Ergodic



# A simple symbol recognition application - Results

## Dataset size

**5 symbols: left arrow, right arrow, circle, square, infinity**

**100 samples per symbol: 50 training, 10 validation, 40 testing**

```
>> symbol_performance_test('ergodic')
===== Testing trained HMM models =====
## Results for the model of symbol "left_arrow":
Accuracy: 0.97500
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 0.97500
Confusion matrix line: 39 0 1 0 0 0

## Results for the model of symbol "right_arrow":
Accuracy: 1.00000
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 40 0 0 0 0

## Results for the model of symbol "circle":
Accuracy: 0.90244
Precision: 0.97368
Recall: 0.92500
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 37 2 1 0

## Results for the model of symbol "square":
Accuracy: 0.95238
Precision: 0.95238
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 0 40 0 0

## Results for the model of symbol "infinity":
Accuracy: 0.97561
Precision: 0.97561
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 0 0 40 0
```

```
>> symbol_performance_test('bakis')
===== Testing trained HMM models =====
## Results for the model of symbol "left_arrow":
Accuracy: 0.90000
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 0.90000
Confusion matrix line: 36 0 1 0 0 3

## Results for the model of symbol "right_arrow":
Accuracy: 1.00000
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 40 0 0 0 0

## Results for the model of symbol "circle":
Accuracy: 0.97561
Precision: 0.97561
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 40 0 0 0

## Results for the model of symbol "square":
Accuracy: 0.97500
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 0.97500
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 0 39 0 1

## Results for the model of symbol "infinity":
Accuracy: 1.00000
Precision: 1.00000
Recall: 1.00000
Confusion matrix line: 0 0 0 0 40 0
```