

Lecture 7

Markov Chain
Hidden Markov Models
(Markov Random Fields)



- Markov Chains
 - Gibbs Sampling
- Hidden Markov Models
 - State Estimation,
 - Prediction,
 - Smoothing,
 - Most Probable Path
- (Markov Random Fields)

Background

In dynamic systems:

State Estimation – Estimating the current state of the system given current knowledge.

Prediction – Estimating future state(s) of the system given current knowledge.

Smoothing – Estimating prior states of the system given current knowledge.

Background

Independence

$$P(A,B)=P(A)P(B)$$

Conditional Independence

$$P(A,B | C)=P(A | C)P(B | C)$$

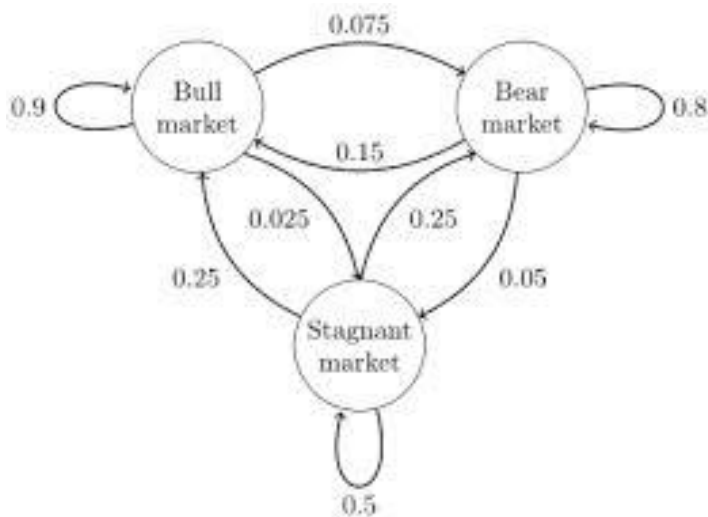
$$P(A | B,C)=P(A | C)$$

Chain Rule

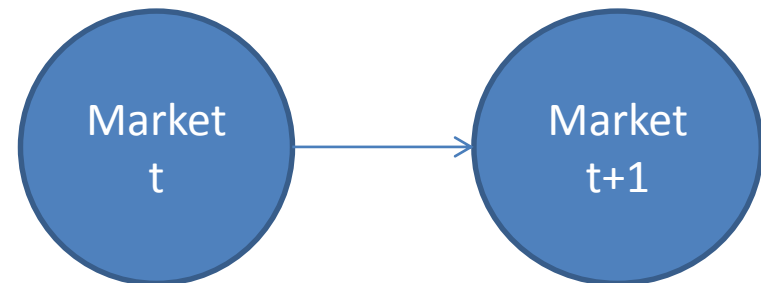
$$P(A,B,C)=P(C | A,B)P(B | A)P(A)$$

Markov Chains

- Initial state, or distribution over possible initial states.
- Transition probabilities
 - Markov Condition: State at time $t+1$ depends only on state at time t . (Leads to higher order MCs)
 - I.e. Current state conditionally independent of all prior states except preceeding.



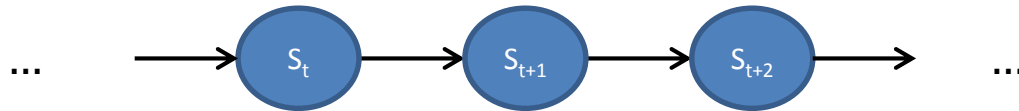
	Bull	Stagnant	Bear
Bull	.9	.025	.075
Stagnant	.25	.5	.25
Bear	.15	.05	.8



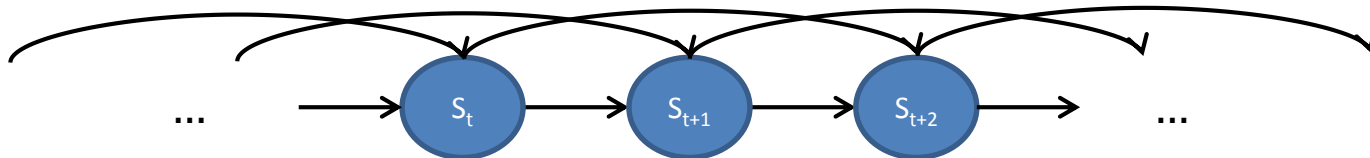
Markov Chains

- Using nodes to represent variables & conditional distributions
- Conditioned upon variables indicated by edges.

1st Order Markov Chain



2nd Order Markov Chain



Markov Chain

Transition probabilities for transition matrix T .

Simple state prediction (1st Order):

$$\mathbf{X}_{t+n} = \mathbf{X}_t^T \mathbf{T}^n$$

The eigenvector to the eigen value 1 gives the steady equilibrium distribution. (Ie 'long run' distribution of the MC).

Sampling From a Markov Chain

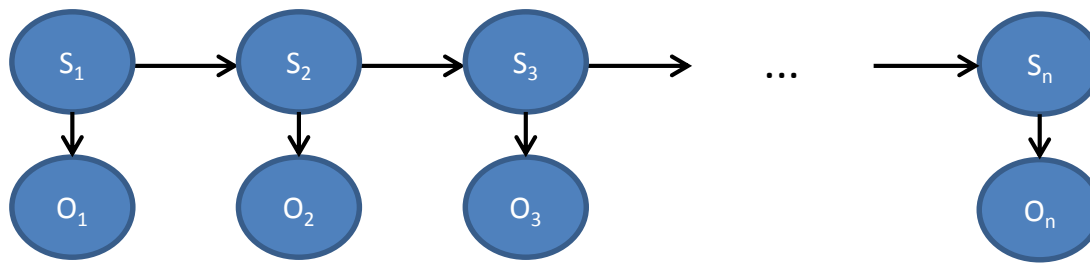
- Provides a sequence of sampled state values corresponding to time 0 to t : $S_0, S_1, S_2, \dots, S_t$
- Sample from the initial state distribution to find the sample value S_0
- Construct the distribution $P(S_i | S_{i-1})$ using S_{i-1} and the transition matrix. Then sample from this distribution to S_i .
- Note: Samples are not independent.

Markov Chain Monte Carlo

- Generate a (1st order) MC that (in its equilibrium state) represents the target distribution.
- Proceed to generate samples from it by evolving the MC.
- As the number of samples approaches infinity, the sampled distribution approaches the actual equilibrium distribution.
 - Burn period
 - n th sample
- Blackboard example...

Hidden Markov Models

- State of system is hidden from us.
- Some observation related to the state is available to us.
 - Require sensor/emission probabilities, E .
 - Assume observations depend only on current state. (Conditionally independent of all other states and observations.)



Hidden Markov Models

- Prediction: Just as in Markov Chains...

$$P(S_{t+n}|S_t) = P(S_t)\mathbf{T}^n$$

Hidden Markov Models

Note * notation:

$$P^*(S_t|S_{t-1}) = \sum_{i=1}^m P(S_t|S_{t-1} = i) P(S_{t-1} = i)$$

Hidden Markov Models

We will make use of Bayes Rule:

$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(Y|X)P(X)}{P(Y)}$$

When Y is observed, this becomes:

$$P(X|Y = y) = \frac{P(Y = y|X)P(X)}{P(Y = y)}$$

Hidden Markov Models

State Estimation, $t > 0$:

$$P(S_t | O_{1:t}, S_0) = P(S_t | S_{t-1}, O_t) P(S_{t-1} | O_{1:t-1}, S_0)$$

Note the recursion:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{S}_t | \mathbf{O}_{1:t}, \mathbf{S}_0) = P(S_t | S_{t-1}, O_t) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{S}_{t-1} | \mathbf{O}_{1:t-1}, \mathbf{S}_0)$$

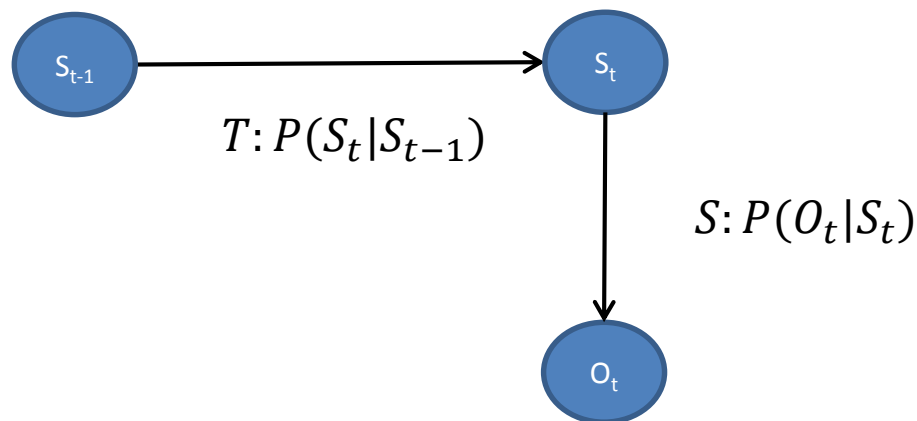
So we can proceed iteratively through, basising our estimation of S_t only on our estimation of S_{t-1} and observation O_t .

Hidden Markov Models

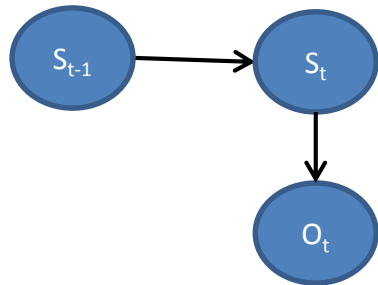
- State Estimation

$$P(S_t | S_{t-1}, O_t) = \frac{P(O_t | S_t) P^*(S_t | S_{t-1})}{P(O_t)}$$
$$\propto P(O_t | S_t) P^*(S_t | S_{t-1})$$

Remember: The previous state estimation has all relevant information from the past!



Hidden Markov Models



S_{t-1}	$S_t=T$	$S_t=F$	S_t	$O_t=T$	$O_t=F$
T	.9	.1	T	.3	.7
F	.3	.7	F	.1	.9

$$P(S_t | S_{t-1}, O_t) \propto P(O_t | S_t) P^*(S_t | S_{t-1})$$

- Let our belief regarding S_0 be that it is 80% likely $S_0=T$.
- Let us observe $O_1=F$.

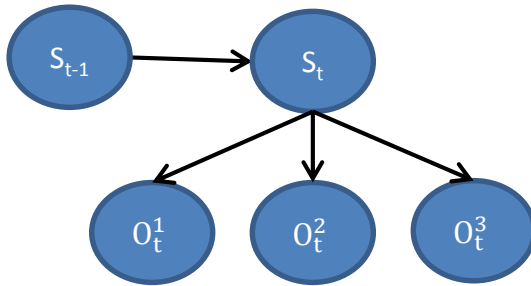
$$P(S_1 | S_0) = \langle (.8)(.9) + (.2)(.3), (.8)(.1) + (.2)(.7) \rangle = \langle .78, .22 \rangle$$

$$P(O_1 = F | S_1) = \langle .7, .9 \rangle$$

$$P(S_1 | S_0, O_1 = F) \propto \langle (.78)(.7), (.22)(.9) \rangle = \langle .546, .198 \rangle$$

$$P(S_1 | S_0, O_1 = F) = \left\langle \frac{.546}{.546 + .198}, \frac{.198}{.546 + .198} \right\rangle \approx \langle .734, .266 \rangle$$

Hidden Markov Models



S_{t-1}	$S_t=T$	$S_t=F$
T	.6	.4
F	.5	.5

S_t	O_t^1
T	$\mathcal{N}(3.5, 10)$
F	$\mathcal{N}(5, 5)$

S_t	O_t^2
T	$\mathcal{N}(45, 100)$
F	$\mathcal{N}(55, 225)$

S_t	O_t^3
T	$\mathcal{N}(0, .1)$
F	$\mathcal{N}(0, .5)$

$$P(S_t | S_{t-1}, O_t)$$

$$\propto \rho(O_t^1 | S_t) \rho(O_t^2 | S_t) \rho(O_t^3 | S_t) P^*(S_t | S_{t-1})$$

• Let our belief regarding S_0 be that it is 50% likely $S_0=T$.

• Let us observe $O_1^1=6.103$, $O_1^2=54.7$ and $O_1^3=.154$

$$P(S_1 | S_0) = \langle (.5)(.6) + (.5)(.5), (.5)(.4) + (.5)(.5) \rangle = \langle .55, .45 \rangle$$

$$P(O_1^1 = 6.103 | S_1) \approx \langle .089, .158 \rangle$$

$$P(O_1^2 = 54.7 | S_1) \approx \langle .025, .027 \rangle$$

$$P(O_1^3 = .154 | S_1) \approx \langle 1.120, .551 \rangle$$

$$P(S_1 | S_0, O_1^1 = 6.103, O_1^2 = 54.7, O_1^3 = .154)$$

$$\propto \langle (.55)(.089)(.025)(1.120), (.45)(.158)(.027)(.551) \rangle \approx \langle .00137, .00106 \rangle$$

$$P(S_1 | S_0, O_1^1 = 6.103, O_1^2 = 54.7, O_1^3 = .154) \approx \langle \frac{.00137}{.00137 + .00106}, \frac{.00106}{.00137 + .00106} \rangle \approx \langle .564, .436 \rangle$$

Hidden Markov Models: Lab B

- State Estimation
 - Given an initial state, transition and sensor probabilities, we can iteratively calculate the distribution at each subsequent state.
 - We can do this online.

Note that for Lab B

- Vector of 3 observations (as in last example)
- Sparse transition matrix (many impossible transitions). Assume random walk with possibility of staying still.
- Presumably uniform initial state.
- NOT real time.

Hidden Markov Models

Smoothing: The Forward-Backward Algorithm

$$\begin{aligned} P(S_{s \leq t} | O_{0:t}, S_0) \\ = P(S_{s \leq t} | O_{0:s}, S_0) P(S_{s+1:t} | O_{s+1:t}) \end{aligned}$$

The Forward Algorithm:

- We have seen how, given an initial state, transition and sensor probabilities, we can iteratively calculate $P(S_s | O_{0:s}, S_0)$ for $1 \leq s \leq t$.

The Backward Algorithm:

- Starting at t , we can iteratively calculate:

$$P(S_s | O_{s+1:t})$$

Hidden Markov Models

$$\begin{aligned}P(\mathbf{S}_s | \mathbf{O}_{s+1:t}) &= P(S_s | O_{s+2:t}, O_{s+1}) \\&= P(S_s | S_{s+1})P(S_{s+1} | O_{s+1:t}) \\&= P(S_s | S_{s+1})P(S_{s+1} | O_{s+2:t}, O_{s+1}) \\&= P(S_s | S_{s+1})P(O_{s+1} | S_{s+1})P(S_{s+1} | O_{s+2:t}) \\&\propto P(S_s)P(S_{s+1} | S_s)P(O_{s+1} | S_{s+1})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{S}_{s+1} | \mathbf{O}_{s+2:t})\end{aligned}$$

- Note the recursion.
- We have a base case since:

$$P(O_{t+1:t} | S_t) = P(\emptyset | S_t) = 1$$

- We actually iterate backwards from t.

Hidden Markov Models

Forward backward algorithm for all states.

Forward chain:

$$f_0 = S_0$$
$$f_i = f_{i-1} T O_i$$

Backward chain:

$$b_t = 1$$
$$b_i = O_{i+1} T b_{i+1}$$

Combination:

$$P(S_i) \propto f_i b_i$$

Blackboard example...

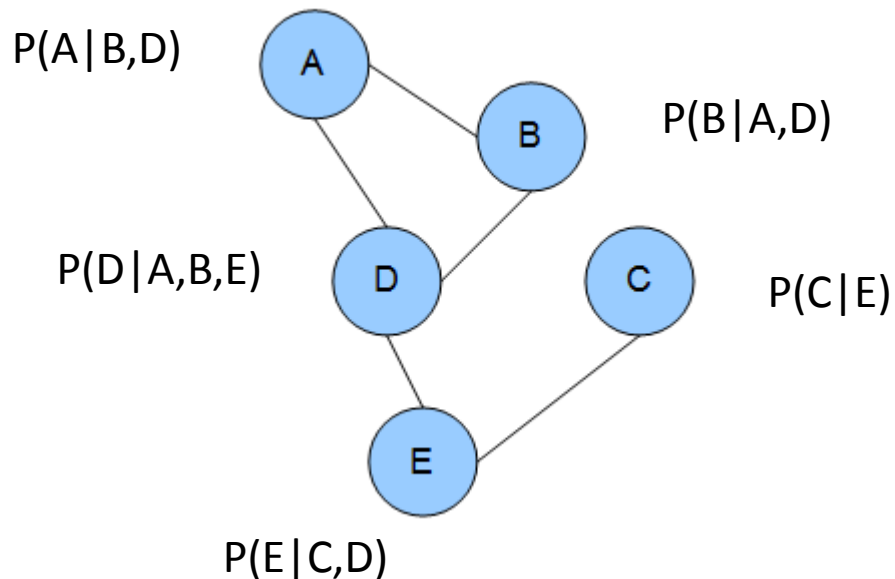
Hidden Markov Models

- Most Probable Path: Viterbi Algorithm
 - Calculate the path probabilities as in the Dynamic Programming for Path Finding.
 - Difference: Multiplicative instead of additive accumulation function.
 - Does not find probability of most probable path unless normalization (over all paths) occurs at each step.
 - Using log probabilities useful.
 - Blackboard example...

Markov Random Fields

An undirected network of models, each specifying the conditional distribution for a variable given its neighbors.

Note graph convention:
Nodes represent variables. Conditional distributions associated with each node. Edges into nodes indicate which variables are conditioned upon.



Markov Random Fields

- Inference:

Given the states we know, to find out the states we do not know, we sample...

- Gibbs Sampler

- Divide domain into known and unknown variables.
- Assign unknown variables a random value.
- We iterate through unknown variables, calculating a new value given the values assigned to their neighbors.
- After each iteration, we record a sample.
- We estimate distributions of interest from these samples.

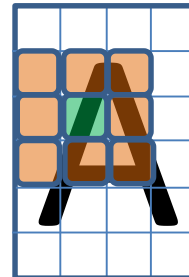
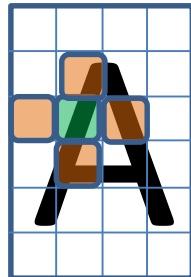
Example on blackboard.

Markov Random Fields

- Example: Letter recognition
 1. Gather lots of examples of written letters of the relevant alphabet (and scale them to a normal size).
 2. Divide the letters into segments.
 3. Pick a characteristic of the image found in these segments: Eg number of curves, or number of vertices (meeting points of curves).

Markov Random Fields

- We notice that the probability distribution for a given characteristic, for a given letter, is dependent on its neighboring segments.
- The variables in the model are discrete. The distributions are all conditional multinomials.



Markov Random Fields

Training:

Train a model for each letter using Bayesian methods:

- Use Dirichlet/count statistics to estimate the true distributions from the training data for each letter.
- This will give you models for expected distribution of particular letters.

Example on blackboard.

Markov Random Fields

Classifying:

Given a new letter-image, we:

- Divide it into segments and classify each segment by the chosen characteristic (eg number of curves).
- Calculate the probability of this set of characteristic values for the segments for each of our letters.
- Normalizing these values give us the probability of the letter-image being a given letter.

Example on blackboard.

Categorical Distributions

Categorical distributions use n parameters to specify the probability distribution of a n -valued random variable. Each parameter, i , gives the probability of the variable taking the i th value. The degrees of freedom of such a distribution is $n-1$, since we have the constraint:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n P(X = x_j)$$

Result:	Win	Draw	Loss
Prob.	.6	.3	.1

Here is a three valued categorical distribution representing the result of a match:

Conditional Categorical Distributions

Conditional categorical distributions $P(Y|\mathbf{X})$ give a categorical distribution for each possible value of the discrete variables being conditioned upon.

Here is a conditional categorical distribution representing the distribution over the result of a match given the values taken by the location and weather variables:

Location	Weather	Win	Draw	Loss
Home	Raining	.2	.7	.1
Home	Normal	.8	.15	.05
Home	Hot	.6	.2	.1
Away	Raining	.1	.8	.1
Away	Normal	.5	.4	.1
Away	Hot	.2	.6	.2

This is a classifier that gives a distribution for an output variable Y given input variables \mathbf{X} .

Maximum Likelihood & Count Parameters

Take discrete variable $X: \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, distributed $cat(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$. Let us track the number of times that we have seen X take particular values with the count parameters:

$$\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$$

The *maximum likelihood* value of the parameters p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n is the value that makes the observations most probable. It is:

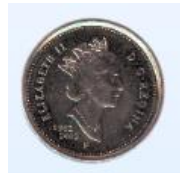
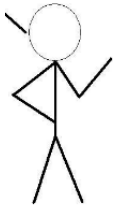
$$p_i = \frac{c_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n c_j}$$

- The ratio of the count parameters gives us our ML estimation for the distribution parameters.
- As the count parameters increase, new observations will alter the ML estimation of the distribution parameters less and less.

Count Parameters & Adaption

Using counts makes it easy to adapt our parameter estimates: We simply add to the counts as observations occur and adjust accordingly.

My knowledge of this coin is given by the counts $\langle 2, 1 \rangle$, since I have flipped it 3 times and it has come up heads 2 of those 3.



Now my knowledge of this coin is given by the counts $\langle 3, 1 \rangle$, since I have flipped it 4 times and it has come up heads 3 of those 4.



We can adapt to soft evidence too: If we hear that another coin toss has occurred from someone who cannot remember the result for sure, but is 75% sure that it was heads, we would have the counts $\langle 2.75, 1.25 \rangle$.

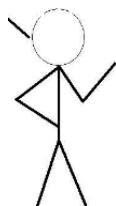
Count Parameters & Conditional Distributions

For conditional distributions, we keep counts under each set of possible conditions of the variables being conditioned upon.

is given by the counts:

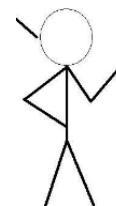
Rain	Win	Loss	Draw
T	0	4	1
F	3	0	0

Since I've seen them play in the rain 5 times, and of these they lost 5 and drew 1, and I've seen them play without rain



they won in the rain, so now my beliefs are given by the counts:

Rain	Win	Loss	Draw
T	1	4	1
F	3	0	0

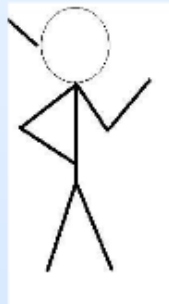


Pseudo-Observations and Expert Knowledge

Easy to encode an expert's knowledge about probabilities and their confidence in their estimation:

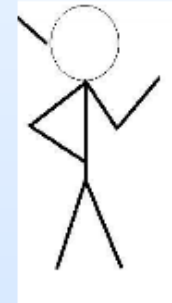
Get them to specify their knowledge 'as if' they had :

My knowledge of this coin is as if I had flipped it 10000 times and it had come up heads 9999 of those times.



Confident biased coin expert

My knowledge of this coin is as if I had flipped it 3 times and it had come up heads 2 of those times.



Unconfident biased coin expert

Count Parameters and Dirichlet Distributions

The count parameters can be interpreted as the parameters of a Dirichlet distribution over our belief regarding the correct value of the parameters in the categorical distribution.

$$Dir(c_1, c_2 \dots c_n) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \Gamma(c_i)} \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{c_i-1},$$

With support: x_1, \dots, x_{n-1} where $x_i \in [0,1]$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i < 1$

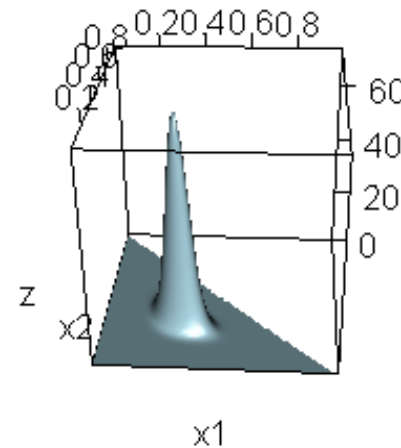
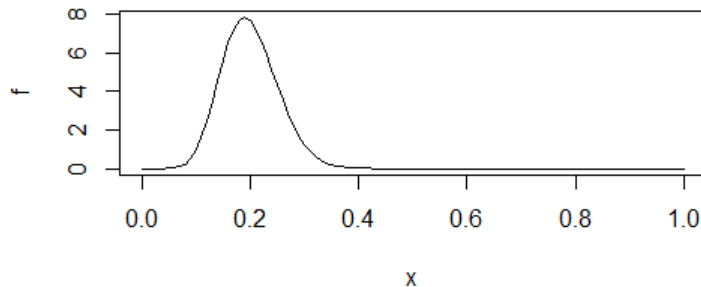
Note: x_n is implicit from the constraint.

Just understand the relationship between the shape and the parameters! See examples: `abn::dir.plot(...)`.

Count Parameters and Dirichlet Distributions

We can obtain confidence estimates for the parameters of our categorical distribution given our observations and prior beliefs (pseduo-obsevatons) count.

Working with Dirichlets is beyond the scope of this course.



Ignorance & Conservatism

A common choice is to model ignorance 'as if' we had seen all values occur once. This is because otherwise we would jump to certainty after a single observation! (Why?)

Dirichlet distributions accord with this convention: Dirichlet distributions of all ones are uniform over possible parameters.