

Natural Language Processing

Lecture 10: Parts of Speech Tagging and Named Entity Recognition

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Outline

- Parts of Speech Tagging
- Named Entity Recognition
- Sequence Modeling
- PGM-based Model for Sequence Labelling
- Evaluation

Parts of Speech

- 8 Parts of speech are traditionally used to summarize the linguistic knowledge
 - Noun, Verb, Preposition, Adverb, Article, Interjection, Pronoun, Conjunction
- The modified list is currently used
 - Noun, Verb, Auxiliary, Preposition, Adjective, Adverb, Number, Determiner, Interjection, Pronoun, Conjunction, Particle

- Known as:
 - Parts of speech
 - Lexical categories
 - Word classes
 - Morphological classes
 - Lexical tags

POS Examples

Noun book/books, sugar, Germany, Sony

Verb eat, wrote

Auxiliary can, should, have

Adjective new, newer, newest

Adverb well, urgently

Numbers 872, two, first

Determiner the, some

Conjunction and, or

Pronoun he, my

Preposition to, in

Particle off, up

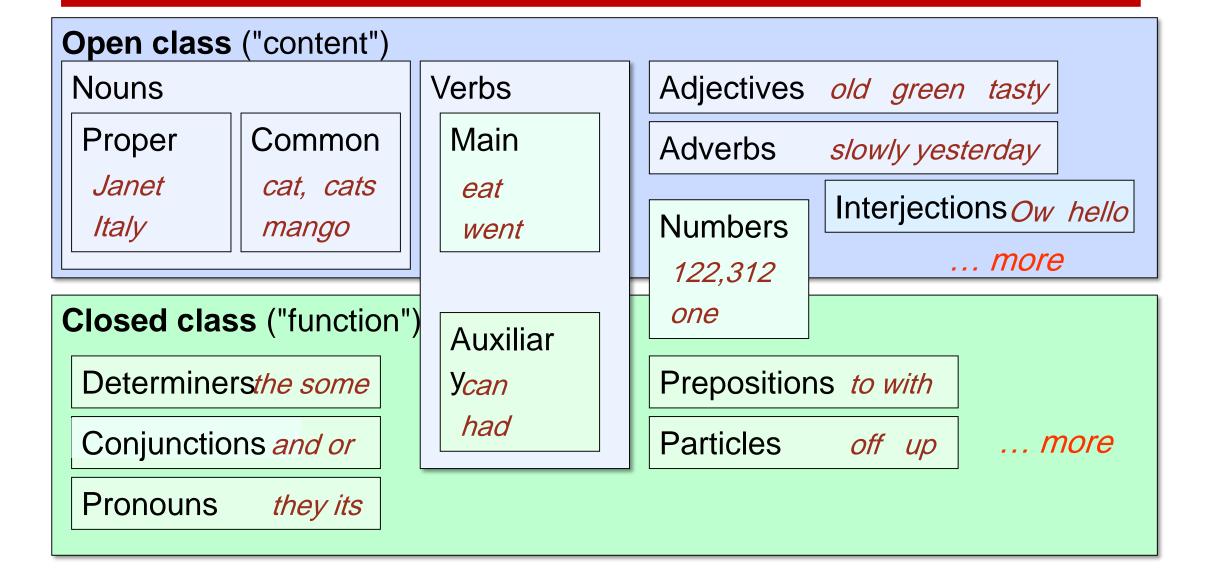
Interjection Ow, Eh

Open vs. Closed Classes

- Closed class words
 - Relatively fixed membership
 - Usually function words: short, frequent words with grammatical function
 - determiners: a, an, the
 - pronouns: she, he, I
 - prepositions: on, under, over, near, by, ...

- Open class words
 - Usually content words: Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs
 - Plus interjections: oh, ouch, uh-huh, yes, hello
 - New nouns and verbs like iPhone or to fax

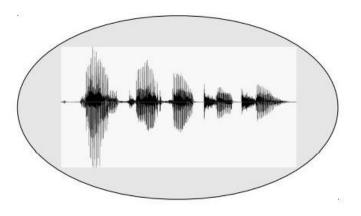
Open vs. Closed Classes



- Speech Synthesis
- Parsing
- Machine Translation
- Information Extraction

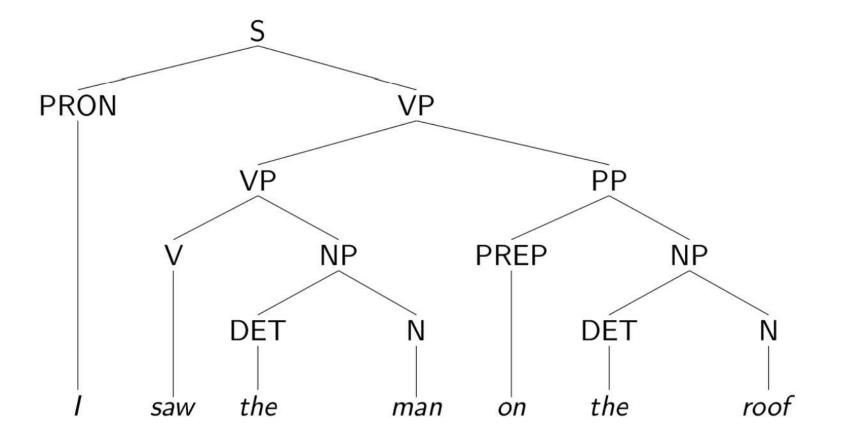
Speech Synthesis

How to produce 'lead'?



Machine Translation

Parsing



POS Tagset

- There are so many parts of speech tagsets we can draw
- Choosing a standard tagset is essential
- Tag types
 - Coarse-grained
 - noun
 - verb
 - adjective
 - 0
- Fine-grained
 - noun-proper-singular, noun-proper-plural, noun-common-mass, ...
 - verb-past, verb-present-3rd, verb-base, ...
 - adjective-simple, adjective-comparative, ...
 - 0

Penn TreeBank Tagset

Tag	Description	Example	Tag	Description	Example
CC	coordin. conjunction	and, but, or	SYM	symbol	+,%, &
CD	cardinal number	one, two, three	TO	"to"	to
DT	determiner	a, the	UH	interjection	ah, oops
EX	existential 'there'	there	VB	verb, base form	eat
FW	foreign word	mea culpa	VBD	verb, past tense	ate
IN	preposition/sub-conj	of, in, by	VBG	verb, gerund	eating
JJ	adjective	yellow	VBN	verb, past participle	eaten
JJR	adj., comparative	bigger	VBP	verb, non-3sg pres	eat
JJS	adj., superlative	wildest	VBZ	verb, 3sg pres	eats
LS	list item marker	1, 2, One	WDT	wh-determiner	which, that
MD	modal	can, should	WP	wh-pronoun	what, who
NN	noun, sing. or mass	llama	WP\$	possessive wh-	whose
NNS	noun, plural	llamas	WRB	wh-adverb	how, where
NNP	proper noun, singular	IBM	\$	dollar sign	\$
NNPS	proper noun, plural	Carolinas	#	pound sign	#
PDT	predeterminer	all, both	**	left quote	or "
POS	possessive ending	's	,,	right quote	or "
PRP	personal pronoun	I, you, he	(left parenthesis	[, (, {, <
PRP\$	possessive pronoun	your, one's)	right parenthesis],), }, >
RB	adverb	quickly, never	,	comma	,
RBR	adverb, comparative	faster		sentence-final punc	. ! ?
RBS	adverb, superlative	fastest	:	mid-sentence punc	: ;
RP	particle	up, off			

"Universal Dependencies" Tagset

	Tag	Description	Example
Open Class	ADJ	Adjective: noun modifiers describing properties	red, young, awesome
	ADV	Adverb: verb modifiers of time, place, manner	very, slowly, home, yesterday
	NOUN	words for persons, places, things, etc.	algorithm, cat, mango, beauty
	VERB	words for actions and processes	draw, provide, go
	PROPN	Proper noun: name of a person, organization, place, etc	Regina, IBM, Colorado
	INTJ	Interjection: exclamation, greeting, yes/no response, etc.	oh, um, yes, hello
Closed Class Words	ADP	Adposition (Preposition/Postposition): marks a noun's	in, on, by under
		spacial, temporal, or other relation	
	AUX	Auxiliary: helping verb marking tense, aspect, mood, etc.,	can, may, should, are
	CCONJ	Coordinating Conjunction: joins two phrases/clauses	and, or, but
	DET	Determiner: marks noun phrase properties	a, an, the, this
	NUM	Numeral	one, two, first, second
	PART	Particle: a preposition-like form used together with a verb	up, down, on, off, in, out, at, by
$\Box 10$	PRON	Pronoun: a shorthand for referring to an entity or event	she, who, I, others
	SCONJ	Subordinating Conjunction: joins a main clause with a	that, which
		subordinate clause such as a sentential complement	
er	PUNCT	Punctuation	; , ()
Other	SYM	Symbols like \$ or emoji	\$, %
	X	Other	asdf, qwfg

Part-of-Speech Tagging

- Definition
 - The process of assigning a part of speech to each word in a text

- Challenge
 - Words often have more than one POS

On my back
The back door
Pay the money back
Promised to back the bill

Part-of-Speech Tagging

- Definition
 - The process of assigning a part of speech to each word in a text

- Challenge
 - Words often have more than one POS

On my back[NN]
The back[JJ] door
Pay the money back[RB]
Promised to back[VB] the bill

Distribution of Ambiguities

		45-tag	g Treebank Brown
Unambiguous (1 tag)		38,857	
Ambiguous (2–7 tags)		8844	
Details:	2 tags	6,731	
	3 tags	1621	
	4 tags	357	
	5 tags	90	
	6 tags	32	
	7 tags	6	(well, set, round, open, fit, down)
	8 tags	4	('s, half, back, a)
	9 tags	3	(that, more, in)

Distribution of Ambiguities

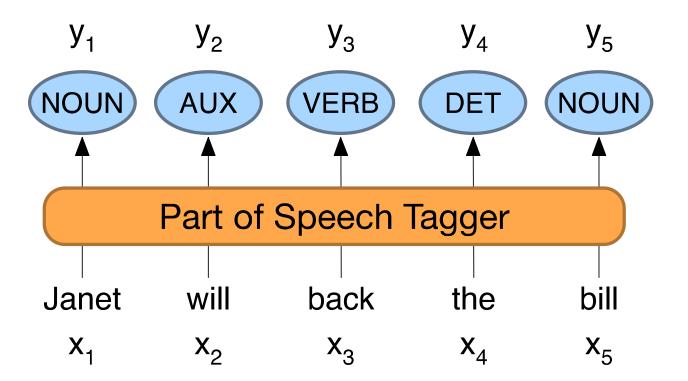
- The frequency of ambiguous words are relatively high
 - 11.5% of word types
 - 40% of word tokens

Goal

- Using a set of labeled data to train a model
- Using the trained model to predict the POS tag of the unseen words

Part-of-Speech Tagging

• Map from sequence $x_1,...,x_n$ of words to $y_1,...,y_n$ of POS tags



POS Tagging

Plays well with others

Plays NNS/VBZ

well UH/JJ/NN/RB

with IN

others NNS

Plays[VBZ] well[RB] with[IN] others[NNS]

Basic Models

- Baseline model
 - Tagging unambiguous words with the correct label
 - Tagging ambiguous words with their most frequent label
 - Tagging unknown words as a noun

Already performs around 90%

- Basic classification model
 - Classifying each word to the pre-define list of POS tags

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Named Entities

- Named entity, in its core usage, means anything that can be referred to with a proper name. Most common 4 tags:
 - PER (Person): "Marie Curie"
 - LOC (Location): "New York City"
 - ORG (Organization): "Stanford University"
 - GPE (Geo-Political Entity): "Boulder, Colorado"
- Often multi-word phrases
 - But the term is also extended to things that aren't entities

Named Entities

- Dates and times
- Prices
- Measure (Percent, Money, Weight, ...)
- Religious
- Book title
- Movie title
- Drug name

Named Entity Recognition

Also known as named entity tagging

- The task of named entity recognition (NER):
 - find spans of text that constitute proper names
 - tag the type of the entity.

NER output

Citing high fuel prices, [ORG United Airlines] said [TIME Friday] it has increased fares by [MONEY \$6] per round trip on flights to some cities also served by lower-cost carriers. [ORG American Airlines], a unit of [ORG AMR Corp.], immediately matched the move, spokesman [PER Tim Wagner] said. [ORG United], a unit of [ORG UAL Corp.], said the increase took effect [TIME Thursday] and applies to most routes where it competes against discount carriers, such as [LOC Chicago] to [LOC Dallas] and [LOC Denver] to [LOC San Francisco].

Motivation

 Sentiment analysis: consumer's sentiment toward a particular company or person?

- Factual information and knowledge are normally expressed by named entities
 - Who, Whom, Where, When, ...

 Question answering systems are looking for named entities to answer users' questions

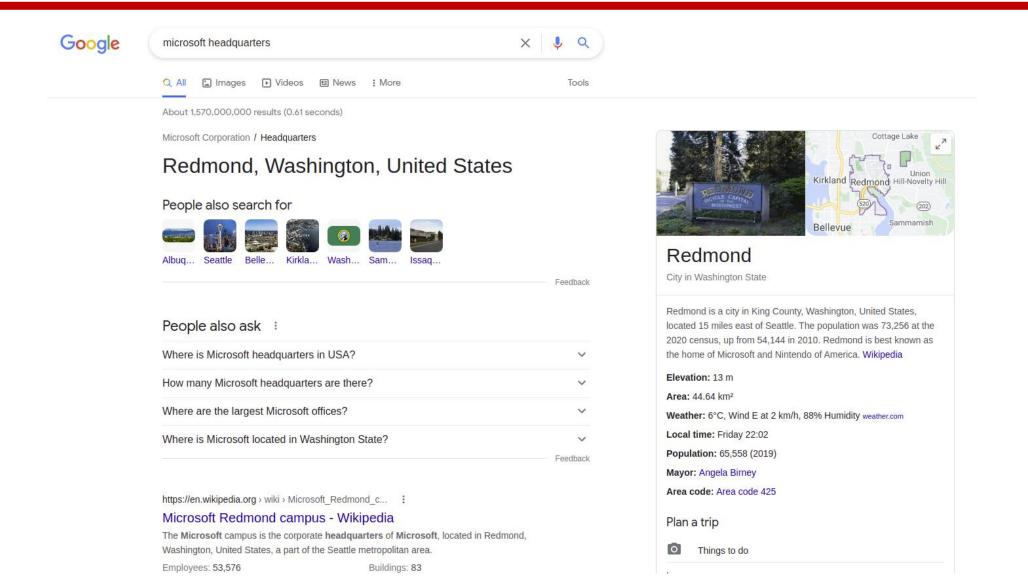
Named entity recognition is the core of the information extraction systems

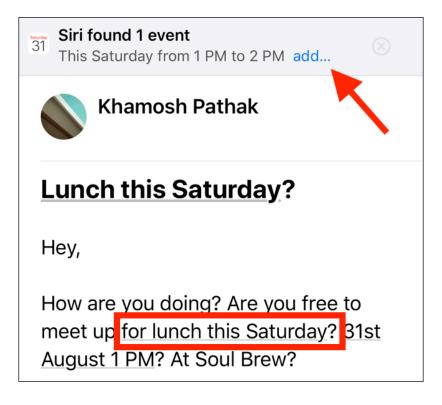
- Finding the important information of an event from an invitation
 - Date, Time, Location, Host, Contact person

- Finding the main information of a company from its reports
 - Founder, Board members, Headquarters, Profits

- Finding medical information from medical literature
 - Drugs, Genes, Interaction products

- Finding the target of sentiments
 - Products, Celebrities





Why NER is hard

- Segmentation
 - In POS tagging, no segmentation problem since each word gets one tag.
 - In NER we have to find and segment the entities!

Type ambiguity

[PER Washington] was born into slavery on the farm of James Burroughs. [ORG Washington] went up 2 games to 1 in the four-game series. Blair arrived in [LOC Washington] for what may well be his last state visit. In June, [GPE Washington] passed a primary seatbelt law.

BIO Tagging

 How can we turn this structured problem into a sequence problem like POS tagging, with one label per word?

• [PER Jane Villanueva] of [ORG United], a unit of [ORG United Airlines Holding], said the fare applies to the [LOC Chicago] route.

BIO Tagging

• [PER Jane Villanueva] of [ORG United], a unit of [ORG United Airlines Holding], said the fare applies to the [LOC Chicago] route.

Now we have one tag per token!!!

Words	BIO Label
Jane	B-PER
Villanueva	I-PER
of	O
United	B-ORG
Airlines	I-ORG
Holding	I-ORG
discussed	O
the	O
Chicago	B-LOC
route	O
	O

BIO Tagging

- B: token that *begins* a span
- I: tokens *inside* a span
- O: tokens outside of any span

- # of tags (where n is #entity types):
- 1 O tag,
- n B tags,
- *n* I tags
- Total: *2n+1*

Words	BIO Label
Jane	B-PER
Villanueva	I-PER
of	O
United	B-ORG
Airlines	I-ORG
Holding	I-ORG
discussed	O
the	O
Chicago	B-LOC
route	O
•	O

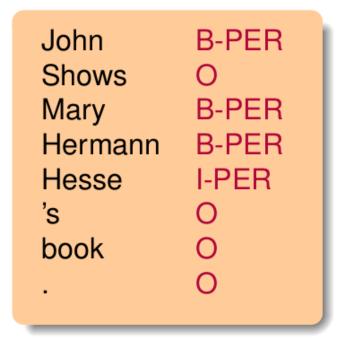
BIO Tagging variants: IO and BIOES

• [PER Jane Villanueva] of [ORG United], a unit of [ORG United Airlines Holding], said the fare applies to the [LOC Chicago] route.

Words	IO Label	BIO Label	BIOES Label
Jane	I-PER	B-PER	B-PER
Villanueva	I-PER	I-PER	E-PER
of	O	O	O
United	I-ORG	B-ORG	B-ORG
Airlines	I-ORG	I-ORG	I-ORG
Holding	I-ORG	I-ORG	E-ORG
discussed	O	O	O
the	O	O	O
Chicago	I-LOC	B-LOC	S-LOC
route	O	O	O
•	O	O	O

10 vs. 10B Encoding

John PER
Shows O
Mary PER
Hermann PER
Hesse PER
's O
book O
.



- Although IOB is more accurate, some systems prefer IO for the following reasons
 - IO is much faster than IOB
 - The above case happens very rarely. Even in such cases achieving correct results with IOB is difficult and unlikely

Basic Models

- List lookup
 - Using dictionary of named entities

- Learning models
 - Similar to POS tagging

List lookup

- Extensive list of names are available via various resources
- The name lists include lists of
 - Entities
 - Organization, government, airline, educational, ...
 - Location, continent, country, state, city, ...
 - Person first name, last name, ...
 - Entity cues
 - Typical words in organization; e.g., "Limited" or "Incorporated"
 - Person title; e.g., "Mister", "Lord"
- The terms "gazetteer", "lexicon" and "dictionary" are often used interchangeably with the term "list"
 - Gazetteer originally referred to a large list of place names but it became a more general terminology in the NER task

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Sequence Labelling

- Similar to a normal classification task
 - Feature Selection
 - Algorithm

POS Tagging with Word Features

Features

Word the: the \rightarrow DT

Prefixes unbelievable: un- \rightarrow JJ

Suffixes slowly: $-ly \rightarrow RB$

Lowercased word Importantly: importantly → RB

Capitalization Stefan: $[CAP] \rightarrow NNP$

Word shapes 35-year: d-x \rightarrow JJ

- Model
 - Maximum Entropy P(t|w)

Data	Performance
Overall	93.7
Unknown	82.6

NER with Word Features

Features

Word Germany: Germany

POS tag Washington: NNP

Capitalization Stefan: [CAP]

Punctuation St.: [PUNC]

Lowercased word Book: book

Suffixes Spanish: -ish

Word shapes 1920-2008: dddd-dddd

List lookup

POS Tagging

More Features?

They_[PRP] $left_{VBD}$ as_{IN} $soon_{RB}$ as_{IN} he_{PRP} $arrived_{NBD}$.

- Better Algorithm
 - Using Sequence Modeling

- Many of the NLP techniques should deal with data represented as sequence of items
 - Characters, Words, Phrases, Lines, ...



- Many of the NLP techniques should deal with data represented as sequence of items
 - Characters, Words, Phrases, Lines, ...

警察枪杀了那个逃 BIBIBBBBI

 $I_{[PRP]}$ saw_[VBP] the_[DT] man_[NN] on_[IN] the_[DT] roof_[NN].

- Many of the NLP techniques should deal with data represented as sequence of items
 - Characters, Words, Phrases, Lines, ...

 $I_{[PRP]}$ $saw_{[VBP]}$ $the_{[DT]}$ $man_{[NN]}$ $on_{[IN]}$ $the_{[DT]}$ $roof_{[NN]}$.

- Two types of information
 - Local
 - Contextual

- Making a decision based on the
 - Current Observation
 - Word (W0)
 - Prefix
 - Suffix
 - Lowercased word
 - Capitalization
 - Word shape
 - Surrounding observations
 - W₊₁
 - $^{\circ}$ W₋₁
 - Previous decisions
 - T₋₁
 - T₋₂

Methods for Sequence Labeling

- PGM-based Methods
 - Hidden Markov Model (HMM)
 - Maximum Entropy Markov Model (MEMM)
 - Conditional Random Fields (CRF)

* These are all classifiers (i.e., supervised learning) which model sequences (rather than individual random variables)

- Neural Methods
 - Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN)
 - Transformers

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- Finding the best sequence of tags $(t_1...t_n)$ that corresponds to the sequence of observations $(w_1...w_n)$
- Probabilistic View
 - Considering all possible sequences of tags
 - Choosing the tag sequence from this universe of sequences, which is most probable given the observation sequence

$$\hat{t}_1^n = \operatorname{argmax}_{t_1^n} P(t_1^n \mid w_1^n)$$

Using Bayes Rule

$$\hat{t}_1^n = \operatorname{argmax}_{t_1^n} P(t_1^n \mid w_1^n)$$

$$P(A \mid B) = \frac{P(B \mid A).P(A)}{P(B)}$$

$$P(t_1^n \mid w_1^n) = \frac{P(w_1^n \mid t_1^n).P(t_1^n)}{P(w_1^n)}$$



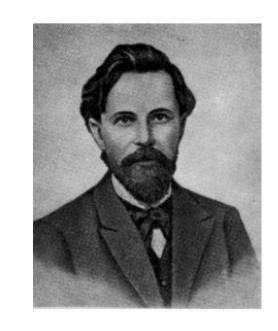
$$\hat{t}_1^n = \operatorname{argmax}_{t_1^n} P(w_1^n \mid t_1^n).P(t_1^n)$$

Using Markov Assumption

$$\hat{t}_1^n = \operatorname{argmax}_{t_1^n} P(w_1^n \mid t_1^n).P(t_1^n)$$

$$P(w_1^n \mid t_1^n) \approx \prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i \mid t_i)$$

$$P(t_1^n) \approx \prod_{i=1}^n P(t_i \mid t_{i-1})$$



$$\hat{t}_1^n = \operatorname{argmax}_{t_1^n} \prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i \mid t_i) . P(t_i \mid t_{i-1})$$

- The tag transition probabilities: $P(t_i | t_{i-1})$
 - Finding the likelihood of a tag to proceed by another tag
 - Similar to the normal bigram model

$$P(t_i|t_{i-1}) = \frac{\#(t_{i-1},t_i)}{\#(t_{i-1})}$$

- The word likelihood probabilities: P(w_i | t_i)
 - Finding the likelihood of a word to appear given a tag

$$P(w_i|t_i) = \frac{\#(t_i, w_i)}{\#(t_i)}$$

- Zero probability problem Solution:
 - similar to language modelling, use the smoothing method for both probabilities

I_[PRP] saw_[VBP] the_[DT] man_[NN?] on_[] the_[] roof_[] .

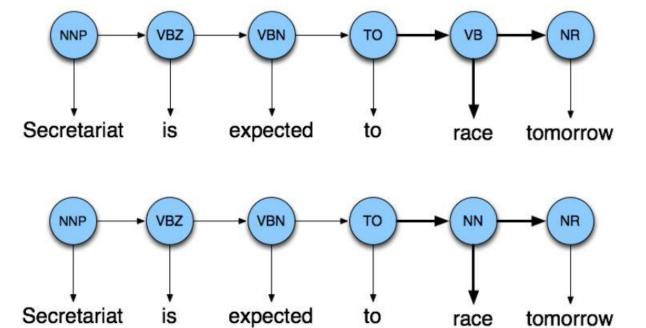
$$P([NN]|[DT]) = \frac{C([DT],[NN])}{C([DT])}$$

$$P(man | [NN]) = \frac{C([NN], man)}{C([NN])}$$

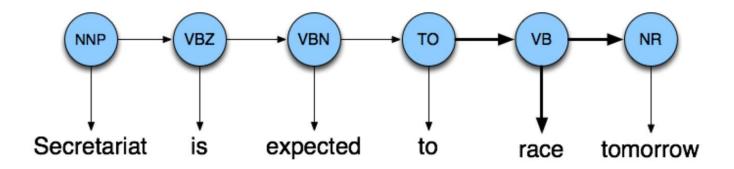
 $Secretariat_{\hbox{\scriptsize [NNP]}} \ is_{\hbox{\scriptsize [VBZ]}} \ expected_{\hbox{\scriptsize [VBN]}} \ to_{\hbox{\scriptsize [TO]}} \ race_{\hbox{\scriptsize [VB]}} \ tomorrow_{\hbox{\scriptsize [NR]}} \ .$

 $People_{[NNS]}$ inquire_[VB] the_[DT] reason_[NN] for_[IN] the_[DT] race_[NN].

 $Secretariat_{[NNP]} is_{[VBZ]} expected_{[VBN]} to_{[TO]} race_{[VB]} tomorrow_{[NR]}$.



Secretariat_[NNP] is_[VBZ] expected_[VBN] to_[TO] $race_{[VB]}$ tomorrow_[NR].



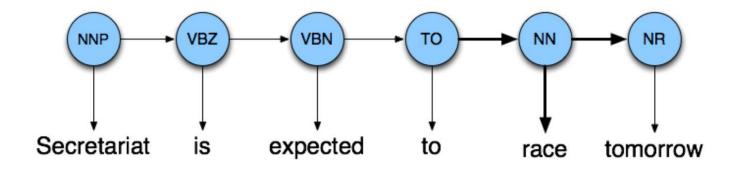
$$P(VB \mid TO) = 0.83$$

$$P(race | VB) = 0.00012$$

$$P(NR | VB) = 0.0027$$

$$P(VB | TO)P(NR | VB)P(race | VB) = 0.00000027$$

Secretariat_[NNP] is_[VBZ] expected_[VBN] to_[TO] $race_{[VB]}$ tomorrow_[NR].



$$P(NN \mid TO) = 0.00047$$

$$P(race \mid NN) = 0.00057$$

$$P(NR \mid NN) = 0.0012$$

$$P(NN | TO) P(NR | NN) P(race | NN) = \overline{0.000000000032}$$

Performance

Model

Maximum Entropy P(t|w)

Data	Performance
Overall	93.7
Unknown	82.6

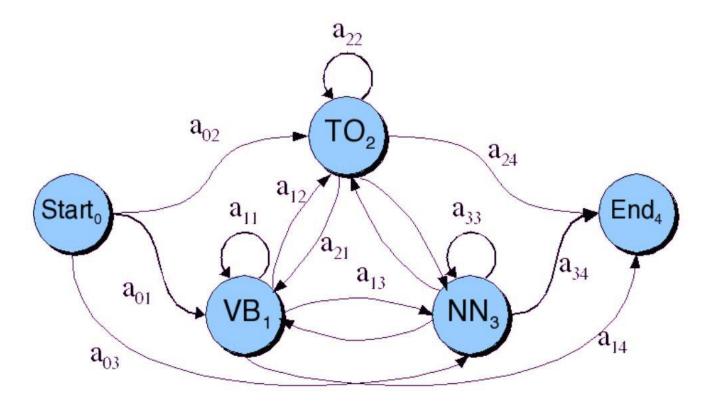
• HMM

Data	Performance
Overall	96.2
Unknown	86.0

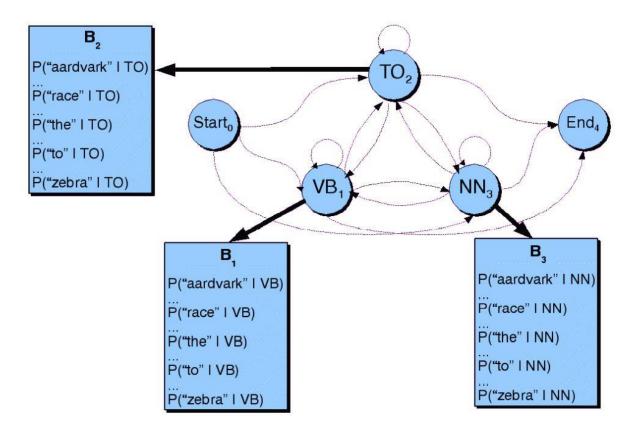
• Upper bound (human agreement): ∼98%

- A weighted finite-state automaton adds probabilities to the arcs
 - The probabilities leaving any arc must sum to one
- An HMM is an extension of a Markov chain in which the input symbols are not the same as the states
- We do not know which state we are in
 - The output symbols are words
 - The hidden states are POS tags

Transition probabilities



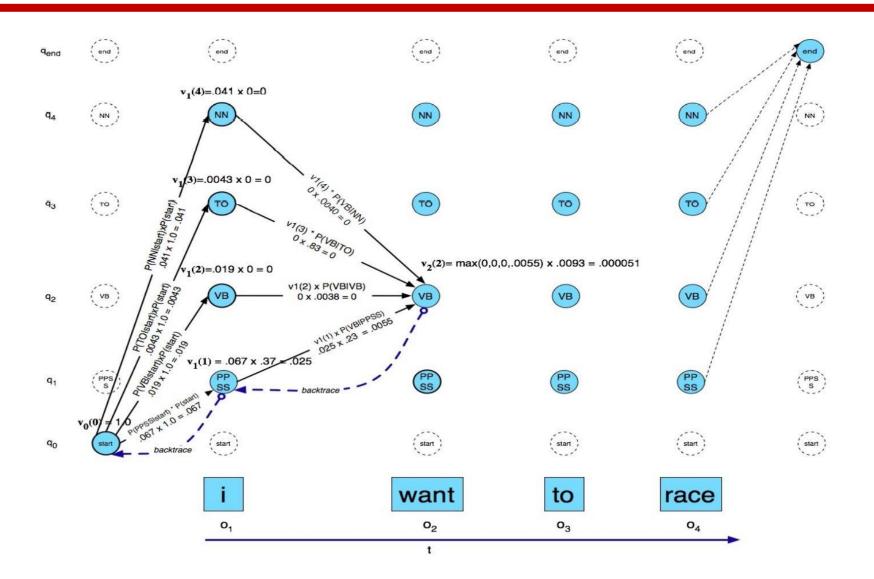
Word likelihood probabilities

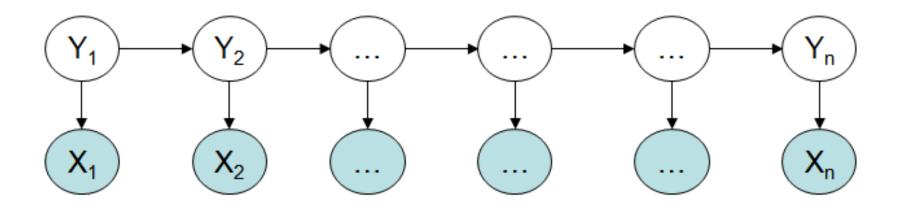


- Viterbi inference
 - Memorizing the model using dynamic programming
 - Considering the small window of previous decisions

- Creating an array
 - Columns corresponding to inputs
 - Rows corresponding to possible states
- Sweeping through the array in one pass filling the columns left to right using the transition probabilities and observation probabilities
- Storing the max probability path to each cell (not all paths) using dynamic programming

 Basic idea behind the algorithm: the recursive definition for finding the maximum probability





Advantages

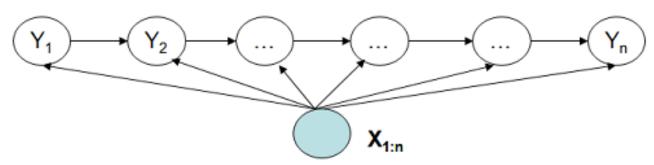
- A strong statistical foundation with efficient learning algorithms where learning can take place directly from raw sequence data.
- can perform a wide variety of operations and algorithms

Disadvantages

- HMM is only dependent on every state and its corresponding observed object (The sequence labeling, in addition to having a relationship with individual words, also relates to such aspects as the observed sequence length, word context and others.)
- The target function and the predicted target function do not match (HMM acquires the joint distribution P(Y, X) of the state and the observed sequence, while in the estimation issue, we need a conditional probability P(Y|X))

Maximum Entropy Markov Model (MEMM)

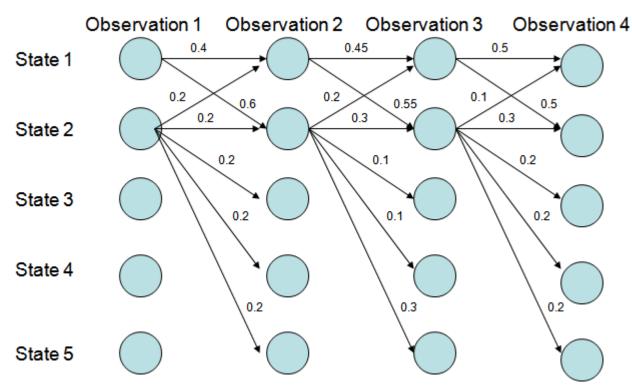
- Also known as Conditional Markov Model (CMM)
- The classifier decision is conditioned on the evidence from observations and previous decisions
- MEMM takes into account the dependencies between neighboring states and the entire observed sequence, hence a better expression ability. MEMM does not consider P(X), which reduces the modeling workload and learns the consistency between the target function and the estimated function.



$$P(\mathbf{y}_{1:n}|\mathbf{x}_{1:n}) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(y_i|y_{i-1},\mathbf{x}_{1:n}) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{f}(y_i,y_{i-1},\mathbf{x}_{1:n}))}{Z(y_{i-1},\mathbf{x}_{1:n})}$$

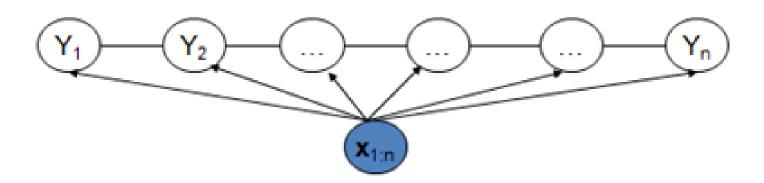
Maximum Entropy Markov Model (MEMM)

- Label Bias Problem in MEMM
 - Most Likely Path: $1 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 1$
 - Although locally it seems state 1 wants to go to state 2 and state 2 wants to remain in state 2 or 5.
 - Preference of states with lower number of transitions over others



Conditional Random Field (CRF)

- Another alternative for sequence modeling
- A whole-sequence of labels (classes) is conditioned to the whole-sequence of data items rather than a chaining of local models
 - The space of c' is now the space of sequences



Conditional Random Field (CRF)

- Advantages
 - CRF addresses the labeling bias problem of MEMM
 - MEMM adopts local variance normalization while CRF adopts global variance normalization
 - CRF does not have as strict independence assumptions as HMM does, it can accommodate any context information

- Disadvantages
 - CRF is computationally complex at the training stage of the algorithm

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Evaluating POS Tagging

- Comparing the output of a tagger with a human-labelled gold standard
- Accuracy:

$$Accuracy = \frac{\text{#currectly taggd words}}{\text{#total word token}}$$

Evaluating POS Tagging

Accuracy:

$$Accuracy = \frac{tp}{N}$$

$$Accuracy = \frac{\sum_{c}^{C} tp_{c}}{N}$$

Evaluating POS Tagging

- The accuracy score doesn't show everything
- It is useful to know what is misclassified as what
- Solution: providing a confusion matrix
 - A matrix (# tags x #tags): the rows correspond to the correct tags and the columns correspond to the tagger output
 - Cell(i, j) gives the count of the number of times tag i was classified as tag j
 - The leading diagonal elements correspond to correct classifications
 - Off diagonal elements correspond to misclassifications
- A good approach for error analysis

I. Surface string and entity type match

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
in	0	in	0
New	B-LOC	New	B-LOC
York	I-LOC	York	I-LOC
	0		0

II. System hypothesized an entity

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
an	0	an	0
Awful	0	Awful	B-ORG
Headache	0	Headache	I-ORG
in	0	in	0

III. System misses an entity

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
in	0	in	0
Palo	B-LOC	Palo	0
Alto	I-LOC	Alto	0
,	0	,	0

IV. System assigns the wrong entity type

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
I	0	I	0
live	0	live	0
in	0	in	0
Palo	B-LOC	Palo	B-ORG
Alto	I-LOC	Alto	I-ORG
,	0	,	0

V. System gets the boundaries of the surface string wrong

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
Unless	0	Unless	B-PER
Karl	B-PER	Karl	I-PER
Smith	I-PER	Smith	I-PER
resigns	0	resigns	0

VI. System gets the boundaries and entity type wrong

Golden Standard		System Prediction	
Surface String	Entity Type	Surface String	Entity Type
Unless	0	Unless	B-ORG
Karl	B-PER	Karl	I-ORG
Smith	I-PER	Smith	I-ORG
resigns	0	resigns	0

- F1-Score at token level (word level)
- F1-Score at entity level (phrase/segment level)

Example of entity level F1-score

TRUTH:

Michael Kearns and Sebastian Seung will start Monday's tutorial, followed by Richard M. Karpe and Martin Cooke.

PRED:

Michael Kearns and Sebastian Seung will start Monday's tutorial, followed by Richard M. Karpe and Martin Cooke.

Further Reading

- Speech and Language Processing (3rd ed. draft)
 - Chapter 8