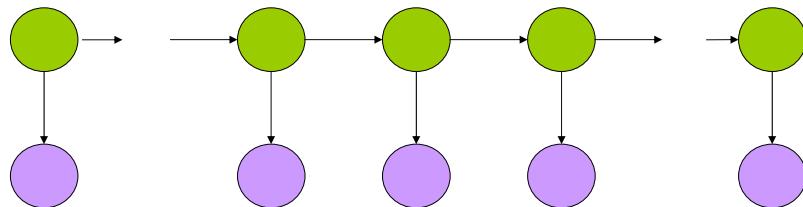


# Hidden Markov Models

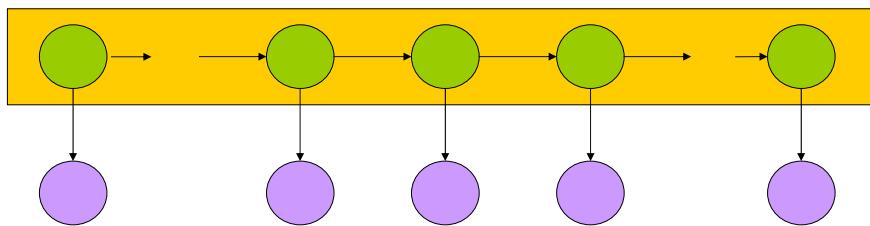
David Meir Blei  
November 1, 1999

## What is an HMM?



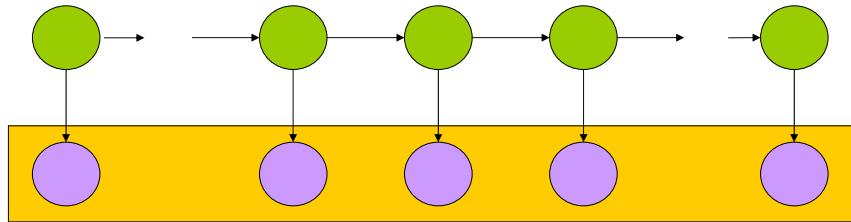
- Graphical Model
- Circles indicate states
- Arrows indicate probabilistic dependencies between states

## What is an HMM?



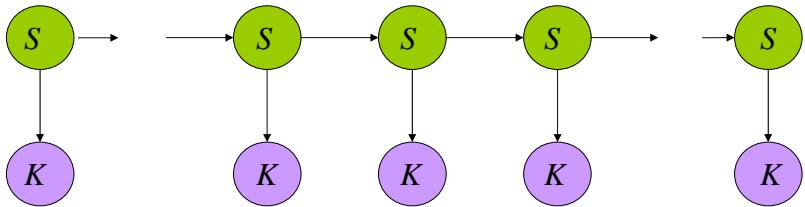
- Green circles are *hidden states*
- Dependent only on the previous state
- “The past is independent of the future given the present.”

## What is an HMM?



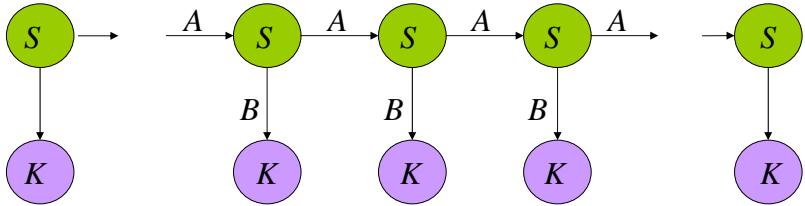
- Purple nodes are *observed states*
- Dependent only on their corresponding hidden state

## HMM Formalism



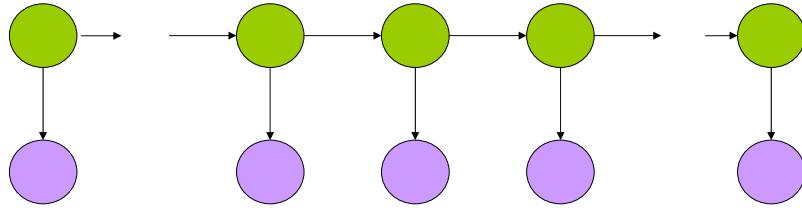
- $\{S, K, \Pi, A, B\}$
- $S : \{s_1 \dots s_N\}$  are the values for the hidden states
- $K : \{k_1 \dots k_M\}$  are the values for the observations

## HMM Formalism



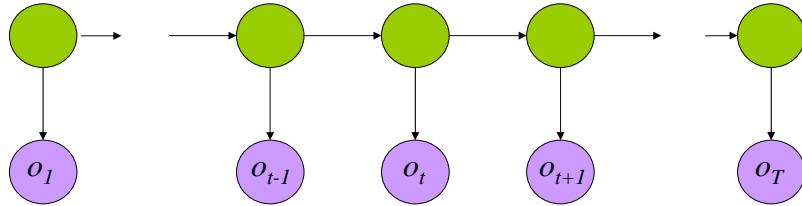
- $\{S, K, \Pi, A, B\}$
- $\Pi = \{\pi_i\}$  are the initial state probabilities
- $A = \{a_{ij}\}$  are the state transition probabilities
- $B = \{b_{ik}\}$  are the observation state probabilities

## Inference in an HMM



- Compute the probability of a given observation sequence
- Given an observation sequence, compute the most likely hidden state sequence
- Given an observation sequence and set of possible models, which model most closely fits the data?

## Decoding

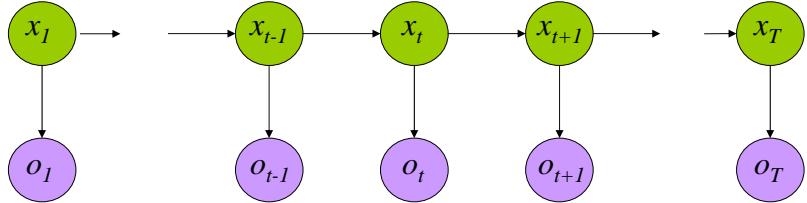


Given an observation sequence and a model,  
compute the probability of the observation sequence

$$O = (o_1 \dots o_T), \mu = (A, B, \Pi)$$

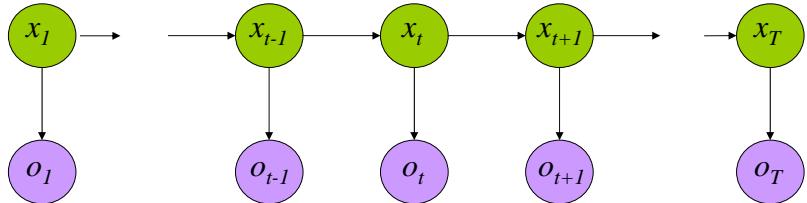
Compute  $P(O | \mu)$

## Decoding



$$P(O | X, \mu) = b_{x_1 o_1} b_{x_2 o_2} \dots b_{x_T o_T}$$

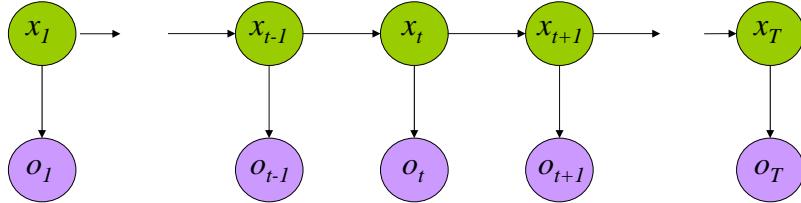
## Decoding



$$P(O | X, \mu) = b_{x_1 o_1} b_{x_2 o_2} \dots b_{x_T o_T}$$

$$P(X | \mu) = \pi_{x_1} a_{x_1 x_2} a_{x_2 x_3} \dots a_{x_{T-1} x_T}$$

## Decoding

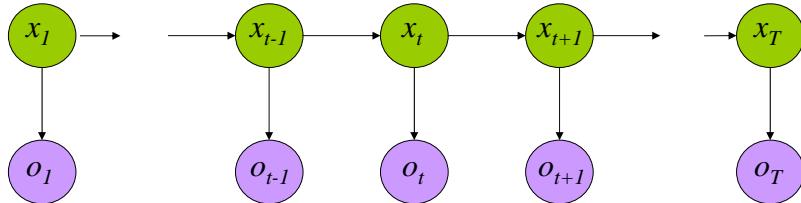


$$P(O | X, \mu) = b_{x_1 o_1} b_{x_2 o_2} \dots b_{x_T o_T}$$

$$P(X | \mu) = \pi_{x_1} a_{x_1 x_2} a_{x_2 x_3} \dots a_{x_{T-1} x_T}$$

$$P(O, X | \mu) = P(O | X, \mu)P(X | \mu)$$

## Decoding



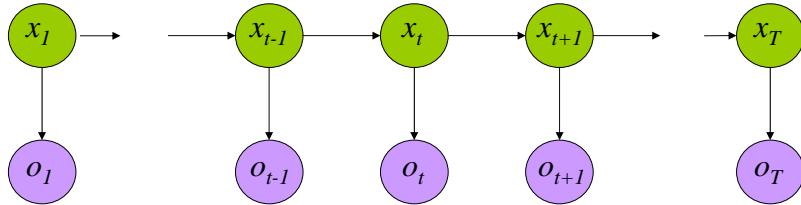
$$P(O | X, \mu) = b_{x_1 o_1} b_{x_2 o_2} \dots b_{x_T o_T}$$

$$P(X | \mu) = \pi_{x_1} a_{x_1 x_2} a_{x_2 x_3} \dots a_{x_{T-1} x_T}$$

$$P(O, X | \mu) = P(O | X, \mu)P(X | \mu)$$

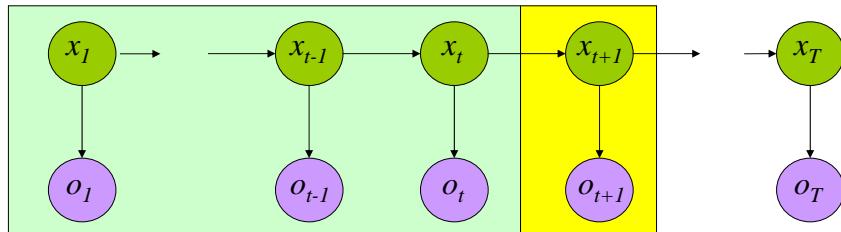
$$P(O | \mu) = \sum_X P(O | X, \mu)P(X | \mu)$$

## Decoding



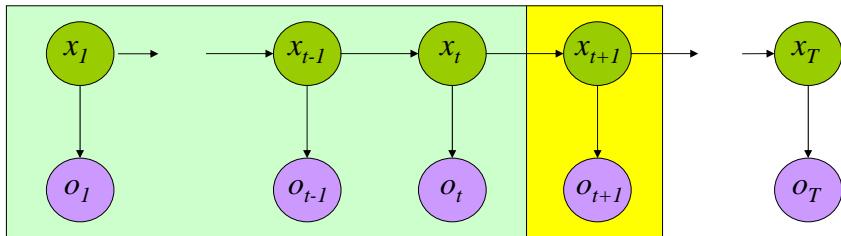
$$P(O | \mu) = \sum_{\{x_1 \dots x_T\}} \pi_{x_1} b_{x_1 o_1} \prod_{t=1}^{T-1} a_{x_t x_{t+1}} b_{x_{t+1} o_{t+1}}$$

## Forward Procedure



- Special structure gives us an efficient solution using *dynamic programming*.
- **Intuition:** Probability of the first  $t$  observations is the same for all possible  $t+1$  length state sequences.
- **Define:**  $\alpha_i(t) = P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i | \mu)$

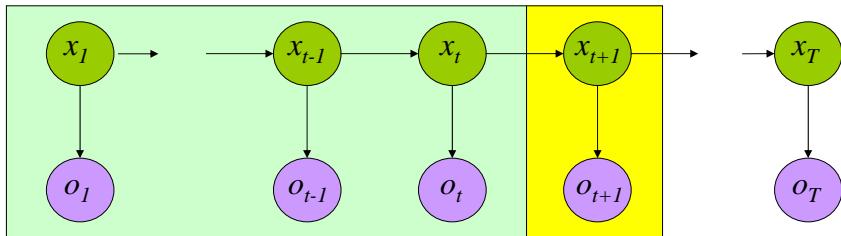
## Forward Procedure



$$\alpha_j(t+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1}, x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t | x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)
 \end{aligned}$$

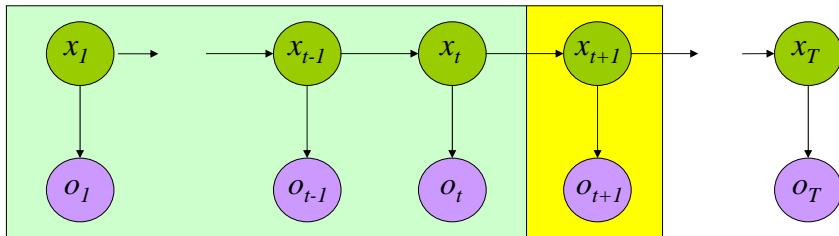
## Forward Procedure



$$\alpha_j(t+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1}, x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t | x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)
 \end{aligned}$$

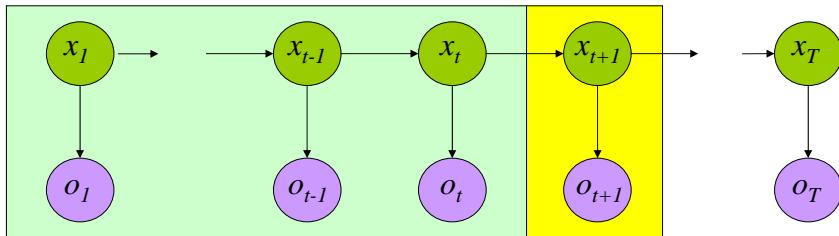
## Forward Procedure



$$\alpha_j(t+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1}, x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t | x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)
 \end{aligned}$$

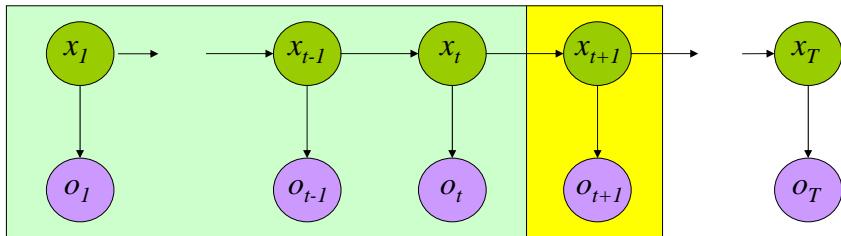
## Forward Procedure



$$\alpha_j(t+1)$$

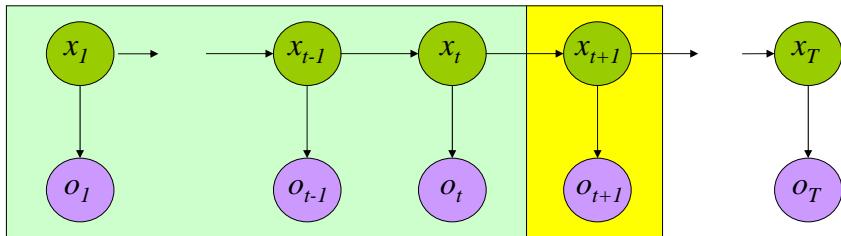
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1}, x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t | x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)P(x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j)P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Forward Procedure



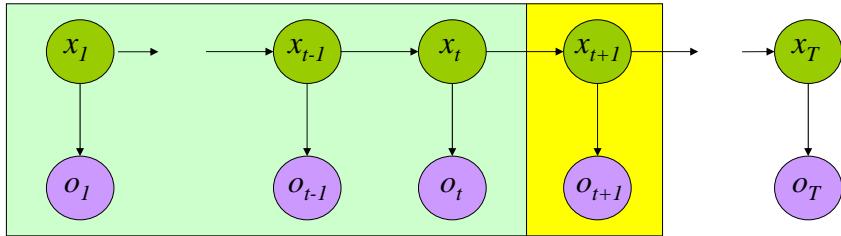
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i, x_{t+1} = j) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i) P(x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} \alpha_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Forward Procedure



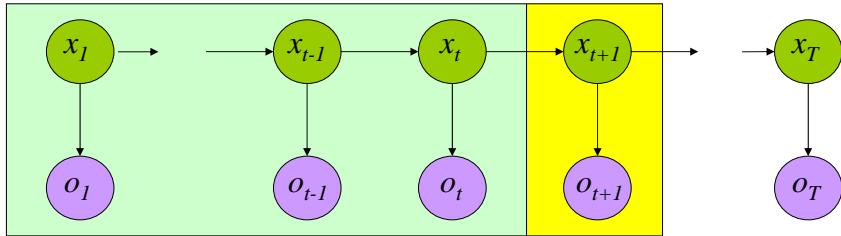
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i, x_{t+1} = j) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i) P(x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} \alpha_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Forward Procedure



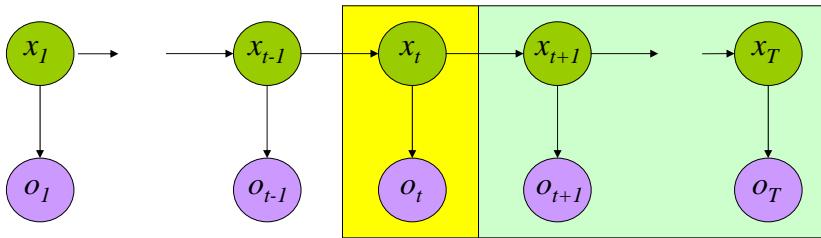
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i, x_{t+1} = j) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i) P(x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} \alpha_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Forward Procedure



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i, x_{t+1} = j) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} P(o_1 \dots o_t, x_t = i) P(x_{t+1} = j | x_t = i) P(o_{t+1} | x_{t+1} = j) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1 \dots N} \alpha_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Backward Procedure



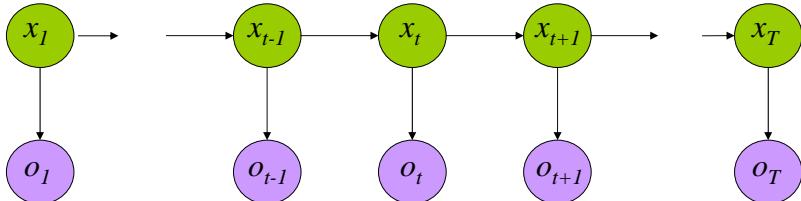
$$\beta_i(T+1) = 1$$

$$\beta_i(t) = P(o_t \dots o_T | x_t = i)$$

$$\beta_i(t) = \sum_{j=1 \dots N} a_{ij} b_{io_j} \beta_j(t+1)$$

Probability of the rest  
of the states given the  
first state

## Decoding Solution

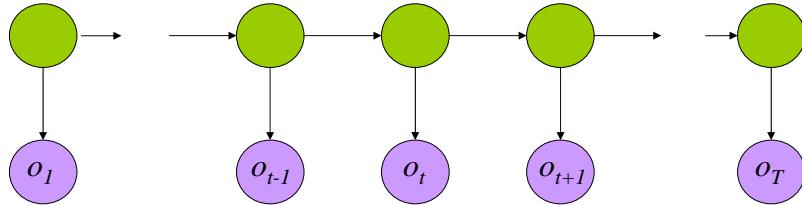


$$P(O | \mu) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i(T) \quad \text{Forward Procedure}$$

$$P(O | \mu) = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i \beta_i(1) \quad \text{Backward Procedure}$$

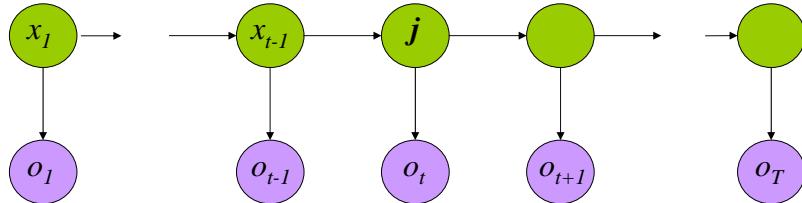
$$P(O | \mu) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i(t) \beta_i(t) \quad \text{Combination}$$

## Best State Sequence



- Find the state sequence that best explains the observations
- **Viterbi** algorithm
- $\arg \max_X P(X | O)$

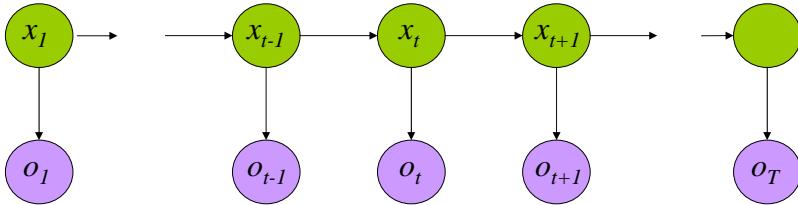
## Viterbi Algorithm



$$\delta_j(t) = \max_{x_1 \dots x_{t-1}} P(x_1 \dots x_{t-1}, o_1 \dots o_{t-1}, x_t = j, o_t)$$

The state sequence which maximizes the probability of seeing the observations to time t-1, landing in state  $j$ , and seeing the observation at time t

## Viterbi Algorithm



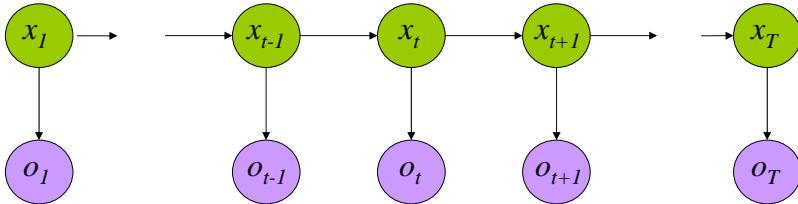
$$\delta_j(t) = \max_{x_1 \dots x_{t-1}} P(x_1 \dots x_{t-1}, o_1 \dots o_{t-1}, x_t = j, o_t)$$

$$\delta_j(t+1) = \max_i \delta_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}$$

$$\psi_j(t+1) = \arg \max_i \delta_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}}$$

Recursive  
Computation

## Viterbi Algorithm



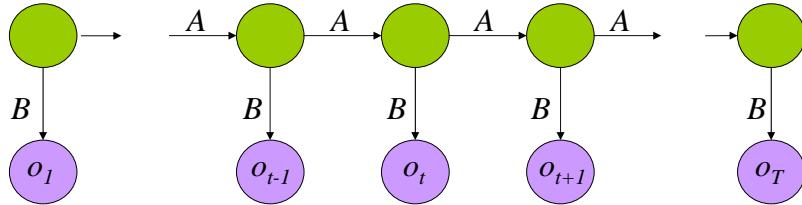
$$\hat{X}_T = \arg \max_i \delta_i(T)$$

$$\hat{X}_t = \psi_{\hat{X}_{t+1}}(t+1)$$

$$P(\hat{X}) = \arg \max_i \delta_i(T)$$

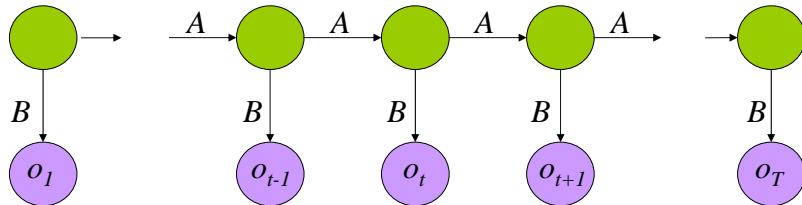
Compute the most  
likely state sequence  
by working  
backwards

## Parameter Estimation



- Given an observation sequence, find the model that is most likely to produce that sequence.
- No analytic method
- Given a model and observation sequence, update the model parameters to better fit the observations.

## Parameter Estimation



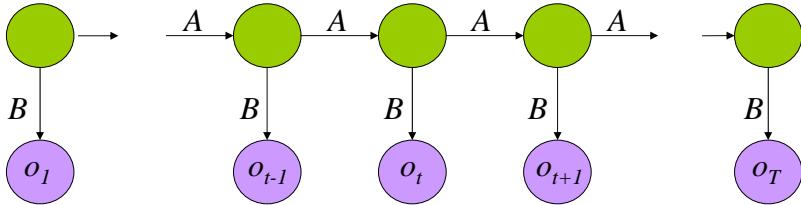
$$p_t(i, j) = \frac{\alpha_i(t) a_{ij} b_{j o_{t+1}} \beta_j(t+1)}{\sum_{m=1 \dots N} \alpha_m(t) \beta_m(t)}$$

Probability of traversing an arc

$$\gamma_i(t) = \sum_{j=1 \dots N} p_t(i, j)$$

Probability of being in state  $i$

## Parameter Estimation



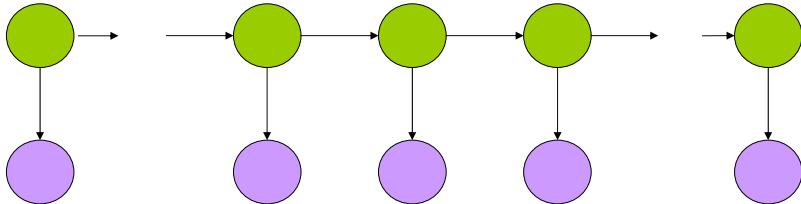
$$\hat{\pi}_i = \gamma_i(1)$$

$$\hat{a}_{ij} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T p_t(i, j)}{\sum_{t=1}^T \gamma_i(t)}$$

$$\hat{b}_{ik} = \frac{\sum_{\{t: o_t=k\}} \gamma_t(i)}{\sum_{t=1}^T \gamma_i(t)}$$

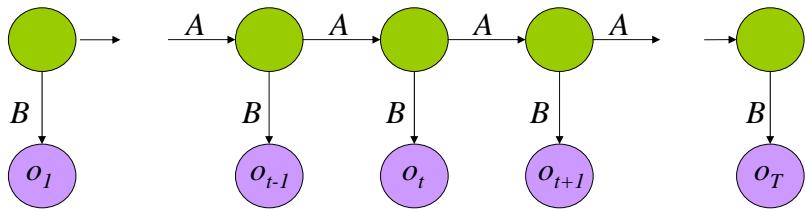
Now we can compute the new estimates of the model parameters.

## HMM Applications



- Generating parameters for n-gram models
- Tagging speech
- Speech recognition

# The Most Important Thing



We can use the special structure of this model to do a lot of neat math and solve problems that are otherwise not solvable.