Temporal probability models

Chapter 15, Sections 1–2

Outline

◇ Time and uncertainty

◇ Hidden Markov model: model structure

◇ Inference: filtering, prediction, smoothing

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

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

$\mathbf{E}_t$ = 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

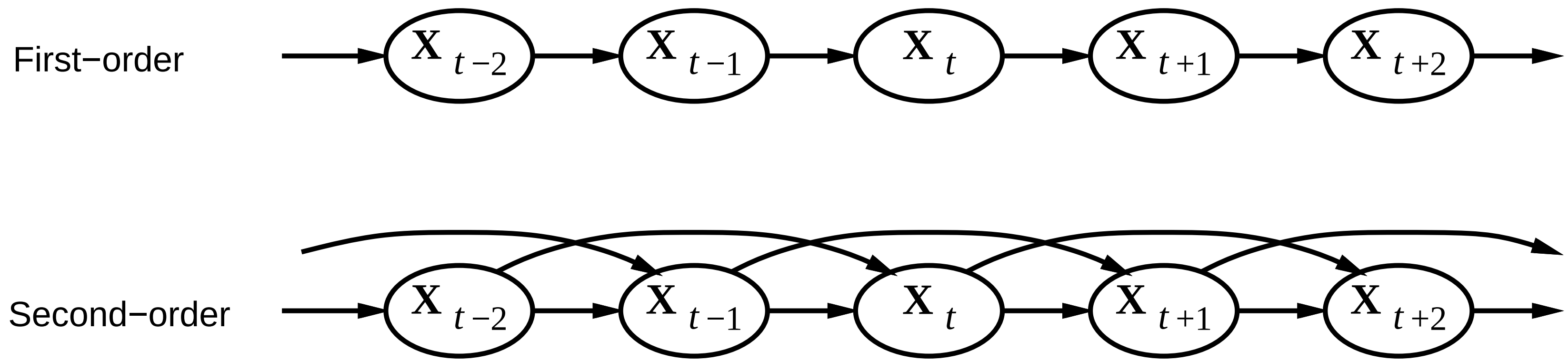
Notation: $\mathbf{X}_{a:b} = \mathbf{X}_a, \mathbf{X}_{a+1}, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_{b-1}, \mathbf{X}_b$

Markov processes (Markov chains)

Construct a Bayes net from these variables: parents?

Markov assumption: $\mathbf{X}_t$ depends on **bounded** subset of $\mathbf{X}_{0:t-1}$

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

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

Hidden Markov models

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

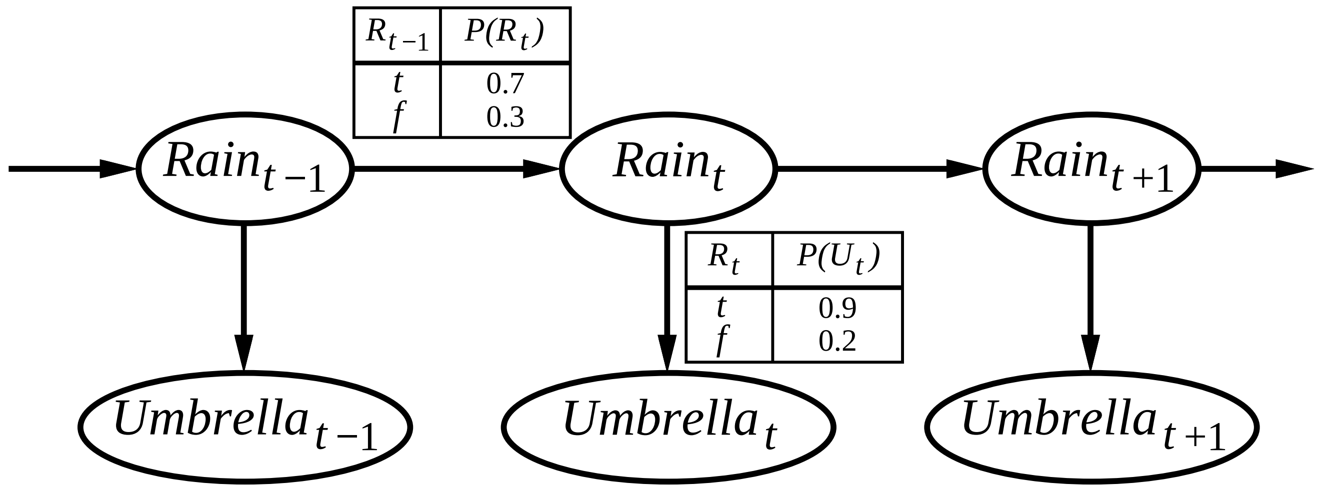
two or more state variables are combined into a single megavariable

This allows for a simple and elegant matrix implementation of the inference algorithms:

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

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 $Battery_t$

General inference tasks

Filtering: $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$

belief state—input to the decision process of a rational agent

the posterior distribution over the most recent state given all evidence to date

Prediction: $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$ for $k > 0$

evaluation of possible action sequences;

like filtering without the evidence

the posterior distribution over future state given all evidence to date

Smoothing: $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$ for $0 \leq k < t$

better estimate of past states, essential for learning

the posterior distribution over past state given all evidence to date

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

Sequence of states that is most likely to have generated those observations(evidences)

Filtering

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

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

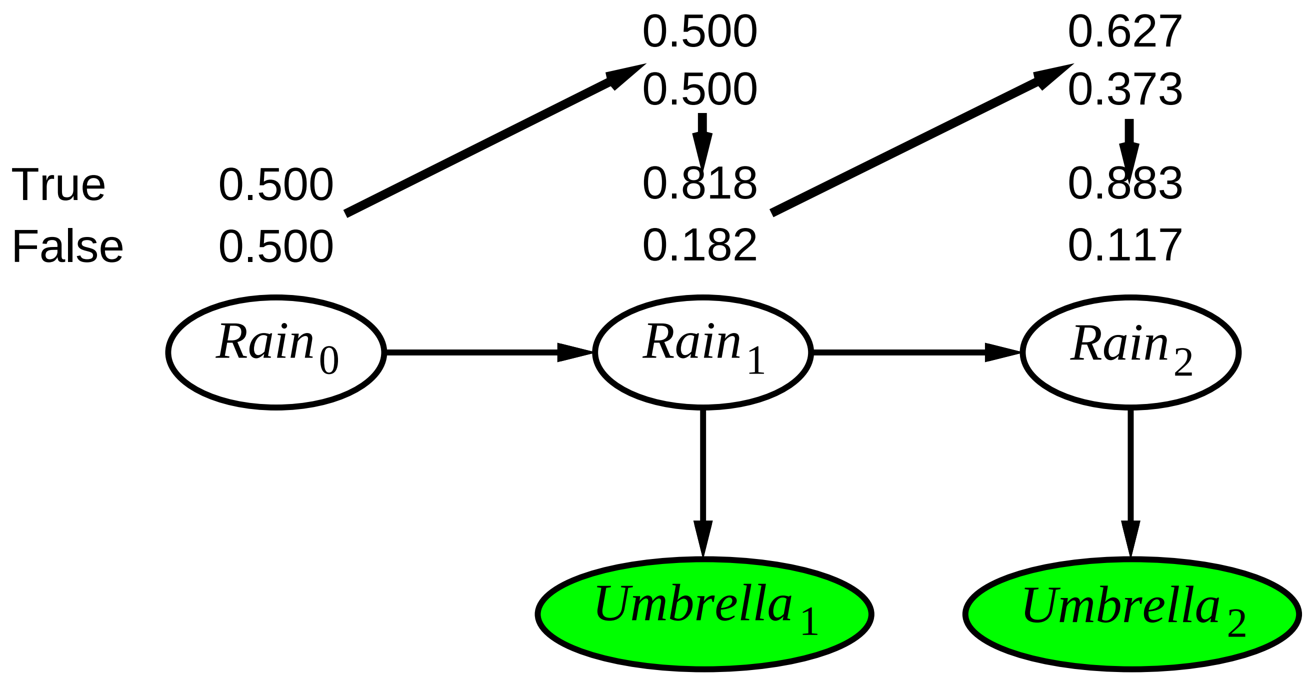
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t+1}) &= \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}, \mathbf{e}_{t+1}) \\ &= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1}, \mathbf{e}_{1:t})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \\ &= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})\end{alig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

I.e., prediction + estimation. Prediction by summing out $\mathbf{X}_t$:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t+1}) &= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1})\Sigma_{\mathbf{x}_t}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{e}_{1:t})P(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) \\ &= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{t+1}|\mathbf{X}_{t+1})\Sigma_{\mathbf{x}_t}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+1}|\mathbf{x}_t)P(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})\end{aligned}$$

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

Filtering example



Prediction

Prediction can be seen simply as filtering without the addition of new evidence.

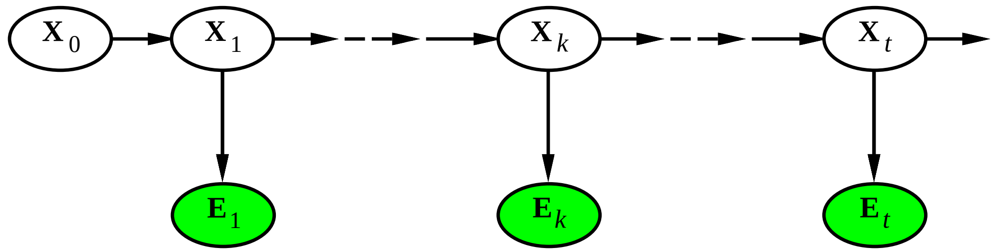
$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+k+1}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) = \Sigma_{\mathbf{x}_{t+k}} \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_{t+k+1}|\mathbf{x}_{t+k}) P(\mathbf{x}_{t+k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$

Computation involves only he transition model and not the sensor model.

As $k \to \infty$, $P(\mathbf{x}_{t+k}|\mathbf{e}_{1:t})$ tends to the **stationary distribution** of the Markov chain

Mixing time depends on how **stochastic** the chain is

Smoothing



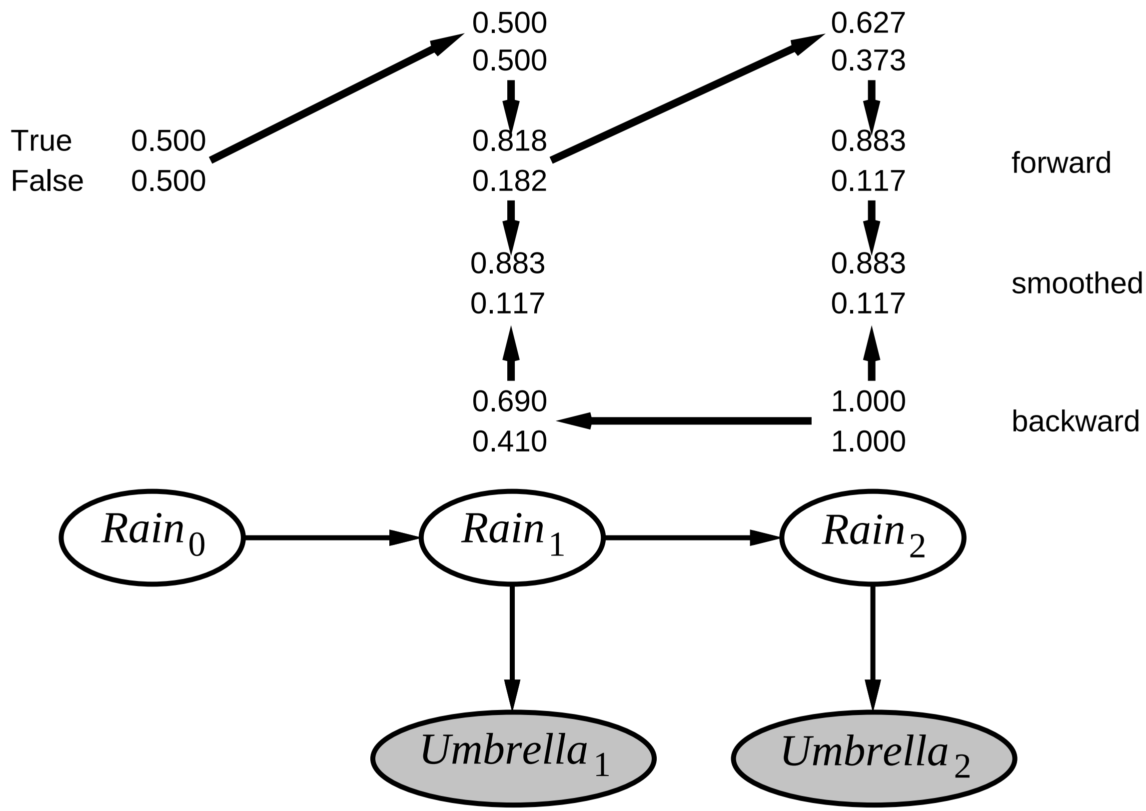
Divide evidence $\mathbf{e}_{1:t}$ into $\mathbf{e}_{1:k}$, $\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:t}) &= \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:k}, \mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}) \\
&= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:k})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{e}_{1:k}) \\
&= \alpha\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}_k|\mathbf{e}_{1:k})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k) \\
&= \alpha\mathbf{f}_{1:k}\mathbf{b}_{k+1:t}
\end{aligned}$$

Backward message computed by a backwards recursion:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k) &= \textstyle\sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}}\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{x}_{k+1})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k) \\
&= \textstyle\sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}}P(\mathbf{e}_{k+1:t}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k) \\
&= \textstyle\sum_{\mathbf{x}_{k+1}}P(\mathbf{e}_{k+1}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1})P(\mathbf{e}_{k+2:t}|\mathbf{x}_{k+1})\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}|\mathbf{X}_k)
\end{aligned}$$

Smoothing example



Forward–backward algorithm: cache forward messages along the way

Time linear in t (polytree inference), space $O(t|\mathbf{f}|)$

Forward–backward algorithm

```
function FORWARD-BACKWARD(ev, prior) returns a vector of probability distributions
   inputs: ev, a vector of evidence values for steps 1, . . . , t
           prior, the prior distribution on the initial state, P(X_0)
   local variables: fv, a vector of forward messages for steps 0, . . . , t
                    b, a representation of the backward message, initially all 1s
                    sv, a vector of smoothed estimates for steps 1, . . . , t

   fv[0] ← prior
   for i = 1 to t do
      fv[i] ← FORWARD(fv[i − 1], ev[i])
   for i = t downto 1 do
      sv[i] ← NORMALIZE(fv[i] × b)
      b ← BACKWARD(b, ev[i])
   return sv
```

Figure 15.4 The forward–backward algorithm for smoothing: computing posterior probabilities of a sequence of states given a sequence of observations.

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** $\mathbf{x}_t$ plus one more step

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

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

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

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