

Mathematical Background Notes for Package “HiddenMarkov”

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Abstract

These notes give a very brief background to some relationships that are used in the R package “HiddenMarkov” ([Harte, 2010](#)). This package fits various hidden Markov models. R is a comprehensive statistical programming language managed by the [R Development Core Team \(2010\)](#).

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1 Discrete Time Hidden Markov Model

1.1 Markov Chain

$\{C_i; i = 1, \dots, n\}$ has m states $\{1, \dots, m\}$. It satisfies the *Markov Property*:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr\{C_i | C_{i-1}, \dots, C_1\} &= \Pr\{C_i | C_{i-1}\} \\ &= \Pr\{C_i = k | C_{i-1} = j\} \\ &= \gamma_{jk}^{(i)}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\gamma_{jk}^{(i)} = \gamma_{jk}$, $\forall i$ and $j, k = 1, \dots, m$, then $\{C_i\}$ is *homogeneous*.

Note: we use the subscript i to denote the discrete time points, and j and k to denote the Markov states.

Now assume that $\{C_i\}$ is homogeneous. Let $\Gamma = (\gamma_{jk})$ be an $m \times m$ transition matrix. Let $\delta_j^{(i)} = \Pr\{C_i = j\}$, and

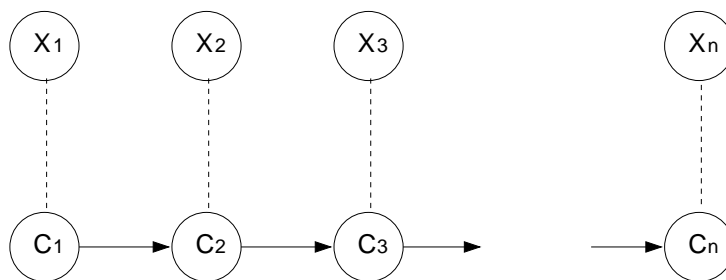
$$\delta^{(i)} = (\delta_1^{(i)}, \delta_2^{(i)}, \dots, \delta_m^{(i)}),$$

then

$$\delta^{(i)} = \delta^{(i-1)}\Gamma = \delta^{(i-2)}\Gamma^2 = \delta^{(i-3)}\Gamma^3.$$

The chain is *stationary* if $\delta^{(i)} = \delta \quad \forall i$, i.e. $\delta = \delta\Gamma$.

1.2 The Model



Denote the history of the process until time i as $X^{(i)}$.

Has *conditional independence*

$$\Pr\{X_i | X^{(i-1)}, C^{(i)}\} = \Pr\{X_i | C_i\}.$$

When X_i is a continuous random variable, replace the probability function with the density function.

Let

$$p_{ij} = \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = j\},$$

and

$$D_i = \text{diag}(p_{i1}, p_{i2}, \dots, p_{im}).$$

Further, let Λ be the set of parameters relevant to the observed probability distribution p_{ij} . We denote the set of model parameters $(\delta, \Gamma, \Lambda)$ collectively as Θ .

1.3 Forward and Backward Probabilities

The *forward* probabilities are

$$\alpha_{ij} = \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_i = x_i, C_i = j\}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, \dots, m$. They are calculated in a “forward” recursive manner. So

$$\alpha_{1j} = \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, C_1 = j\} = \Pr\{X_1 = x_1 \mid C_1 = j\} \Pr\{C_1 = j\} = \delta_j^{(1)} p_{1j}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{2j} &= \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, C_2 = j\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, C_1 = k, C_2 = j\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2 \mid C_1 = k, C_2 = j\} \Pr\{C_1 = k, C_2 = j\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_1 = x_1 \mid C_1 = k\} \Pr\{X_2 = x_2 \mid C_2 = j\} \Pr\{C_2 = j \mid C_1 = k\} \Pr\{C_1 = k\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_{1k} \gamma_{kj} p_{2j} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \delta_k^{(1)} p_{1k} \gamma_{kj} p_{2j}, \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$(\alpha_{21}, \dots, \alpha_{2m}) = \delta^{(1)} D_1 \Gamma D_2.$$

Similarly, it can be shown that

$$(\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{im}) = \delta^{(1)} D_1 (\Gamma D_2) \cdots (\Gamma D_i). \quad (1)$$

The *backward* probabilities are

$$\beta_{ij} = \Pr\{X_{i+1} = x_{i+1}, \dots, X_n = x_n \mid C_i = j\}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ and $j = 1, \dots, m$. They are calculated in a “backward” recursive manner. Initially we set

$$(\beta_{n1}, \dots, \beta_{nm}) = (1, \dots, 1)_{1 \times m}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\beta_{(n-1)j} &= \Pr\{X_n = x_n \mid C_{n-1} = j\} \\
&= \Pr\{X_n = x_n, C_{n-1} = j\} / \Pr\{C_{n-1} = j\} \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_n = x_n, C_{n-1} = j, C_n = k\} / \Pr\{C_{n-1} = j\} \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_n = x_n \mid C_{n-1} = j, C_n = k\} \Pr\{C_{n-1} = j, C_n = k\} / \Pr\{C_{n-1} = j\} \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^m \Pr\{X_n = x_n \mid C_n = k\} \Pr\{C_n = k \mid C_{n-1} = j\},
\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$(\beta_{(n-1)1}, \dots, \beta_{(n-1)m})' = \Gamma D_n 1'.$$

Similarly,

$$(\beta_{i1}, \dots, \beta_{im})' = (\Gamma D_{i+1})(\Gamma D_{i+2}) \cdots (\Gamma D_n) 1'. \quad (2)$$

Given estimates of the model parameters Θ , the $n \times m$ matrices $A = (\alpha_{ij})$ and $B = (\beta_{ij})$ can be calculated in a recursive manner.

1.4 Likelihood Function

Let $1' = (1, \dots, 1)_{1 \times m}$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr\{X_i = x_i\} &= \sum_{j=1}^m \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = j\} \Pr\{C_i = j\} \\
&= \delta^{(i)} D_i 1',
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Pr\{X_i = x_i, X_{i+1} = x_{i+1}\} \\
&= \sum_{k_i=1}^m \sum_{k_{i+1}=1}^m \Pr\{X_i = x_i, X_{i+1} = x_{i+1} \mid C_i = k_i, C_{i+1} = k_{i+1}\} \Pr\{C_i = k_i, C_{i+1} = k_{i+1}\} \\
&= \sum_{k_i=1}^m \sum_{k_{i+1}=1}^m \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = k_i\} \Pr\{X_{i+1} = x_{i+1} \mid C_{i+1} = k_{i+1}\} \Pr\{C_i = k_i\} \\
&\quad \Pr\{C_{i+1} = k_{i+1} \mid C_i = k_i\} \\
&= \delta^{(i)} D_i \Gamma D_{i+1} 1',
\end{aligned}$$

and also

$$\Pr\{X_i = x_i, X_{i+\ell} = x_{i+\ell}\} = \delta^{(i)} D_i \Gamma^\ell D_{i+\ell} 1'.$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned}
L = \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}\} &= \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n\} \\
&= \delta^{(1)} D_1 \Gamma D_2 \Gamma D_3 \cdots \Gamma D_n 1' \\
&= \delta^{(1)} D_1 (\Gamma D_2) (\Gamma D_3) \cdots (\Gamma D_n) 1'.
\end{aligned}$$

If stationary, $\delta^{(1)}$ can be replaced with $\delta = \delta\Gamma$, creating a recursive pattern ΓD_i for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Note the relationship with the *forward* (Eq 1) and *backward* (Eq 2) probabilities, i.e. for $\forall i = 1, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \delta^{(1)} D_1 (\Gamma D_2) \cdots (\Gamma D_i) (\Gamma D_{i+1}) (\Gamma D_{i+2}) \cdots (\Gamma D_n) 1' \\ &= (\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{im}) (\beta_{i1}, \dots, \beta_{im})'. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

We want to estimate all parameters in $\Theta = (\delta, \Gamma, \Lambda)$ by maximising L . To do this, we consider the *complete data likelihood*.

1.5 Complete Data Likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} L_c &= \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n, C_1 = c_1, \dots, C_n = c_n\} \\ &= \Pr\{X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n \mid C_1 = c_1, \dots, C_n = c_n\} \\ &\quad \Pr\{C_1 = c_1, \dots, C_n = c_n\} \\ &= \Pr\{X_1 = x_1 \mid C_1 = c_1\} \Pr\{C_1 = c_1\} \\ &\quad \prod_{i=2}^n \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = c_i\} \Pr\{C_i = c_i \mid C_{i-1} = c_{i-1}\} \\ &= \delta_{c_1}^{(1)} \gamma_{c_1 c_2} \gamma_{c_2 c_3} \cdots \gamma_{c_{n-1} c_n} \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = c_i\} \end{aligned}$$

Now let

$$\begin{aligned} p_{ij} &= \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = j\} \\ u_{ij} &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } C_i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ v_{ijk} &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } C_{i-1} = j \text{ and } C_i = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\log L_c = \sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(1)} + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m \left(\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) \log \gamma_{jk} + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log p_{ij}.$$

1.6 Baum-Welch Algorithm (EM)

Recall that

$$L_c = \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, C^{(n)} = c^{(n)}\},$$

so that

$$\underbrace{L_c}_{\substack{\text{maximise} \\ \text{in M-step}}} = \underbrace{\Pr\{C^{(n)} = c^{(n)} \mid X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}\}}_{\text{calculate in E-step}} \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}\}.$$

1.6.1 Outline of Procedure

1. Guess initial values for $\hat{\Theta}$.
2. Start Loop.
3. *E-Step*: estimate u_{ij} and v_{ijk} given $\hat{\Theta}$ (i.e. current estimate of Θ), by taking their conditional *expectations*, i.e.:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{u}_{ij} &= \mathbf{E}[u_{ij} \mid \hat{\Theta}] \\ &= \Pr\{C_i = j \mid X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, \hat{\Theta}\} \\ &= \hat{\alpha}_{ij} \hat{\beta}_{ij} / \hat{L} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{v}_{ijk} &= \mathbf{E}[v_{ijk} \mid \hat{\Theta}] \\ &= \Pr\{C_{i-1} = j, C_i = k \mid X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, \hat{\Theta}\} \\ &= \hat{\gamma}_{jk} \hat{\alpha}_{i-1,j} \hat{p}_{ik} \hat{\beta}_{ik} / \hat{L}. \end{aligned}$$

4. *M-Step*: estimate new values for $\hat{\Theta}$ by *maximising* L_c ; see §1.6.2, §1.6.3, and §1.6.4.
5. If $\hat{\Theta}$ not converged, return to (2).
6. Stop.

If the Markov chain is non-stationary, the *M-step* can be performed by maximising each term in L_c separately.

1.6.2 First Term of L_c

Want to maximise

$$\sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(1)}$$

subject to

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j^{(1)} = 1.$$

Let

$$F = \sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(1)} + \theta \left(1 - \sum_{j=1}^m \delta_j^{(1)} \right)$$

where θ is a Lagrange multiplier. Then

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \delta_j^{(1)}} = \frac{u_{1j}}{\delta_j^{(1)}} - \theta$$

so that $\theta = u_{1j}/\delta_j^{(1)}$ for all j , hence

$$\widehat{\delta}_j^{(1)} = u_{1j}.$$

1.6.3 Second Term of L_c

Similarly as above, let

$$F = \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m \left(\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) \log \gamma_{jk} + \sum_{j=1}^m \theta_j \left(1 - \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{jk} \right)$$

where $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m$ are Lagrange multipliers. Thus

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \gamma_{jk}} = -\theta_j + \frac{1}{\gamma_{jk}} \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk},$$

hence letting $-\theta_j \gamma_{jk} + \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} = 0$, we get

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \left(-\theta_j \gamma_{jk} + \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) = 0.$$

Since $\sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_{jk} = 1$, then

$$\theta_j = \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk},$$

so that

$$\widehat{\gamma}_{jk} = \frac{\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk}}{\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk}}.$$

1.6.4 Third Term of L_c

Maximisation of the last term, i.e.

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log p_{ij}$$

depends on the probability distribution of the observed process, i.e. $p_{ij} = \Pr\{X_i = x_i \mid C_i = j\}$. The set of parameters is denoted by Λ .

The following subsections give details for specific distributions.

Poisson Distribution

In this case

$$p_{ij} = \Pr\{X_i = x_i | C_i = j\} = \frac{\lambda_j^{x_i}}{x_i!} \exp(-\lambda_j).$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log p_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} [x_i \lambda_j - \log(x_i!) - \lambda_j], \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda_j} = \frac{1}{\lambda_j} \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} (x_i - 1),$$

hence

$$\hat{\lambda}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}.$$

Exponential Distribution

In this case

$$p_{ij} = f_{X_i}(x_i | C_i = j) = \lambda_j \exp(-\lambda_j x_i).$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log p_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} [\log \lambda_j - \lambda_j x_i], \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda_j} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda_j} - x_i \right),$$

hence

$$\hat{\lambda}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i}.$$

Binomial Distribution

In this case

$$p_{ij} = \Pr\{X_i = x_i | C_i = j\} = \binom{n_i}{x_i} \pi_j^{x_i} (1 - \pi_j)^{n_i - x_i},$$

and so

$$\hat{\pi}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} n_i}.$$

Gaussian Distribution

In this case

$$p_{ij} = f_{X_i}(x_i | C_i = j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_j^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_j^2}(x_i - \mu_j)^2\right),$$

and so

$$\hat{\mu}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}$$

and

$$\hat{\sigma}_j = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} (x_i - \hat{\mu}_j)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}}.$$

Gamma Distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda^a}{\Gamma(a)} x^{a-1} \exp(-\lambda x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log f(x_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [a \log \lambda - \log \Gamma(a) + (a-1) \log x_i - \lambda x_i] \\ &= a \log \lambda - \log \Gamma(a) + (a-1) \overline{\log x} - \lambda \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{a}{\lambda} - \bar{x}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial a} = \log \lambda - \Psi(a) + \overline{\log x}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial \lambda^2} = \frac{-a}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a^2} = -\Psi'(a)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a \partial \lambda} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial \lambda \partial a} = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda' \\ a' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda \\ a \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-a}{\lambda^2} & \frac{1}{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{\lambda} & -\Psi'(a) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \lambda} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial a} \end{pmatrix}$$

The two sufficient statistics \bar{x} and $\overline{\log x}$ become, for $j = 1, \dots, m$,

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}.$$

Beta Distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} x^{a-1} (1-x)^{b-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log f(x_i) \\ &= \log \Gamma(a+b) - \log \Gamma(a) - \log \Gamma(b) + (a-1) \overline{\log x} \\ &\quad + (b-1) \overline{\log(1-x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial a} = \Psi(a+b) - \Psi(a) + \overline{\log x}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial b} = \Psi(a+b) - \Psi(b) + \overline{\log(1-x)}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a^2} = \Psi'(a+b) - \Psi'(a)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial b^2} = \Psi'(a+b) - \Psi'(b)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial a \partial b} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial b \partial a} = \Psi'(a+b)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \Psi'(a+b) - \Psi'(a) & \Psi'(a+b) \\ \Psi'(a+b) & \Psi'(a+b) - \Psi'(b) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial F}{\partial a} \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial b} \end{pmatrix}$$

The two sufficient statistics $\overline{\log x}$ and $\overline{\log(1-x)}$ become, for $j = 1, \dots, m$,

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log(1-x_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}.$$

Log Normal Distribution

If X has a lognormal distribution with parameters μ and σ , then $\log X$ has a normal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2 . In this case

$$p_{ij} = f_{X_i}(x_i | C_i = j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_j x_i} \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_j^2} (\log x_i - \mu_j)^2\right),$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} E[\log X_i | C_i = j] &= \mu_j, \\ \text{Var}[\log X_i | C_i = j] &= \sigma_j^2, \\ E[X_i | C_i = j] &= \exp(\mu_j + \sigma_j^2/2), \text{ and} \\ \text{Var}[X_i | C_i = j] &= \exp(2\mu_j + \sigma_j^2)(\exp(\sigma_j^2) - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Further

$$\hat{\mu}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} \log x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}$$

and

$$\hat{\sigma}_j = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} (\log x_i - \hat{\mu}_j)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij}}}.$$

Logistic Distribution

Like the beta and gamma distributions, a Newton iterative procedure is used here too. The required first and second derivatives can be found in [Rao & Hamed \(2000, §9.1.2\)](#). Here the location parameter is denoted by m and the scale parameter by a . Note that there are a couple of errors:

In Equation 9.1.10, n should be N ; and Equation 9.1.11 should be

$$y_i = 1 + \exp\left(\frac{-(x_i - m)}{a}\right).$$

Equation 9.1.19 should be

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2} \log L = \frac{2}{a^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i^{-2} - y_i^{-1}).$$

1.7 Pseudo Residuals

We follow the method outlined by [Zucchini \(2005\)](#). Let $X^{(-i)} = (X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n)$, i.e. denotes the observed process except for the point X_i . For each $i = 1, \dots, n$ we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_i &= \Pr\{X_i \leq x_i | X^{(-i)} = x^{(-i)}\} \\ &= \frac{\Pr\{X_i \leq x_i, X^{(-i)} = x^{(-i)}\}}{\Pr\{X^{(-i)} = x^{(-i)}\}} \\ &= \frac{\delta^{(1)} D_1 (\Gamma D_2) \cdots (\Gamma D_{i-1}) (\Gamma D'_i) (\Gamma D_{i+1}) (\Gamma D_{i+2}) \cdots (\Gamma D_n) 1'}{\delta^{(1)} D_1 (\Gamma D_2) \cdots (\Gamma D_{i-1}) (\Gamma I) (\Gamma D_{i+1}) (\Gamma D_{i+2}) \cdots (\Gamma D_n) 1'} \end{aligned}$$

where D'_i is an $m \times m$ diagonal matrix with elements $\Pr\{X_i \leq x_i | C_i = j\}$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$, and I is the identity matrix. This is achieved by using the forward and backward probabilities.

The pseudo residuals are then $z_i = \Phi^{-1}(\psi_i)$, where Φ denotes the standard normal distribution function. If the observation sequence has been sampled from the assumed model, then the z_i 's should have an approximate standard normal distribution.

If the distribution of the observation variables is discrete the following correction is made. Also calculate $\psi'_i = \Pr\{X_i \leq x_i - 1 \mid X^{(-i)} = x^{(-i)}\}$, then

$$z_i = \Phi^{-1} \left(\frac{\psi_i + \psi'_i}{2} \right).$$

1.8 Viterbi Algorithm

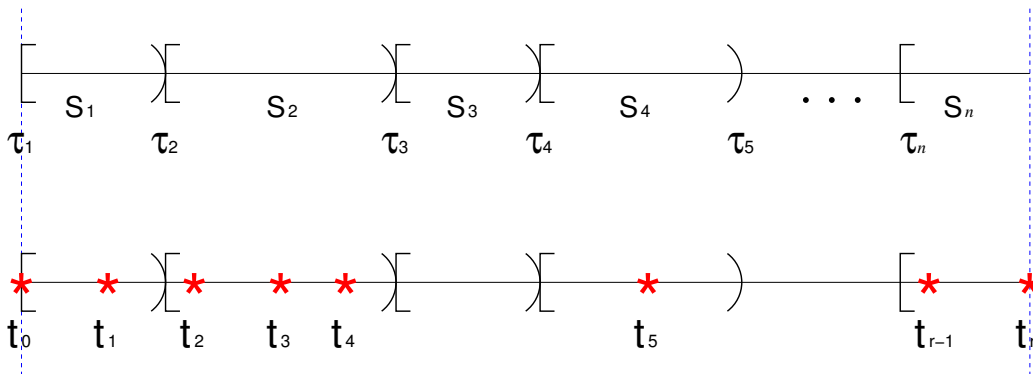
The purpose of the Viterbi algorithm is to *globally decode* the underlying hidden Markov state at each time point. It does this by determining the sequence of states (c_1^*, \dots, c_n^*) which maximises the joint distribution of the hidden states given the entire observed process $\{x^{(n)}\}$, i.e.

$$(c_1^*, \dots, c_n^*) = \underset{c_1, \dots, c_n \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \Pr\{C_1 = c_1, \dots, C_n = c_n \mid X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}\}.$$

2 Markov Modulated Poisson Process

2.1 The Model

Let $S(t)$ be a Markov process in continuous time having discrete states $1, \dots, m$. The process makes a transition from state s_{i-1} to s_i at time τ_i . The time spent in state s_i has an exponential distribution with parameter q_{s_i} . Events occur as a Poisson process at times t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r . The Poisson rate is determined by the Markov state, being constant within each Markov state.



We use the same formulation of the model as [Rydén \(1996\)](#). He assumes that the start and finish of the observation period coincides with events at times t_0 and t_r . See also [Meier-Hellstern \(1987\)](#) for further discussion.

2.2 Q Matrix

Let $P(t)$ be an $m \times m$ matrix with elements

$$p_{jk}(t) = \Pr\{S(t) = k \mid S(0) = j\},$$

where $S(t)$ is a continuous time Markov process with m discrete states.

Let Q be the $m \times m$ *infinitesimal generator matrix* with jk th element q_{jk} , such that

$$\frac{d}{dt}p_{jk}(t) = \sum_{\ell} p_{j\ell}(t)q_{\ell k} = \sum_{\ell} q_{j\ell}p_{\ell k}(t).$$

Given the initial condition that $P(0) = I$, $P(t)$ has solution

$$P(t) = \exp(tQ).$$

Note that the diagonal elements are negative, and $-q_{jj}$ and is the exponential rate of transitions out of state j . Letting $q_j = -q_{jj}$, q_{jk}/q_j are the transition probabilities from state j to state k when $j \neq k$. Hence

$$\sum_{k=1}^m q_{jk} = 0$$

for all j .

2.3 Matrix Exponential

Given an $m \times m$ matrix Q , $\exp(Q)$ is to be interpreted as the *matrix exponential*, not the exponential of the individual elements. We briefly outline various methods of evaluation.

2.3.1 Taylor’s Series Expansion

$$\exp(Q) = I + Q + \frac{1}{2!}Q^2 + \frac{1}{3!}Q^3 + \dots$$

where I is the $m \times m$ identity matrix.

2.3.2 Eigen Value Decomposition

Assume that there exists a matrix E of eigenvectors and an $m \times m$ diagonal matrix Ψ containing the eigenvalues ψ_1, \dots, ψ_m such that $\Lambda - Q = E\Psi E^{-1}$, where $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$. Note that if Ψ is a diagonal matrix, then $\exp(\Psi)$ is also a diagonal matrix. Inserting this into a Taylor’s series expansion gives

$$\exp(\Lambda - Q) = I + E\Psi E^{-1} + \frac{1}{2!}E\Psi^2 E^{-1} + \frac{1}{3!}E\Psi^3 E^{-1} + \dots = E \exp(\Psi) E^{-1}.$$

2.3.3 Poisson Series Expansion

Let a be a number that is a little larger than the absolute values of the elements on the diagonal of the $m \times m$ matrix Q ; and define B as

$$B = I + \frac{1}{a}Q,$$

where I is the $m \times m$ identity matrix. Then $Q = a(B - I)$, and so

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(Q) &= \exp(a(B - I)) \\ &= \exp(aB) \exp(-a) \\ &= I \exp(-a) + B \frac{a^1}{1!} \exp(-a) + B^2 \frac{a^2}{2!} \exp(-a) + B^3 \frac{a^3}{3!} \exp(-a) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

See [Klemm et al \(2003, §2.2\)](#) for further details.

2.4 Likelihood Function

2.4.1 Conditional Independence and Likelihood

Assume that events occur at times t_0, t_1, \dots, t_r , that $t_0 = 0$, and that t_r coincides with the end of the observation period. Let $y_\ell = t_\ell - t_{\ell-1}$ for $\ell = 1, \dots, r$. Also define the *auxiliary Markov chain* as the Markov states at the times at which the events were generated, i.e.

$$C_\ell = S(t_\ell),$$

for $\ell = 1, \dots, r$. Then the sequence $\{(C_\ell, Y_\ell), \ell = 1, \dots, r\}$ is a *Markov renewal sequence* with transition density matrix

$$\exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y\}\Lambda,$$

where the jk th element is

$$\Pr\{C_\ell = k, Y_\ell = y \mid C_{\ell-1} = j\}$$

for all ℓ . Given conditional independence, the likelihood function is

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr\{Y^{(r)} = y^{(r)}\} &= \delta^{(0)} \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^r \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_\ell\}\Lambda \right) 1' \\ &= \delta^{(0)} \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_1\}\Lambda \cdots \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_r\}\Lambda 1', \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where $\delta^{(0)}$ are the state probabilities at $t = 0$.

2.4.2 Forward and Backward Equations

The forward equations (analogue of the discrete case in Eq 1) are

$$(\alpha_{\ell 1}, \dots, \alpha_{\ell m}) = \begin{cases} \delta^{(0)} & \ell = 0 \\ \delta^{(0)} \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_1\}\Lambda \cdots \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_\ell\}\Lambda & \ell = 1, \dots, r; \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

and the backward equations (analogue to those in Eq 2) are

$$(\beta_{\ell 1}, \dots, \beta_{\ell m})' = \begin{cases} \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_{\ell+1}\}\Lambda \cdots \exp\{(Q - \Lambda)y_r\}\Lambda 1' & \ell = 0, \dots, r-1 \\ 1' & \ell = r. \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

Hence, as in Eq 3,

$$L = (\alpha_{\ell 1}, \dots, \alpha_{\ell m})(\beta_{\ell 1}, \dots, \beta_{\ell m})', \quad \ell = 0, \dots, r. \quad (7)$$

The matrices alpha and beta in the **R** function `HiddenMarkov::Estep.mmpp` contain

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{01} & \alpha_{02} & \cdots & \alpha_{0m} \\ \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \cdots & \alpha_{1m} \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \cdots & \alpha_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_{r1} & \alpha_{r2} & \cdots & \alpha_{rm} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{01} & \beta_{02} & \cdots & \beta_{0m} \\ \beta_{11} & \beta_{12} & \cdots & \beta_{1m} \\ \beta_{21} & \beta_{22} & \cdots & \beta_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \beta_{r1} & \beta_{r2} & \cdots & \beta_{rm} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

respectively. In particular, note that the top row of alpha is $\delta^{(0)}$, and the bottom row of beta is a vector of ones. These matrices originate from `HiddenMarkov::forwardback.mmpp`.

2.5 EM Algorithm

2.5.1 Complete Data Likelihood

State transitions occur at τ_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, i.e.

$$S(\tau_i^-) \neq S(\tau_i).$$

The sequence of visited Markov states is $\{S_i\}$ where $S_i = S(\tau_i)$. Then for $j \neq k$

$$\Pr\{S_i = k \mid S_{i-1} = j\} = \frac{q_{jk}}{q_j}.$$

The time in state S_i is $X_i = \tau_{i+1} - \tau_i$.

Note that we observe the process on $[0, \tau_{n+1})$, but not at τ_{n+1} . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, S^{(n)} = s^{(n)}\} \\ &= \Pr\{S_1 = s_1\} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} f_{X_i}(x_i \mid S_i = s_i) \Pr\{S_{i+1} = s_{i+1} \mid S_i = s_i\} \right) \times \\ & \quad \Pr\{X_n \geq x_n \mid S_n = s_n\} \\ &= \delta_{s_1}^{(0)} \frac{q_{s_1 s_2}}{q_{s_1}} \frac{q_{s_2 s_2}}{q_{s_2}} \cdots \frac{q_{s_{n-1} s_n}}{q_{s_{n-1}}} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} q_{s_i} \exp(-q_{s_i} x_i) \right) \exp(-q_{s_n} x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Note that this expression has the same form as in the discrete time case except for the last term, i.e. $\Pr\{X_n \geq x_n \mid S_n = s_n\}$. Further simplification gives

$$\Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, S^{(n)} = s^{(n)}\} = \delta_{s_1}^{(0)} q_{s_1 s_2} q_{s_2 s_3} \cdots q_{s_{n-1} s_n} \prod_{i=1}^n \exp(-q_{s_i} x_i).$$

As in the discrete time case, define u_{ij} and v_{ijk} as:

$$u_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s_i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$v_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s_{i-1} = j \text{ and } s_i = k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \log \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, S^{(n)} = s^{(n)}\} \\ = \sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(0)} + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^m \left(\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) \log q_{jk} - \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i q_j. \end{aligned}$$

2.5.2 Add Event Times

The observed Poisson event times are denoted as t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r , where r is the total number of events. We will denote the collection of all event times as $t^{(r)} = (t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r)$.

Given we know $x^{(n)}$ and $s^{(n)}$, we can deduce the interval to which each event belongs, i.e. events in interval i are those with times in $\{t_\ell : \tau_i \leq t_\ell < \tau_{i+1}\}$. A useful variable for notational purposes is the number of events in the i th interval, which we will denote as r_i . Hence the event times in the i th interval can now be more explicitly stated as:

$$t_{\ell_{i+1}}, t_{\ell_{i+2}}, \dots, t_{\ell_{i+r_i}},$$

where $\ell_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} r_j$. However the “complete data” description of the process can be given as simply $(c^{(n)}, x^{(n)}, t^{(r)})$.

We want the joint density of inter-event times in the i th interval. Let the number of events in previous intervals be $\ell_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} r_j$, then we want the joint density of these inter-event times:

$$t_{\ell_{i+1}} - \tau_i, t_{\ell_{i+2}} - t_{\ell_{i+1}}, t_{\ell_{i+3}} - t_{\ell_{i+2}}, \dots, t_{\ell_{i+r_i}} - t_{\ell_{i+r_i-1}}$$

together with the density that no events occur in the interval $(t_{\ell_{i+r_i}}, \tau_{i+1})$. Denote this as

$$\begin{aligned} f(\tau_i, t_{\ell_{i+1}}, t_{\ell_{i+2}}, \dots, t_{\ell_{i+r_i}}, \tau_{i+1} \mid S_i = s_i, X_i = x_i) \\ = \lambda_{s_i} \exp[-\lambda_{s_i}(t_{\ell_{i+1}} - \tau_i)] \lambda_{s_i} \exp[-\lambda_{s_i}(t_{\ell_{i+2}} - t_{\ell_{i+1}})] \cdots \\ \quad \lambda_{s_i} \exp[-\lambda_{s_i}(t_{\ell_{i+r_i}} - t_{\ell_{i+r_i-1}})] \exp[-\lambda_{s_i}(\tau_{i+1} - t_{\ell_{i+r_i}})] \\ = \lambda_{s_i}^{r_i} \exp(-\lambda_{s_i}(\tau_{i+1} - \tau_i)) \\ = \lambda_{s_i}^{r_i} \exp(-\lambda_{s_i} x_i) \\ = \frac{(\lambda_{s_i} x_i)^{r_i}}{r_i!} \exp(-\lambda_{s_i} x_i) \frac{r_i!}{x_i^{r_i}}, \end{aligned}$$

where λ_{s_i} is the Poisson event rate while the Markov process is in state s_i . Taking logarithms and summing over all visited Markov states, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \log f(\tau_i, t_{\ell_i+1}, t_{\ell_i+2}, \dots, t_{\ell_i+r_i}, \tau_{i+1} \mid S_i = s_i, X_i = x_i) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n r_i \log \lambda_{s_i} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \lambda_{s_i} \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} r_i \log \lambda_j - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} x_i \lambda_j. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the last subinterval ($i = n$) terminates at t_r .

The “complete data” log-likelihood is then

$$\begin{aligned} \log \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, S^{(n)} = s^{(n)}, T^{(r)} = t^{(r)}\} \\ = \sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(0)} + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^m \left(\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) \log q_{jk} - \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i (q_j + \lambda_j) + \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} r_i \log \lambda_j. \end{aligned}$$

Rydén (1996, Eq 7) uses a different notation. However, the terms in common are

$$\begin{aligned} \text{time spent in state } j &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i, \\ \text{number of events occurring in state } j &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} r_i, \text{ and} \\ \text{number of switches from state } j \text{ to } k &= \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk}. \end{aligned}$$

2.5.3 E-Step and M-Step

The model parameters that require estimation are $\Theta = (Q, \Lambda)$. To implement the EM algorithm, one initially needs to analytically evaluate the *expectations*:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N U_{ij} X_i \mid T^{(r)} = t^{(r)} \right], \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N U_{ij} R_i \mid T^{(r)} = t^{(r)} \right], \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=2}^N V_{ijk} \mid T^{(r)} = t^{(r)} \right],$$

where the uppercase variables within the expectations are the corresponding random variables to the lower case realisations. One then uses these expressions as estimators; and together with the current parameter estimates $\hat{\Theta}$, the terms (i.e. “missing data”)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} r_i, \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk}$$

are estimated. This is referred to as the *expectation* or *E-step*.

These values then replace the corresponding terms in the complete data likelihood. Then new values are estimated for $\hat{\Theta}$ by *maximising* this complete data likelihood. This is referred to as the *maximisation* or *M-step*. The process is repeated until the estimates $\hat{\Theta}$ converge.

Evaluation of the above expectations pose a number of problems, both analytical and numerical. This appears to be the most complicated aspect in the application of the EM algorithm to the MMPP model. [Rydén \(1996\)](#) derives expressions for the expectations based on an eigenvalue decomposition, while the expressions derived by [Klemm et al \(2003\)](#) use a Poisson like series expansion.

2.5.4 Addition of Marks

The complication mentioned above is further compounded by the addition of “marks”. Let $W^{(r)}$ be marks associated with each of the r events. Assume that the marks have an exponential distribution with rate parameter ξ_j when the Markov process $S(t)$ is within state j . Let

$$\Xi = \text{diag}[\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m],$$

so now the model parameters that require estimation are $\Theta = (Q, \Lambda, \Xi)$.

The joint density of the marks in the i th interval is

$$f(w_{\ell_i+1}, w_{\ell_i+2}, \dots, w_{\ell_i+r_i} | S_i = s_i, X_i = x_i) = \xi_{s_i}^{r_i} \exp\left(-\xi_{s_i} \sum_{\ell=\ell_i+1}^{r_i} w_\ell\right),$$

where $\ell_i = r_1 + \dots + r_{i-1}$. This will add two further terms to the complete data likelihood:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} r_i \log \xi_j - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} \xi_j \sum_{\ell=\ell_i+1}^{r_i} w_\ell.$$

Hence, the “complete data” log-likelihood is now

$$\begin{aligned} \log \Pr\{X^{(n)} = x^{(n)}, S^{(n)} = s^{(n)}, T^{(r)} = t^{(r)}, W^{(r)} = w^{(r)}\} \\ = \sum_{j=1}^m u_{1j} \log \delta_j^{(0)} + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^m \left(\sum_{i=2}^n v_{ijk} \right) \log q_{jk} - \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n u_{ij} x_i (q_j + \lambda_j) \\ + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} r_i \log(\xi_j \lambda_j) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{\ell=\ell_i+1}^{r_i} u_{ij} w_\ell \xi_j. \end{aligned}$$

How do these new terms affect the expectations in §2.5.3. Now our observed data are $T^{(r)}$ and $W^{(r)}$, and so the expectations are now conditional on both, i.e. we want

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N U_{ij} X_i \mid T^{(R)} = t^{(r)}, W^{(R)} = w^{(r)} \right], \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N U_{ij} R_i \mid T^{(R)} = t^{(r)}, W^{(R)} = w^{(r)} \right],$$

and

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=2}^N V_{ijk} \mid T^{(R)} = t^{(r)}, W^{(R)} = w^{(r)} \right],$$

together with the new term

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\ell=\ell_i+1}^{R_i} U_{ij} W_{\ell} \mid T^{(R)} = t^{(r)}, W^{(R)} = w^{(r)} \right],$$

where $\ell_i = R_1 + \dots + R_{i-1}$. The new term is the expected sum of marks “emitted” by events that occur while the Markov process is in state j .

2.6 Particle Filters

See [Arulampalam et al \(2002\)](#), [Doucet et al \(2001\)](#), and [Doucet & Tadić \(2003\)](#).

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