

Introduction to data science & artificial intelligence (INF7100)

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#434 Sequential Observations

été 2020

Markov Chains



Markov

20,000 characters from *Eugène Onegin*, by Alexandre Pouchkine
Heedless of the proud world's enjoyment, I prize the attention of my
friends, and only wish that my employment could have been turned to
worthier ends ...

$$\begin{cases} P_{11} = \mathbb{P}[\text{letter}_{i+1} \in \text{vowel} | \text{letter}_i \in \text{vowel}] \\ P_{12} = \mathbb{P}[\text{letter}_{i+1} \in \text{conson} | \text{letter}_i \in \text{vowel}] \\ P_{21} = \mathbb{P}[\text{letter}_{i+1} \in \text{vowel} | \text{letter}_i \in \text{conson}] \\ P_{22} = \mathbb{P}[\text{letter}_{i+1} \in \text{conson} | \text{letter}_i \in \text{conson}] \end{cases}$$

In Russian, Andrej Markov obtained

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 12,8\% & 87,2\% \\ 66,3\% & 33,7\% \end{pmatrix},$$

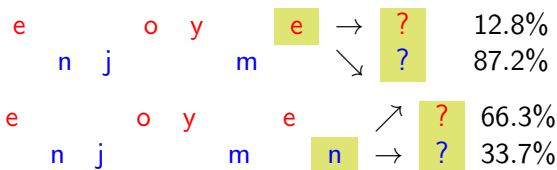
$\pi = (43,2\% \ 56,8\%)$ are respective frequencies of vowels and conson.
In French $\pi = (45,6\% \ 54,4\%)$, in Italian $\pi = (47,4\% \ 52,6\%)$, and
German $\pi = (38,5\% \ 61,5\%)$, see [First Links in the Markov Chain](#).

Markov Chains

Consider **sequential observations** X_1, X_2, \dots .

Markov property (of order 1) means

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{t+1} = x | X_t = x_t, X_{t-1} = x_{t-1}, \dots) = \mathbb{P}(X_{t+1} = x | X_t = x_t)$$



If $x \in \mathcal{X}$, the transition matrix can be represented as a matrix

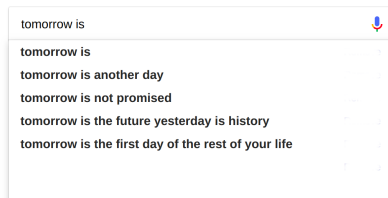
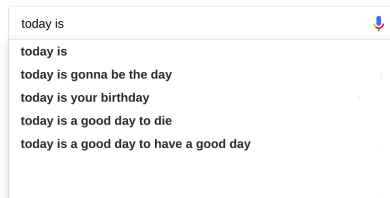
From letters to words

See [Natural Language Processing](#)) by Nivre

Chain Rule:

$$\mathbb{P}[A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n] = \mathbb{P}[A_1] \cdot \mathbb{P}[A_2|A_1] \cdots \mathbb{P}[A_n|A_1, \dots, A_{n-1}]$$

$$\mathbb{P}[A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n] = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}[A_i|A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{i-1}] \simeq \prod_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[A_i|A_{i-1}]}_{\text{bigrams}}$$



Markov Chains & Graphs

We've seen **transition probabilities**
(sum over all rows should equal to 1)
Example

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1 - \beta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 1/3 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can visualize them on **graphs** or **networks**

See also Google's **PageRank**

