# Hidden Markov Models

Vibhav Gogate

The University of Texas at Dallas

Slides borrowed from Stuart Russell

## Time and uncertainty

The world changes; we need to track and predict it

Diabetes management vs vehicle diagnosis

Basic idea: copy state and evidence variables for each time step

 $\mathbf{X}_t = \text{set of unobservable state variables at time } t$ e.g.,  $BloodSugar_t$ ,  $StomachContents_t$ , etc.

 $\mathbf{E}_t = \text{set of observable evidence variables at time } t$ e.g.,  $MeasuredBloodSugar_t$ ,  $PulseRate_t$ ,  $FoodEaten_t$ 

This assumes discrete time; step size depends on problem

Notation:  $\mathbf{X}_{a:b} = \mathbf{X}_a, \mathbf{X}_{a+1}, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{b-1}, \mathbf{X}_b$ 

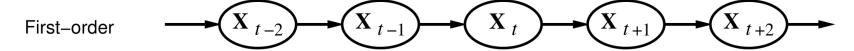
# Markov Processes

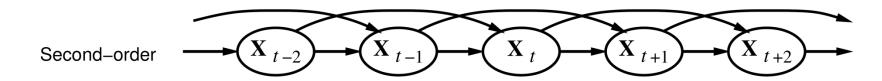
Construct a Bayes net from these variables: parents?

Markov assumption:  $X_t$  depends on **bounded** subset of  $X_{0:t-1}$ 

First-order Markov process:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{X}_{0:t-1}) = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{X}_{t-1})$ 

Second-order Markov process:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{X}_{0:t-1}) = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{X}_{t-2},\mathbf{X}_{t-1})$ 

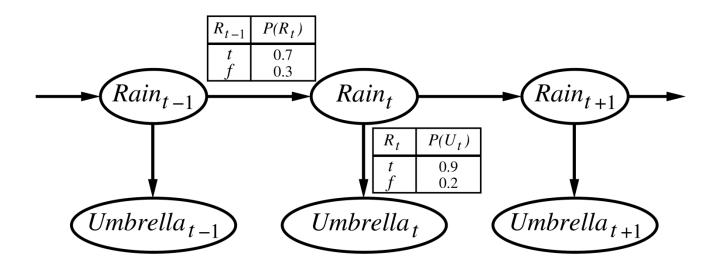




Sensor Markov assumption:  $P(\mathbf{E}_t|\mathbf{X}_{0:t},\mathbf{E}_{0:t-1}) = P(\mathbf{E}_t|\mathbf{X}_t)$ 

Stationary process: transition model  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{X}_{t-1})$  and sensor model  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{E}_t|\mathbf{X}_t)$  fixed for all t

## Example



First-order Markov assumption not exactly true in real world!

#### Possible fixes:

- 1. Increase order of Markov process
- 2. Augment state, e.g., add  $Temp_t$ ,  $Pressure_t$

Example: robot motion.

Augment position and velocity with  $Battery_t$ 

### Inference tasks

Filtering:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$  belief state—input to the decision process of a rational agent

Prediction:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$  for k > 0 evaluation of possible action sequences; like filtering without the evidence

Smoothing:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$  for  $0 \le k < t$  better estimate of past states, essential for learning

Most likely explanation:  $\arg \max_{\mathbf{x}_{1:t}} P(\mathbf{x}_{1:t}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$  speech recognition, decoding with a noisy channel

#### Filtering

Aim: devise a **recursive** state estimation algorithm:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t+1}) = f(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}, \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t+1}) &= \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t},\mathbf{e}_{t+1}) \\ &= \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1},\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \\ &= \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1}) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \end{aligned} \qquad \text{Markov assumption}$$

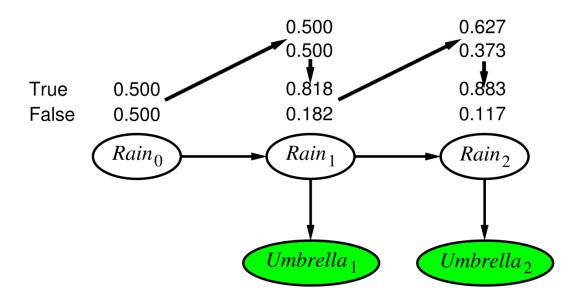
I.e., prediction + estimation. Prediction by summing out  $X_t$ :

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t+1}) = \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1}) \sum_{\mathbf{x}_t} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{e}_{1:t}) P(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$$

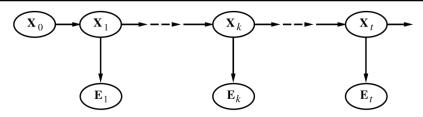
$$= \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1}) \sum_{\mathbf{x}_t} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{x}_t) P(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$$

 $\mathbf{f}_{1:t+1} = \text{FORWARD}(\mathbf{f}_{1:t}, \mathbf{e}_{t+1}) \text{ where } \mathbf{f}_{1:t} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t | \mathbf{e}_{1:t})$ Time and space **constant** (independent of t)

# Filtering example



### Smoothing



Divide evidence  $e_{1:t}$  into  $e_{1:k}$ ,  $e_{k+1:t}$ :

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:k},\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t})$$

$$= \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:k})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_{k},\mathbf{e}_{1:k})$$

$$= \alpha \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:k})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_{k})$$

$$= \alpha \mathbf{f}_{1:k}\mathbf{b}_{k+1:t}$$
Markov assumption
$$= \alpha \mathbf{f}_{1:k}\mathbf{b}_{k+1:t}$$

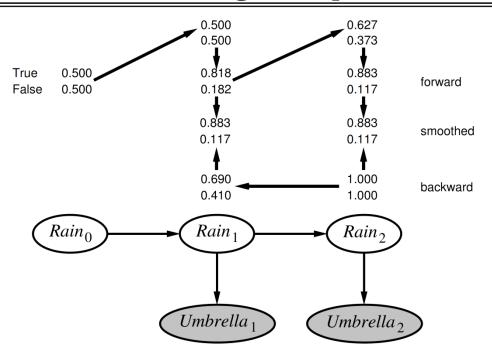
Backward message computed by a backwards recursion:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k)$$

$$= \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}} P(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k)$$

$$= \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}} P(\mathbf{e}_{k+1}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) P(\mathbf{e}_{k+2:t}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k)$$

## Smoothing example



Forward-backward algorithm: cache forward messages along the way Time linear in t (polytree inference), space  $O(t|\mathbf{f}|)$ 

## Most likely explanation

Most likely sequence  $\neq$  sequence of most likely states!!!!

Most likely path to each  $\mathbf{x}_{t+1}$ 

= most likely path to some  $x_t$  plus one more step

$$\max_{\mathbf{x}_1...\mathbf{x}_t} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_1, ..., \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{X}_{t+1} | \mathbf{e}_{1:t+1})$$

$$= \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1} | \mathbf{X}_{t+1}) \max_{\mathbf{x}_t} \left( \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1} | \mathbf{x}_t) \max_{\mathbf{x}_1...\mathbf{x}_{t-1}} P(\mathbf{x}_1, ..., \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \right)$$

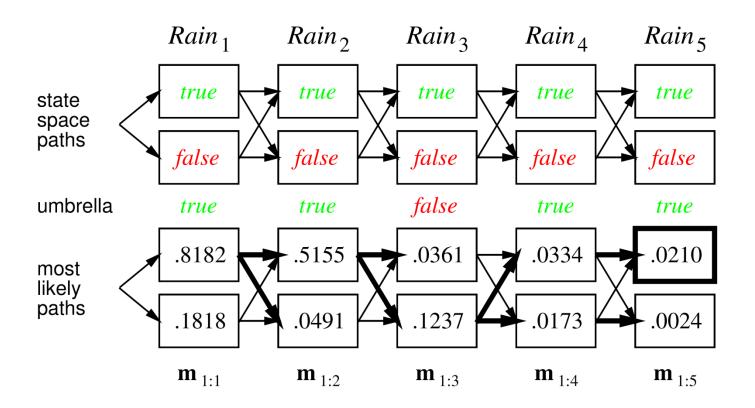
Identical to filtering, except  $\mathbf{f}_{1:t}$  replaced by

$$\mathbf{m}_{1:t} = \max_{\mathbf{x}_1...\mathbf{x}_{t-1}} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_{t-1},\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}),$$

I.e.,  $\mathbf{m}_{1:t}(i)$  gives the probability of the most likely path to state i. Update has sum replaced by max, giving the Viterbi algorithm:

$$\mathbf{m}_{1:t+1} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1}) \max_{\mathbf{X}_t} (\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{x}_t)\mathbf{m}_{1:t})$$

# Viterbi example



#### Hidden Markov models

 $\mathbf{X}_t$  is a single, discrete variable (usually  $\mathbf{E}_t$  is too) Domain of  $X_t$  is  $\{1, \ldots, S\}$ 

Transition matrix 
$$\mathbf{T}_{ij} = P(X_t = j | X_{t-1} = i)$$
, e.g.,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0.7 & 0.3 \\ 0.3 & 0.7 \end{pmatrix}$ 

Sensor matrix  $O_t$  for each time step, diagonal elements  $P(e_t|X_t=i)$ e.g., with  $U_1 = true$ ,  $\mathbf{O}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

e.g., with 
$$O_1 = true$$
,  $O_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

Forward and backward messages as column vectors:

$$\mathbf{f}_{1:t+1} = \alpha \mathbf{O}_{t+1} \mathbf{T}^{\top} \mathbf{f}_{1:t}$$
  
 $\mathbf{b}_{k+1:t} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{O}_{k+1} \mathbf{b}_{k+2:t}$ 

Forward-backward algorithm needs time  $O(S^2t)$  and space O(St)