# • Today

• HMM's for p-o-s tagging

# HMM p-o-s Tagger

Given  $W = w_1, \ldots, w_n$ , find  $T = t_1, \ldots, t_n$  that maximizes

$$P(t_1,\ldots,t_n|w_1,\ldots,w_n)$$

Restate using Bayes' rule:

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$$P(t_1,\ldots,t_n)*P(w_1,\ldots,w_n|t_1,\ldots,t_n))/P(w_1,\ldots,w_n)$$

Ignore denominator... Make independence assumptions...

 $P(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ : approximate using **n-gram model** 

bigram  $\prod_{i=1,n} P(t_i \mid t_{i-1})$ 

trigram  $\prod_{i=1,n} P(t_i \mid t_{i-2}t_{i-1})$ 

 $P(w_1, \ldots, w_n | t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ : approximate by assuming that a word appears in a category independent of its neighbors

$$\prod_{i=1,n} P(w_i \,|\, t_i)$$

Assuming bigram model:

$$P(t_1, \dots, t_n) * P(w_1, \dots, w_n | t_1, \dots, t_n) \approx$$
$$\prod_{i=1,n} P(t_i | t_{i-1}) * P(w_i | t_i)$$

transition probabilities lexical generation probabilities

## Hidden Markov Models

Equation can be modeled by an HMM.

- states: represent a possible lexical category
- transition probabilities: bigram probabilities
- observation probabilities, lexical generation probabilities: indicate, for each word, how likely that word is to be selected if we randomly select the category associated with the node.























SCORE(i,1) =  $P(t_i|\phi) * P(w_1|t_i)$ BPTR(i,1) = 0

#### Iteration

For t = 2 to n For i = 1 to c SCORE(i,t) =  $MAX_{j=1..c}(SCORE(j,t-1) * P(t_i|t_j)) * P(w_t|t_i)$ BPTR(i,t) = index of j that gave max

### **Identify Sequence**

T(n) = i that maximizes SCORE(i,n)For i = n-1 to 1 do T(i) = BPTR(T(i+1), i+1)

## Results

- Effective if probability estmates are computed from a large corpus
- Effective if corpus is of the same style as the input to be classified
- Consistently achieve accuracies of 97% or better using trigram model
- Cuts error rate in half vs. naive algorithm (90% accuracy rate)
- Can be smoothed using backoff or interpolation or discounting...

### Extensions

- Can train HMM tagger on unlabeled data using the EM algorithm, starting with a dictionary that lists which tags can be assigned to which words.
- EM then learns the word likelihood function for each tag, and the tag transition probabilities.
- Merialdo (1994) showed, however, that a tagger trained on even a small amount hand-tagged data works better than one trained via EM.