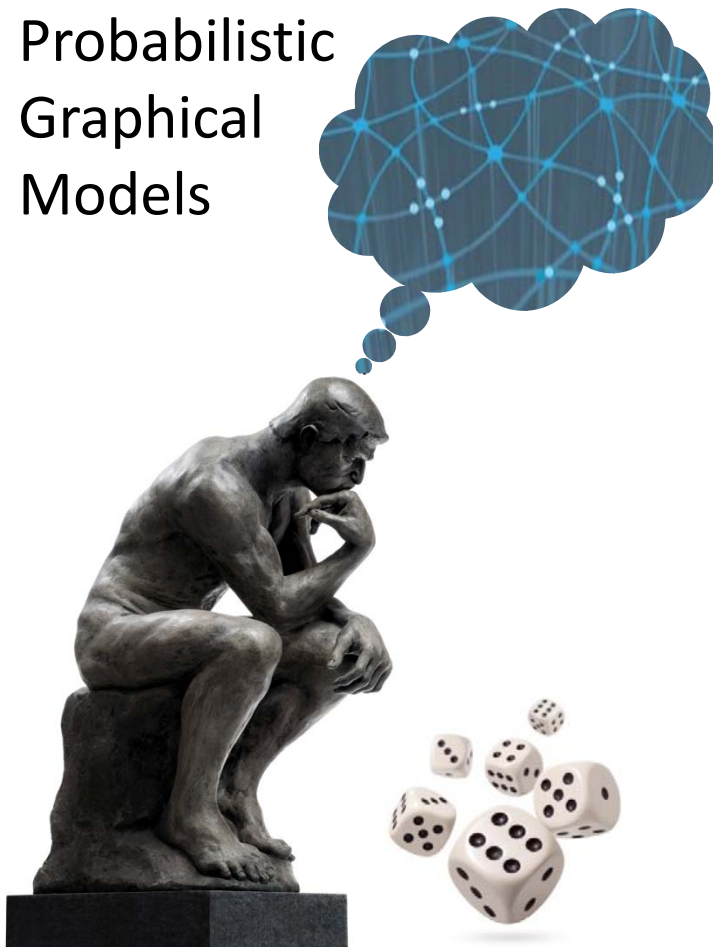


Probabilistic
Graphical
Models

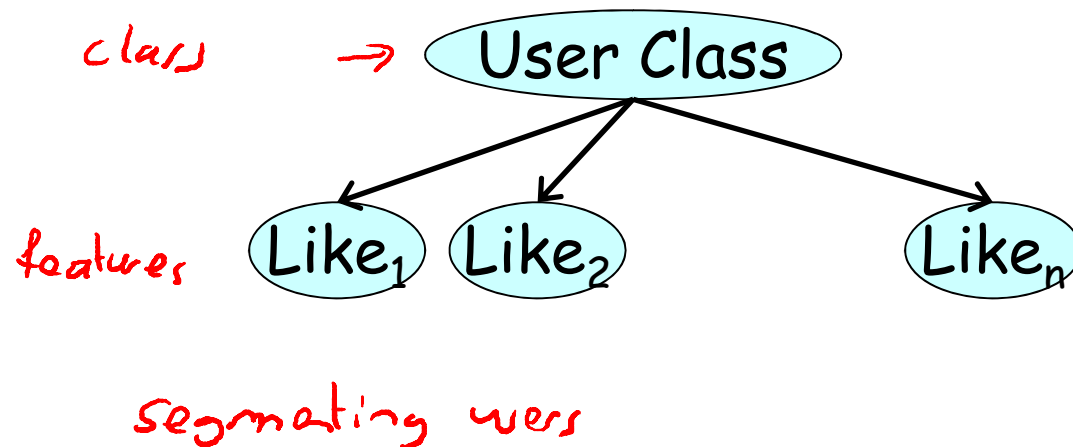


Learning

Incomplete Data

Learning with
Latent
Variables

Discovering User Clusters



MSNBC Story clusters

Readers of commerce and technology stories (36%):

- E-mail delivery isn't exactly guaranteed
- Should you buy a DVD player?
- Price low, demand high for Nintendo

Sports Readers (19%):

- Umps refusing to work is the right thing
- Cowboys are reborn in win over eagles
- Did Orioles spend money wisely?

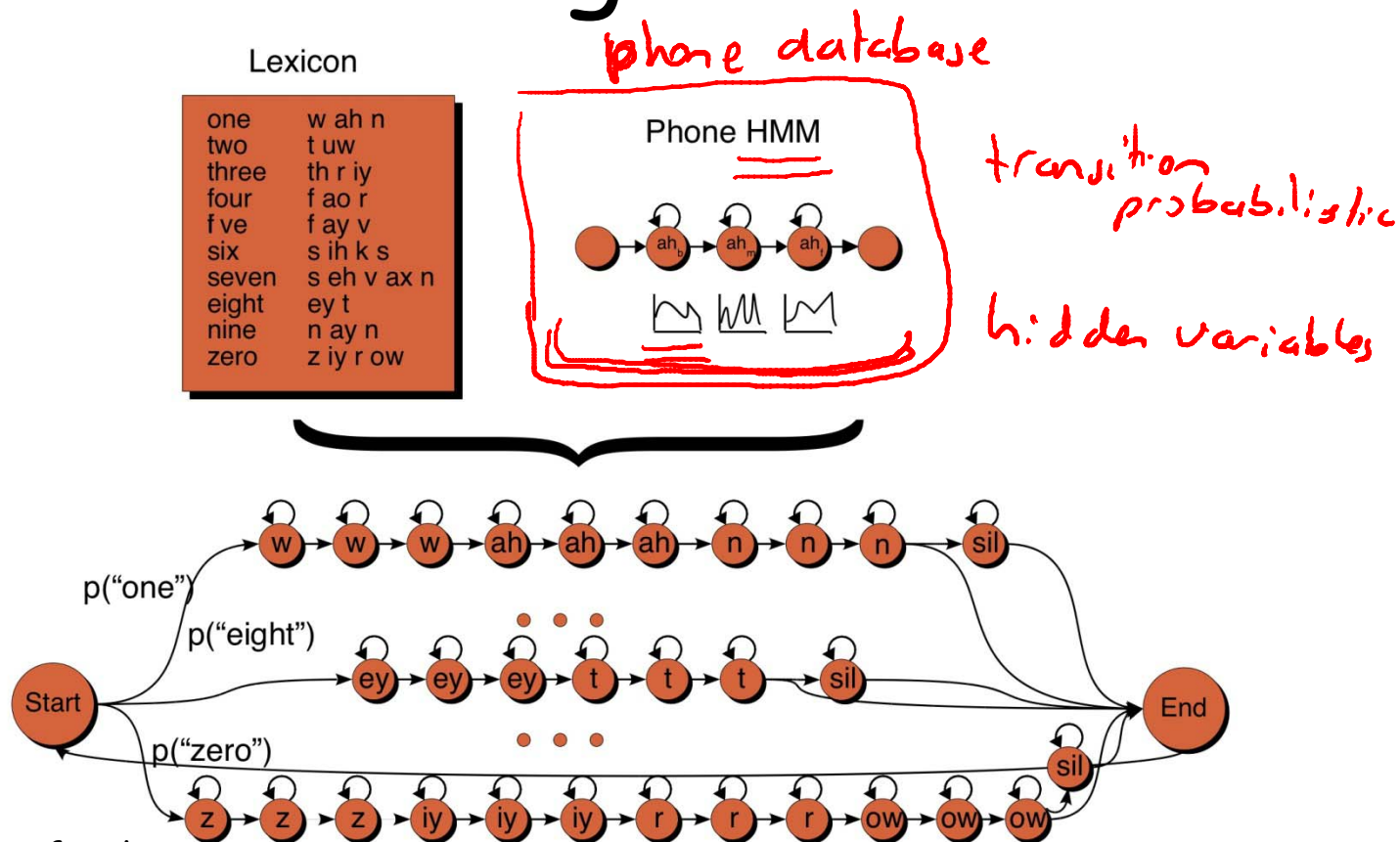
Readers of top promoted stories (29%):

- 757 Crashes At Sea
- Israel, Palestinians Agree To Direct Talks
- Fuhrman Pleads Innocent To Perjury

Readers of "Softer" News (12%):

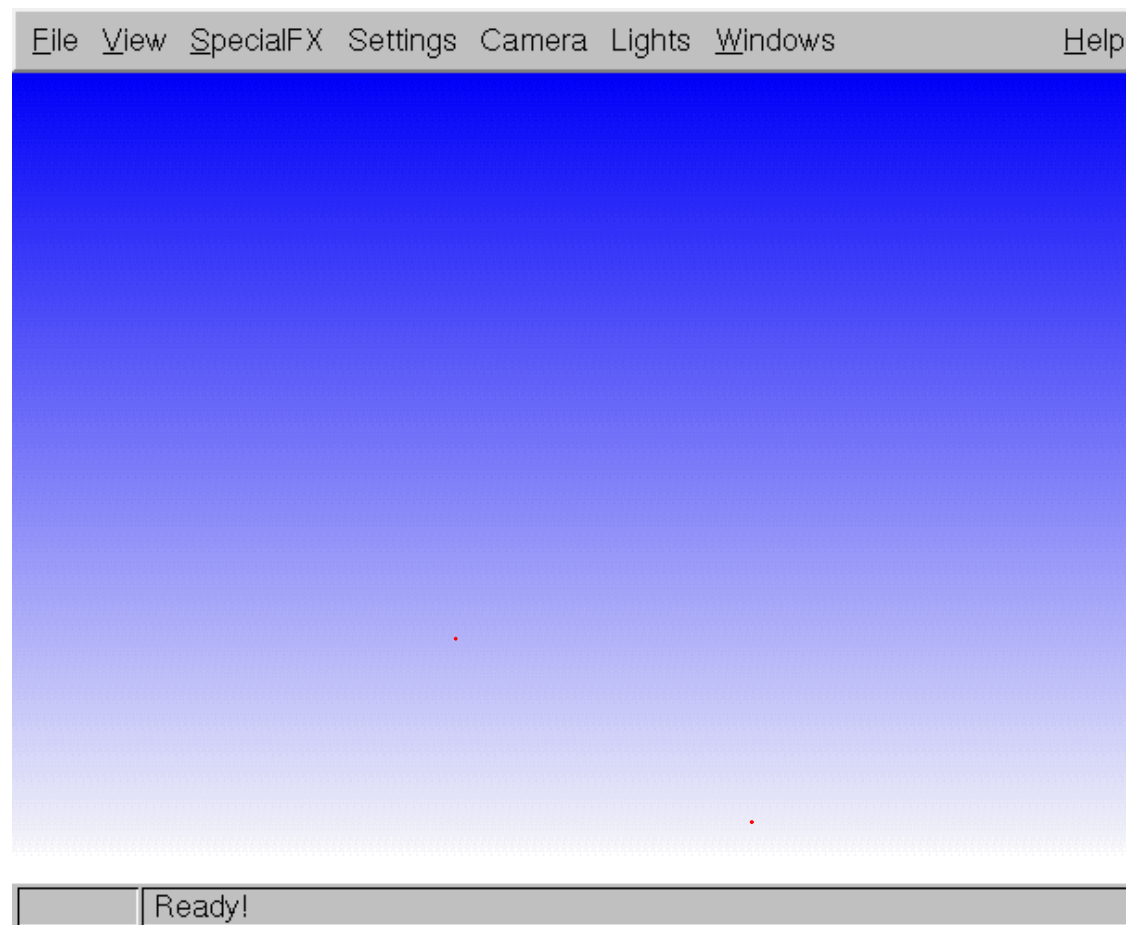
- The truth about what things cost
- Fuhrman Pleads Innocent To Perjury
- Real Astrology

Speech Recognition HMM



3D Robot Mapping

- Input: Point cloud from laser range finder obtained by moving robot
- Output: 3D planar map of environment
- Parameters: Location & angle of walls (planes)
- Latent variables: Assignment of points to walls
association



Thrun, Martin, Liu, Haehnel, Emery-Montemerlo, Chakrabarti, Burgard,
IEEE Transactions on Robotics, 2004

Daphne Koller



Thrun, Martin, Liu, Haehnel, Emery-Montemerlo, Chakrabarti, Burgard,
IEEE Transactions on Robotics, 2004

Daphne Koller

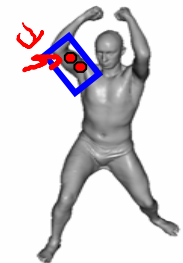
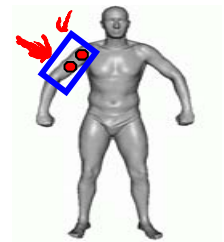
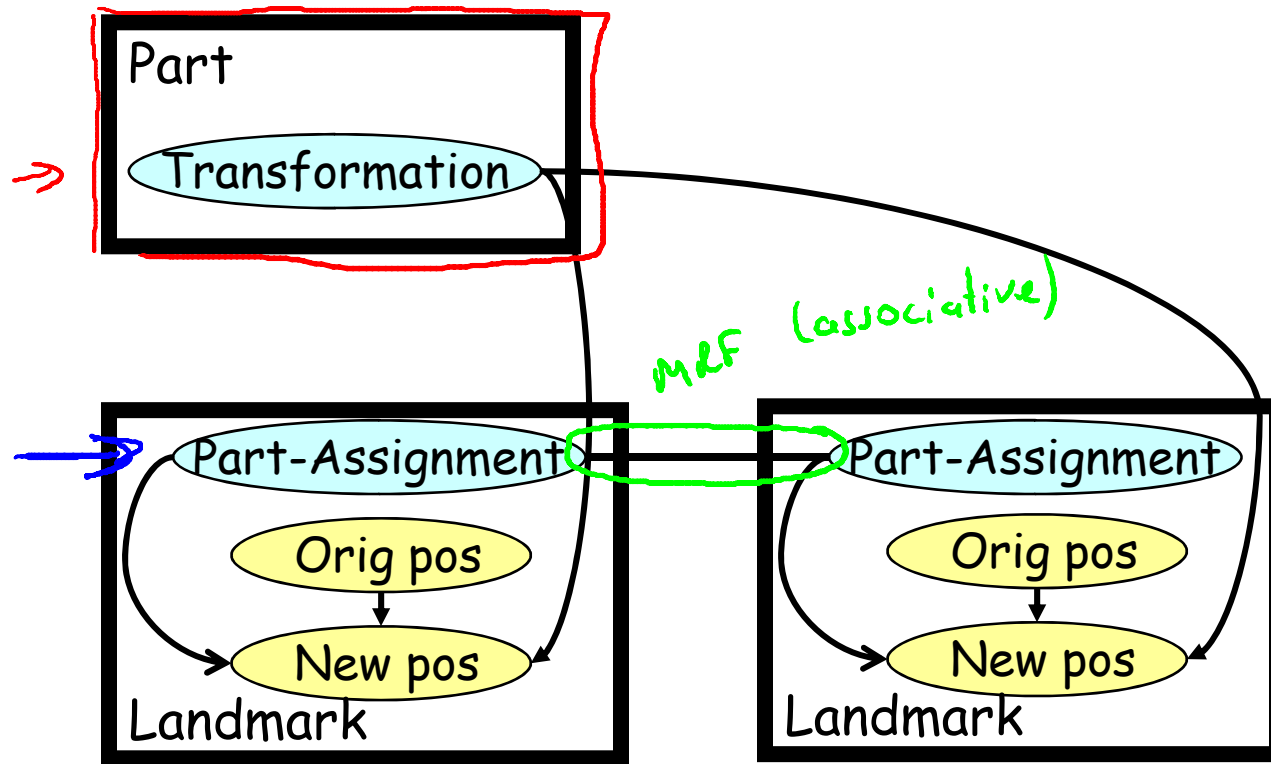
Body Parts from Point Cloud Scans



Anguelov, Koller, Pang, Srinivasan, Thrun UAI 2004

Daphne Koller

Collective Clustering Model





Anguelov, Koller, Pang, Srinivasan, Thrun UAI 2004

Daphne Koller

Helicopter Demo Alignment

- Input: Multiple sample trajectories by different pilots flying same sequence
- Output:
 - Aligned trajectories
 - Model of "template" trajectory



Coates, Abbeel, Ng, ICML 2008

Daphne Koller

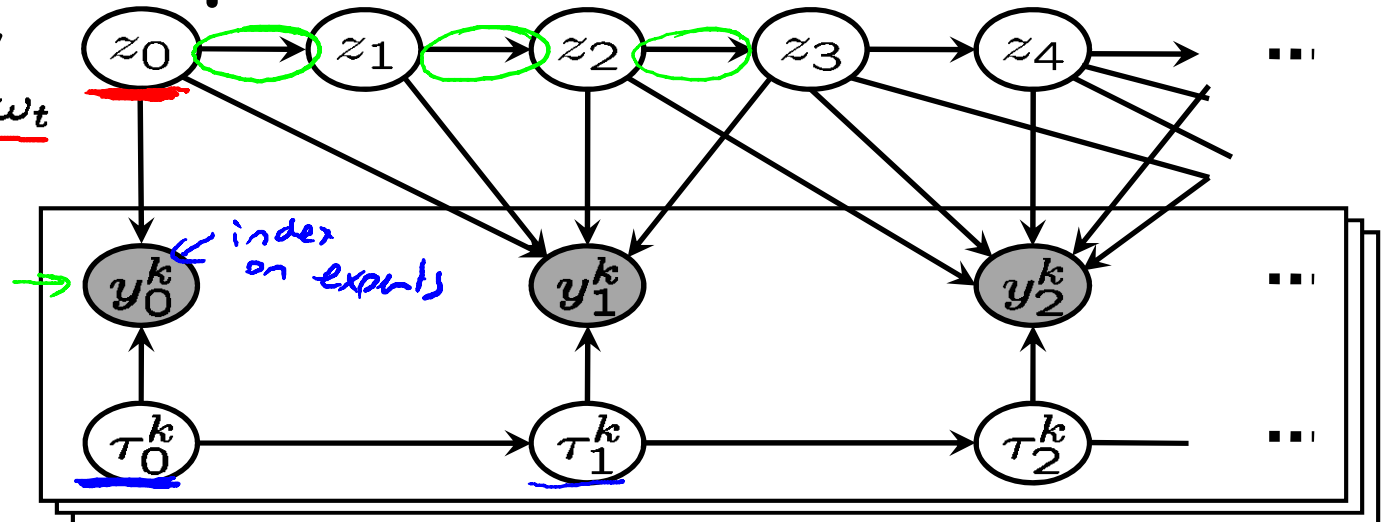
Graphical model

Intended trajectory
 $z_{t+1} = \underline{f(z_t) + \omega_t}$

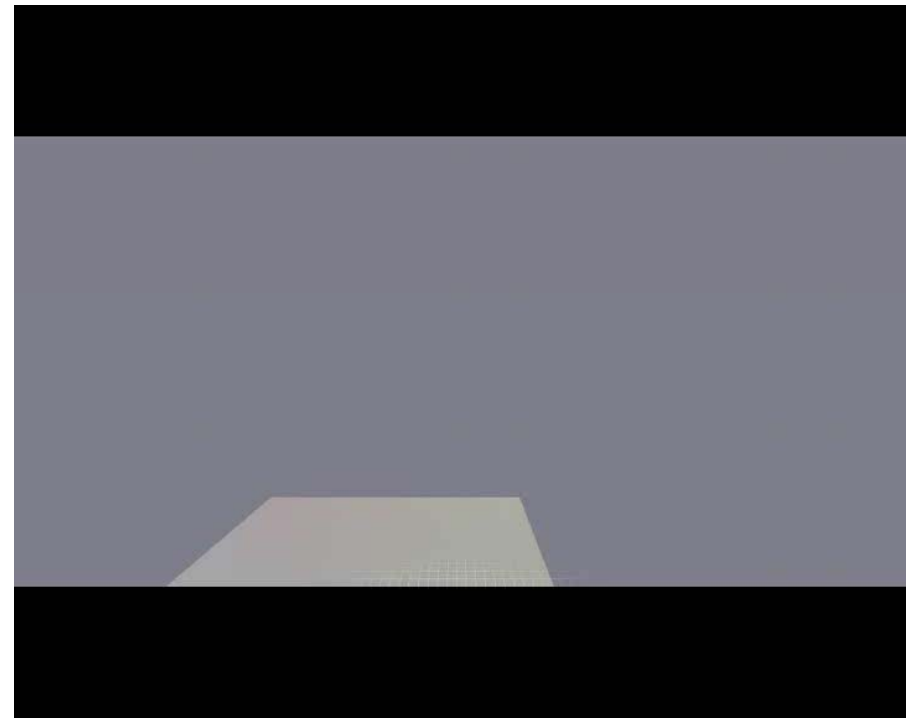
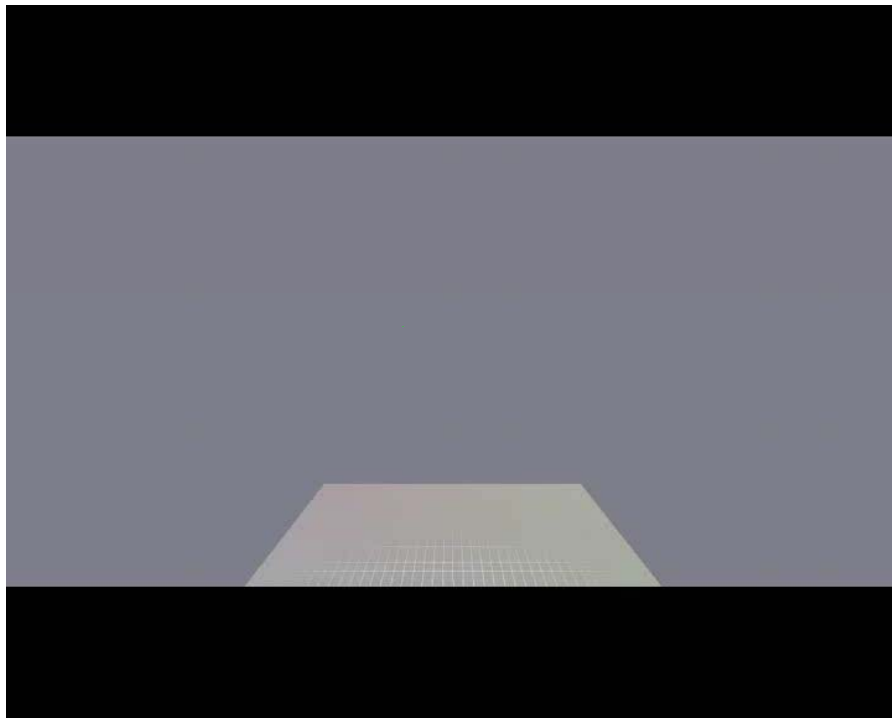
Expert
 demonstrations

$$y_j = z_{\tau_j} + \nu_j$$

Time indices



All Expert Demos



Coates, Abbeel, Ng, ICML 2008

Daphne Koller

Picking Latent Variable Cardinality

- If we use likelihood for evaluation, more values is always better
- Can use score that penalizes complexity
 - BIC - tends to underfit
 - Extensions of BDe to incomplete data (approximations)
- Can use metrics of cluster coherence to decide whether to add/remove clusters
- Bayesian methods (Dirichlet processes) can average over different cardinalities
(MCMC) distribution over cardinality

Summary

- Latent variables are perhaps the most common scenario for incomplete data
 - often a critical component in constructing models for richly structured domains
- Latent variables satisfy MAR, so can use EM
- Serious issues with unidentifiability & multiple optima necessitate good initialization
- Picking variable cardinality is a key question