DATA.STAT.840 Statistical Methods for Text Data Analysis

Exercises for Lectures 7: Hidden Markov models

Exercise 7.1: The Forward-Backward algorithm.

Consider a HMM model with the following vocabulary of 14 words:

{a, the, over, beside, near, quick, brown, lazy, jumps, runs, walks, fox, dog, cat}

and five states (z=1, z=2, z=3, z=4, z=5), where the distribution of the initial state is uniform and the states have the following emission distributions:

and the following transition probabilities:

a) Use the forward-backward algorithm to compute the probability of the sentence "the quick fox jumps over a dog".

Report your computation steps and your answer.

Exercise 7.2: The Viterbi algorithm.

Consider a HMM model with the following vocabulary of 17 words:

{a, the, I, you, can, will, call, own, take, book, round, claim, car, hotel, new, great}

and five states (z=1, z=2, z=3, z=4, z=5), where the distribution of the initial state is uniform and the states have the following emission distributions:

and the following transition probabilities:

In this HMM model words can act in multiple roles, e.g. 'book' be used as a noun or a verb, so there could be more than one way to parse some sentences.

Use the Viterbi algorithm to compute the most likely state sequence corresponding to the observed word sequence "you claim you can book a round hotel".

Report your computation steps and your answer.

(exercises continue on the next page)

Exercise 7.3: The Baum-Welch algorithm.

Consider the HMM model of exercise 7.1. Suppose the sentence "the quick fox jumps over a dog" is the only training data. Suppose the HMM parameter values listed in exercise 7.1 are initial values to be further optimized. Perform one iteration of the Baum-Welch algorithm to optimize the parameters for the training data.

Report your computation steps and your answer.