

# Course 495: Advanced Statistical Machine Learning/Pattern Recognition

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- Lecturer: Stefanos Zafeiriou
- Goal (Lectures): To present discrete and continuous valued probabilistic linear dynamical systems (HMMs & Kalman Filters).
- Goal (Tutorials): To provide the students the necessary mathematical tools for deeply understanding the models.

# Materials

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- Chapter 13: Pattern Recognition & Machine Learning, Christopher M. Bishop.
- Chapter 17: Machine Learning a Probabilistic Perspective, Kevin Murphy
- Rabiner, Lawrence. "A tutorial on hidden Markov models and selected applications in speech recognition." *Proceedings of the IEEE* 77.2 (1989): 257-286.

# Linear Dynamical Systems

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## Applications of probabilistic linear dynamical systems

- Language modelling
- Object/Face tracking
- Speech/Gesture recognition
- Finance
- Bioinformatics

# Applications

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## Object-target tracking

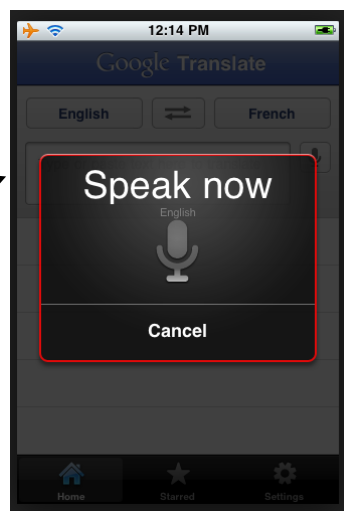
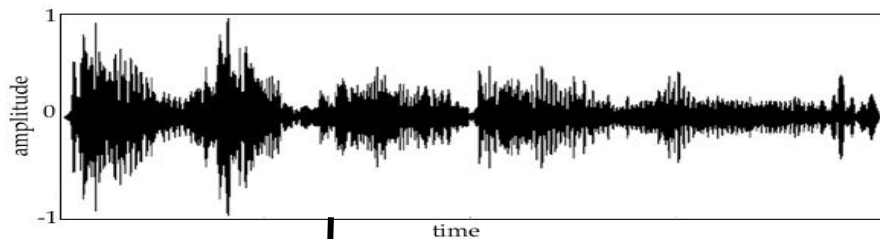


# Applications

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## Speech Recognition (voice Google search)

### Waveform

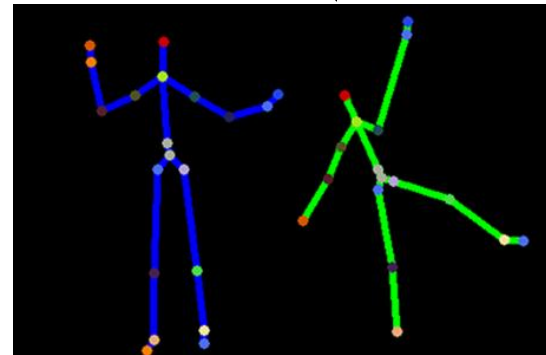
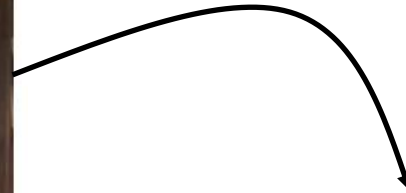


Hello world

# Applications

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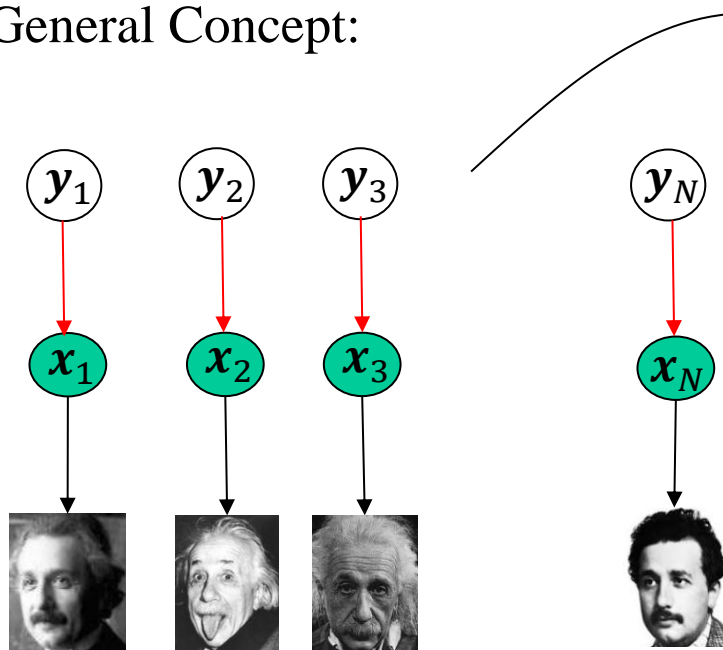
Gesture recognition (Kinect games)



Gestures

# Latent Variable Models (Static)

General Concept:



Share a common linear structure

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \mathbf{W}y + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{e} \\e &\sim N(\mathbf{e} | \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \\y &\sim N(y | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})\end{aligned}$$

We want to find the parameters:

$$\theta = \{\mathbf{W}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2\}$$

Joint likelihood maximization:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N, \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_N | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{W}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma) \prod_{i=1}^N p(\mathbf{y}_i)$$

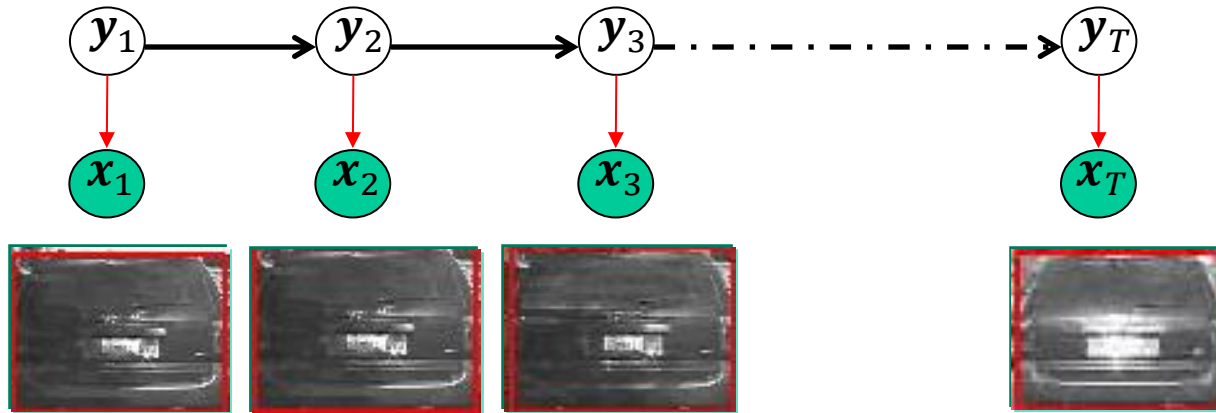
# Latent Variable Models (Dynamic, Continuous)

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# Latent Variable Models (Dynamic, Continuous)



Generative Model

$$\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_n + \mathbf{e}_n$$

$$\mathbf{y}_1 = \boldsymbol{\mu}_0 + \mathbf{u}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}_{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_n$$

Noise distribution

$$\mathbf{e} \sim N(\mathbf{e} | \mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

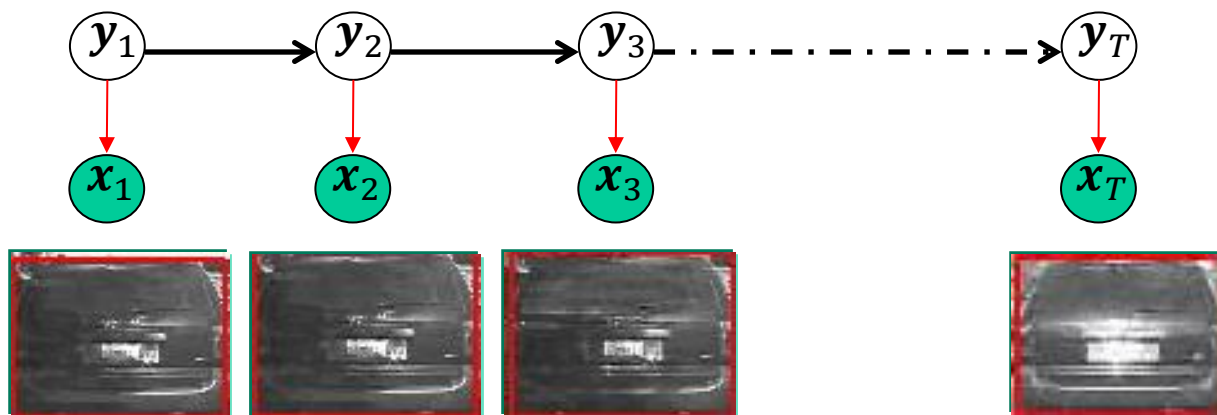
$$\mathbf{u} \sim N(\mathbf{u} | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{P}_0)$$

$$\mathbf{v} \sim N(\mathbf{v} | \mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma})$$

Parameters:  $\theta = \{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{A}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_0, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma}, \mathbf{P}_0\}$

# Latent Variable Models (Dynamic, Continuous)

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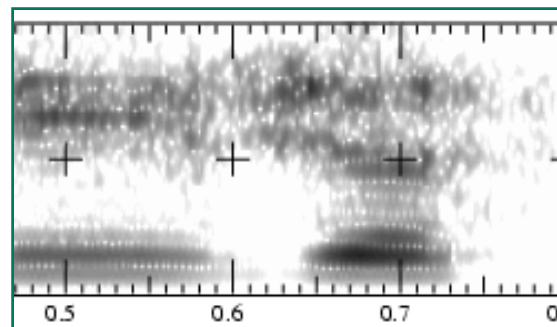


Markov Property:  $p(\mathbf{y}_i, |\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{i-1}) = p(\mathbf{y}_i | \mathbf{y}_{i-1})$

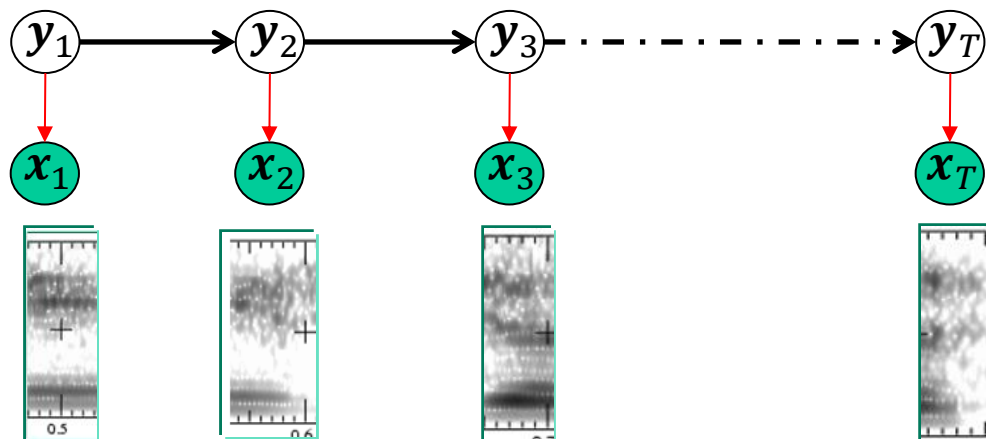
# Latent Variable Models (Dynamic, Discrete)



Word: need



Phonemes: n iy d



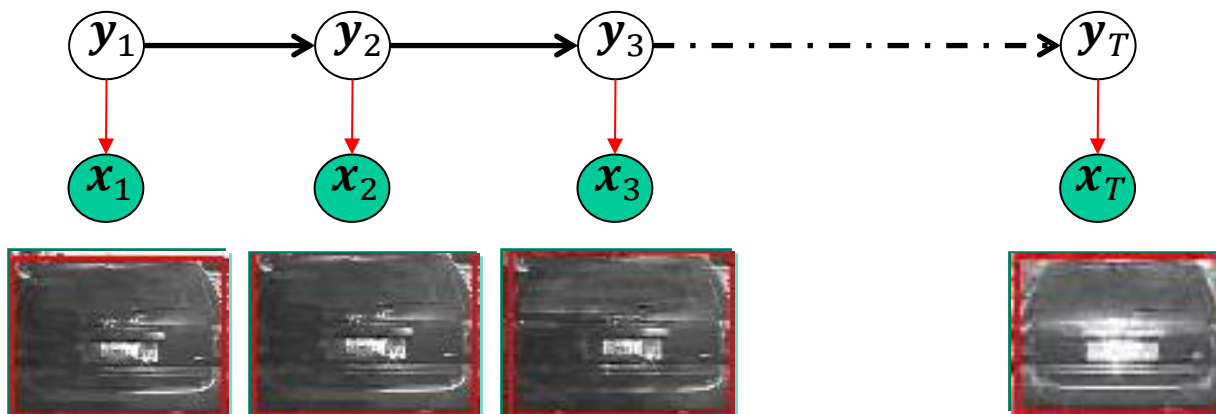
Latent structure takes discrete values:

$$y_t \in \{\text{start}, n, iy, d, \text{end}\}$$

# Summarize what we will study?

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Sequential data (2 weeks):



What are the models?:

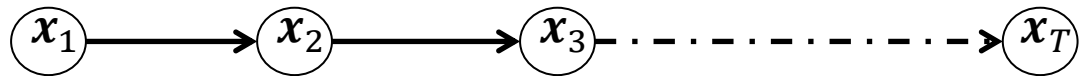
- *The Markov & Hidden Markov Models (1 week).*
- *The Kalman Filter (1 week).*

What we will learn?:

- *How to formulate probabilistically the problems and learn parameters.*

# Markov Chains with Discrete Random Variables

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Let's assume we have discrete random variables (e.g., taking 3 discrete

$$\text{values } \mathbf{x}_t = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

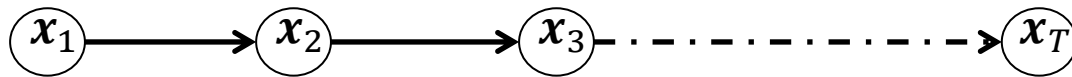
Markov Property:  $p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) = p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$

$$\text{e.g. } p\left(\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Stationary, Homogeneous or Time-Invariant if the distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$  does not depend on  $t$

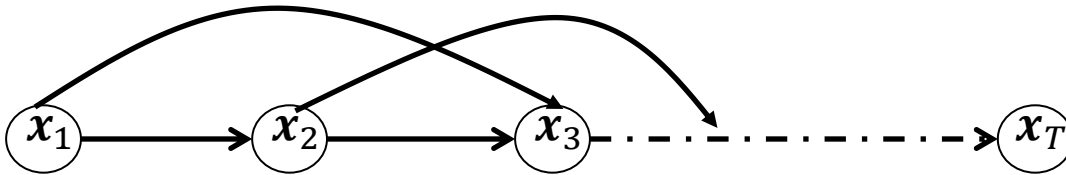
# Markov Chains with Discrete Random Variables

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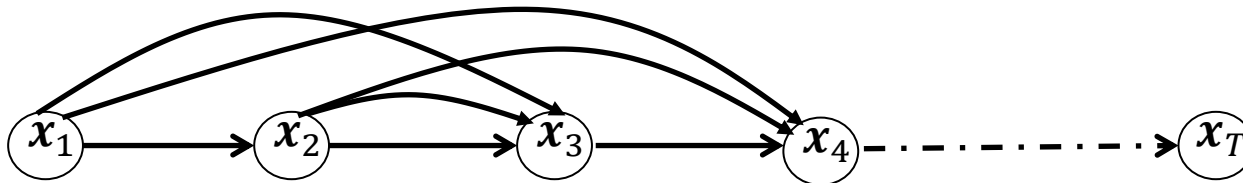
$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$$

bigram model



$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_{t-2})$$

Tri-gram model



$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_{t-2}, \mathbf{x}_{t-3})$$

4-gram model

# Markov Chains with Discrete Random Variables

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Joint distribution in the first order case:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T) &= p(\mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T | \mathbf{x}_1) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_3, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T | \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_3, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T | \mathbf{x}_2) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_3 | \mathbf{x}_2)p(\mathbf{x}_4, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T | \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)p(\mathbf{x}_3 | \mathbf{x}_2)p(\mathbf{x}_4, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T | \mathbf{x}_3) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_1) \prod_{i=2}^T p(\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{x}_{i-1}) \end{aligned}$$

# First Order Markov Chains

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$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$  can be represented as a  $K \times K$  transition matrix  $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$

which is the probability of going from state  $i$  to state  $j$

		$\mathbf{x}_t$		
		1	2	3
$\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$	1	$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	$a_{13}$
	2	$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$a_{23}$
	3	$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$	$a_{33}$

$\mathbf{A}$  is a stochastic matrix, i.e.,

$$\sum_{k=1}^3 a_{ik} = 1$$



# First Order Markov Chains

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If we make use of our vector notation of discrete random variable

then if  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

has only its  $j$ -th element “activated”

$\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

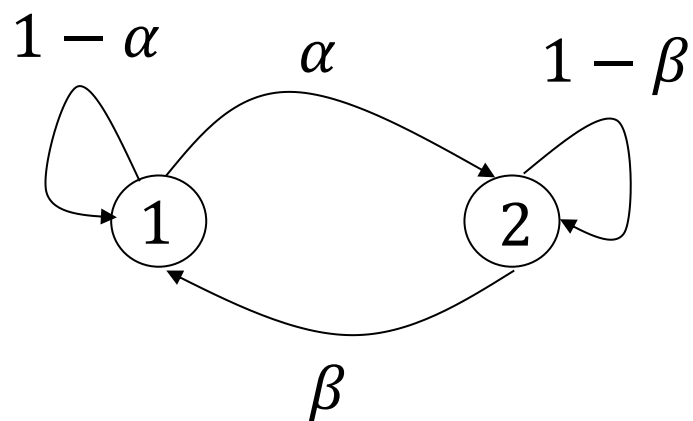
has only its  $i$ -th element “activated”

then  $a_{ij} = p(x_{tj} = 1 \mid x_{t-1i} = 1)$

# Transition Matrices

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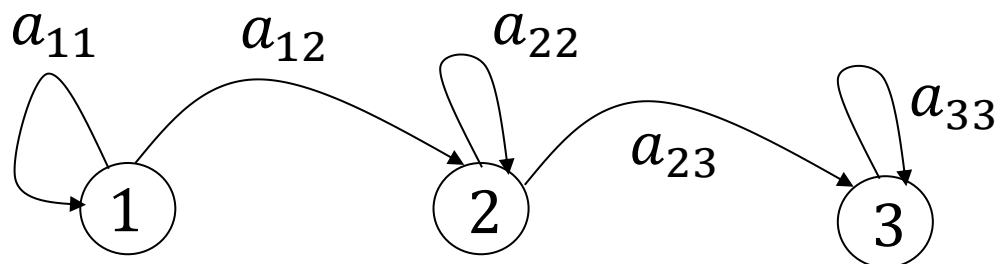
A stationary finite-state Markov chain is equivalent to a stochastic automaton.



$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1 - \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

# Transition Matrices

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} a_{12} &= 1 - a_{11} \\ a_{23} &= 1 - a_{22} \end{aligned}$$

# Transition Matrices

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- Transition matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  specifies the probability of getting from  $i$  to  $j$  in one step.
- How can we compute the probability of  $i$  to  $j$  in exactly  $n$ -steps?

$$a_{ij}(n) = p(x_{t+nj} = 1 | x_{ti} = 1)$$

Probability of getting from  $i$  to  $k$  in one step and then from  $k$  to  $j$  in  $n - 1$  steps and summing for all  $k$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{k=1}^K p(x_{t+1k} = 1 | x_{ti} = 1) p(x_{t+nj} = 1 | x_{t+1k} = 1) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K a_{ik} a_{kj}(n-1) \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \mathbf{A}(n) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}(n-1) \\ &\Rightarrow \mathbf{A}(n) = \mathbf{A}^n \end{aligned}$$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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- Markov model are used to define joint probability distributions over sequences.
- But can be also interpreted as stochastic dynamical systems, where we “hop” from one state to another over time.
- We are interested long term distribution over states, known as stationary distribution of the chain.
- Important application: Google’s Page Rank

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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Assume a Markov Chain.

$$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}] = [p(x_{tj} = 1 \mid x_{t-1i} = 1)]$$

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_0 = [p(x_{0i} = 1)]$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_{1i} = 1) &= \sum_{k=1}^K p(x_{1i} = 1, x_{0k} = 1) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K p(x_{0k} = 1) p(x_{1i} = 1 \mid x_{0k} = 1) \\ \Rightarrow \pi_{1j} &= \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{0k} a_{kj} \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}_1^T = \boldsymbol{\pi}_0^T \mathbf{A} \end{aligned}$$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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- We imagine iterating these equations. If we ever reach a stage where:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}^T = \boldsymbol{\pi}^T \mathbf{A}$$

we have reached the stationary distribution (also called the invariant distribution or equilibrium distribution)

- In case of three states the above is written:

$$(\pi_1 \pi_2 \pi_3) = (\pi_1 \pi_2 \pi_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{12} - a_{13} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & 1 - a_{21} - a_{23} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & 1 - a_{31} - a_{32} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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$$\text{so } \pi_1 = \pi_1(1 - a_{12} - a_{13}) + \pi_2 a_{21} + \pi_3 a_{31}$$

$$\text{or } \pi_1(a_{12} + a_{13}) = \pi_2 a_{21} + \pi_3 a_{31}$$

$$\text{similarly } \pi_2(a_{21} + a_{23}) = \pi_1 a_{12} + \pi_3 a_{13}$$

$$\text{and } \pi_3(a_{31} + a_{32}) = \pi_1 a_{31} + \pi_2 a_{32}$$

$$\text{In general, we have } \pi_i \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij} = \sum_{j \neq i} \pi_j a_{ji} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_j \pi_j = 1$$

The probability of being in state  $i$  times the net flow out of the state  $i$  must equal the probability of being in each other state  $j$  times the net flow from that state into  $i$ .



# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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$A^T \boldsymbol{\pi} = \boldsymbol{\pi}$  looks like an eigen-analysis problem

i.e.,  $\boldsymbol{\pi}$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue 1

Such an eigenvector always exists since  $A$  is row-stochastic  $A\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}$  and  $A$  and  $A^T$  have the same eigenvalues

But the eigenvectors of  $A$  are real-valued only when  $a_{ij} > 0$

What happens in the case that  $a_{ij}=0$ ?

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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$$\boldsymbol{\pi}^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow K \text{ constraints} \quad \Rightarrow \text{Problem is over constrained}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}^T \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} \quad \Rightarrow 1 \text{ extra constraint}$$

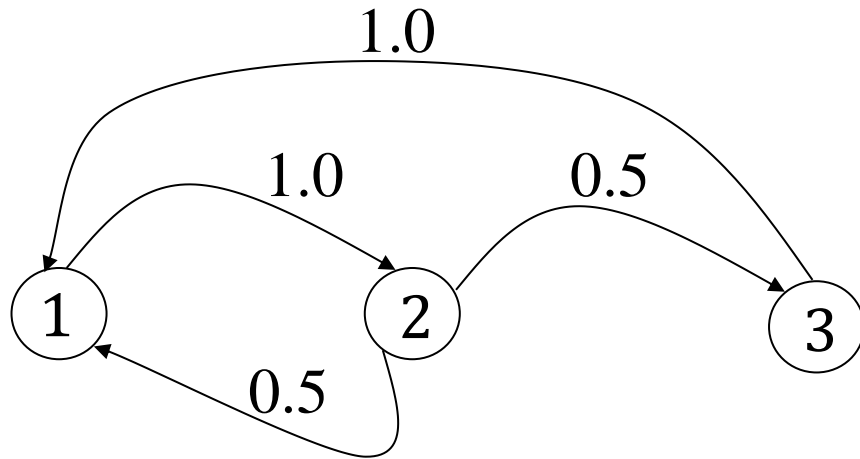
Define matrix  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}$

and replace one column with 1s

$$(\pi_1 \ \pi_2 \ \pi_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{11} & -a_{12} & 1 \\ -a_{21} & 1 - a_{22} & 1 \\ -a_{31} & -a_{32} & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (0 \ 0 \ 1)$$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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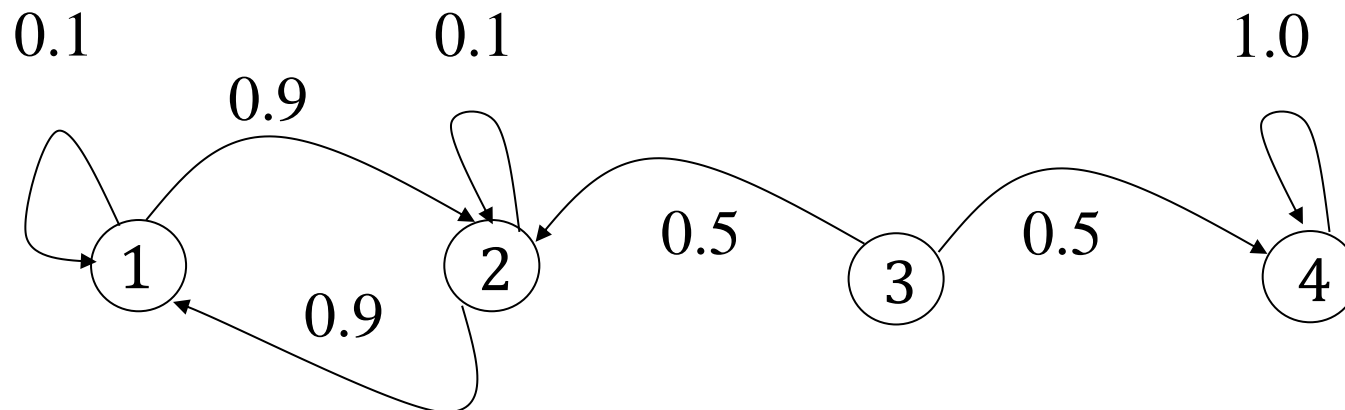
$$(\pi_1 \ \pi_2 \ \pi_3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -0.5 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (0 \ 0 \ 1)$$

$$(\pi_1 \ \pi_2 \ \pi_3) = (0.4 \ 0.4 \ 0.2)$$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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- When does a stationary distribution exist



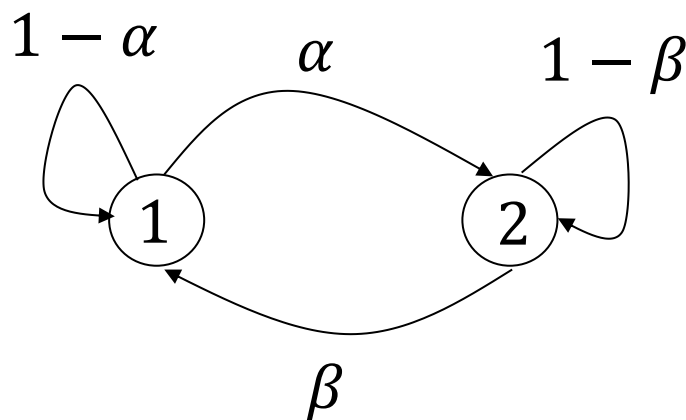
State 4 is an absorbing state hence  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = (0,0,0,1)$  is a possible stationary distribution

so is  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = (0.5,0.5,0,0)$

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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- First necessary condition to have a unique stationary distribution is that the state transition diagram be a singly connected component.
- Such chains are called irreducible (i.e., you can go from any state to any other state).



$$\alpha = \beta = 1$$

Let's start from state 2

$$t = 2b + 1 \quad \text{state 1}$$

$$t = 2b \quad \text{state 2}$$

$\Rightarrow$ oscillates

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

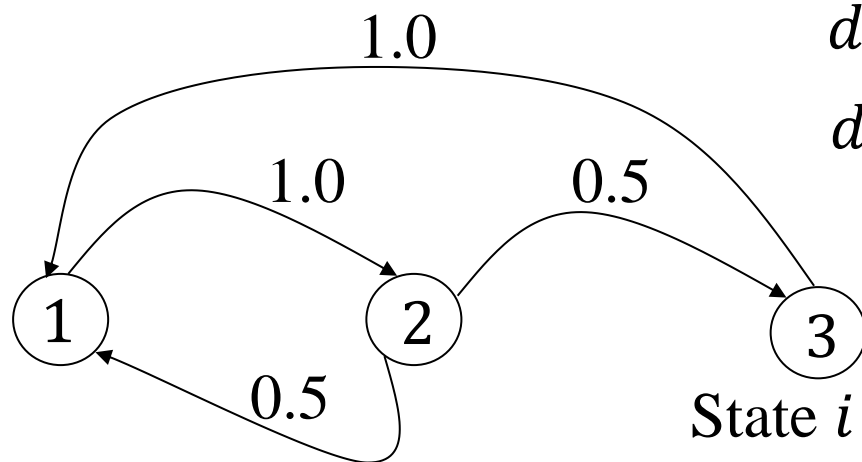
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$$d(i) = \gcd\{t: a_{ii}(t) > 0\}$$

$$d(1) = \gcd\{2,3,4,6,\dots\} = 1$$

$$d(2) = \gcd\{2,3,4,6,\dots\} = 1$$

$$d(3) = \gcd\{3,5,6,\dots\} = 1$$



State  $i$  is aperiodic if  $d(i) = 1$

Markov Chain is aperiodic if  $d(i) = 1$  for all  $i$

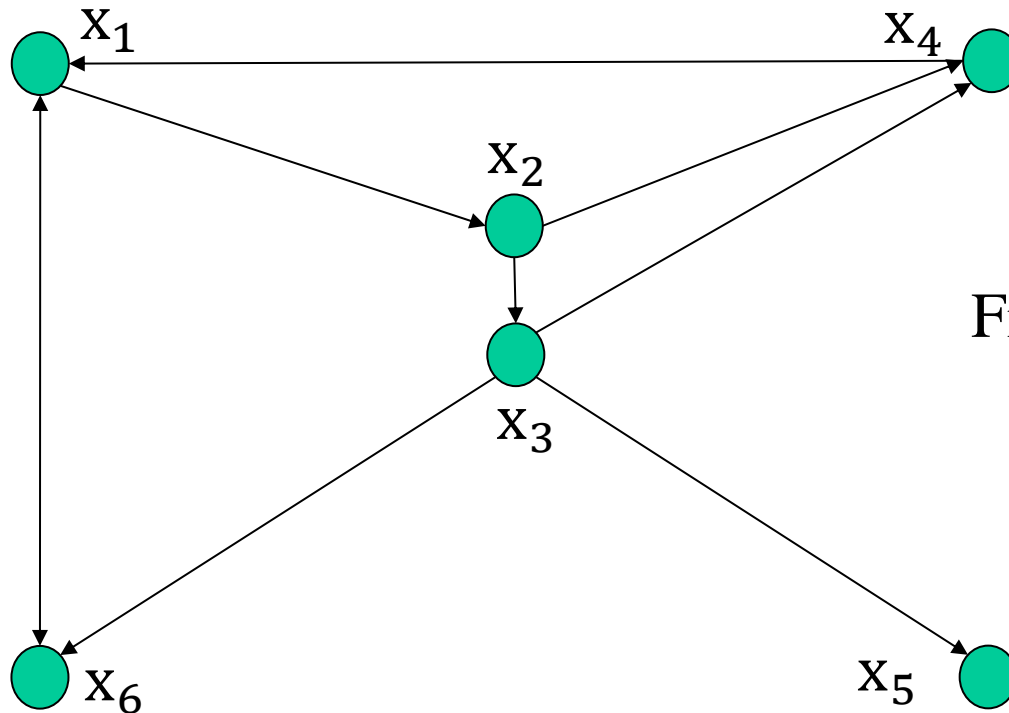
# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

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- Every irreducible (singly connected), aperiodic finite state Markov chain has a limiting distribution, which is equal to  $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ , its unique stationary distribution.
- Special cases and sufficient conditions: Every regular finite state chain has a unique stationary distribution (i.e.,  $a_{ij}(t) > 0$ ).

# Stationary Distribution of the Markov Chain

Small web (uniform distribution over all states it is connected to)



First step make it regular.

$$(\pi_1 \pi_2 \pi_3 \pi_4 \pi_5 \pi_6) = (0.32 \ 0.17 \ 0.1 \ 0.137 \ 0.064 \ 0.2)$$



# Markov Chain for Language Modelling.

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- One important application of Markov Models is to make statistical language models (i.e., probability distributions over sequences of words).
- Sentence Completion. Predict next word based on the previous one.
- Data compression. Any density model can be used to define an encoding scheme, by assigning short code-words to more probably strings.
- Text classification. Any density model can be used as a class-conditional density.
- Automatic essay writing. Sample from  $p(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T)$

# Simple Parameter Estimation

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abbbcbbabcbbbabc

$p(x_1^1, \dots, x_T^1)$

bbcabbabbcbbbaba

$p(x_1^2, \dots, x_T^2)$

⋮

⋮

abccabbabbcbbbab

$p(x_1^N, \dots, x_T^N)$

$$\mathbf{x} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{a} & \text{b} & \text{c} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, & \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, & \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\pi}) = \prod_{k=1}^3 \pi_k^{x_{1k}} \quad p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) = \prod_{j=1}^K \prod_{k=1}^K a_{jk}^{x_{t-1j} x_{tk}}$$

# Maximum Likelihood for Markov Chains

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- What are the parameters in this case?

$$\theta = \{\pi, A\}$$

- The problem is now formulated as:

Given a set of observations  $D_l = \{x_1^l, \dots, x_T^l\}$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, N$   
find the parameters  $\theta$  that maximize  $p(D_1, \dots, D_N | \theta)$

$$p(D_1, \dots, D_N | \theta) = \prod_{l=1}^N p(D_l | \theta)$$

# Maximum Likelihood for Markov Chains

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$$p(D_l|\theta) = p(x_1^l, \dots, x_T^l|\theta) = p(x_1^l) \prod_{t=2}^T p(x_t^l|x_{t-1}^l)$$

$$= \prod_{k=1}^3 \pi_{\kappa}^{x_{1k}^l} \prod_{t=2}^T \prod_{j=1}^3 \prod_{k=1}^3 a_{jk}^{x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l}$$

$$\Rightarrow p(D_1, \dots, D_N|\theta) = \prod_{l=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^3 \pi_{\kappa}^{x_{1k}^l} \prod_{t=2}^T \prod_{j=1}^3 \prod_{k=1}^3 a_{jk}^{x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln p(\theta) = \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^3 x_{1k}^l \ln \pi_{\kappa} + \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{t=2}^T \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l \ln a_{jk}$$

# Maximum Likelihood for Markov Chains

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$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^3 x_{1k}^l \ln \pi_k + \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{t=2}^T \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l \ln a_{jk} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^3 \left( \sum_{l=1}^N x_{1k}^l \right) \ln \pi_k + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 \left( \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{t=2}^T x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l \right) \ln a_{jk} \end{aligned}$$

Let us define the counts

$$N_k^1 \triangleq \sum_{l=1}^N x_{1k}^l \quad N_{jk} = \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{t=2}^T x_{t-1j}^l x_{tk}^l$$

# Maximum Likelihood for Markov Chains

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$$= \sum_{k=1}^3 N_k \ln \pi_k + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 N_{jk} \ln a_{jk}$$

Solve the above subject to:  $\sum_{k=1}^3 \pi_k = 1$   $\sum_{k=1}^3 a_{jk} = 1$

The Lagrangian is:

$$L(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{A}) = \sum_{k=1}^3 N_k \ln \pi_k + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 N_{jk} \ln a_{jk} - \lambda \left( \sum_{k=1}^3 \pi_k - 1 \right) - \gamma \left( \sum_{k=1}^3 a_{jk} - 1 \right)$$

# Maximum Likelihood for Markov Chains

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which gives us:

$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k^1}{\sum_{k=1}^3 N_k^1}$$

$$a_{jk} = \frac{N_{jk}}{\sum_{k=1}^3 N_{jk}}$$