

You are trying to diagnose whether your computer is broken or not. On a given day, your computer's hidden state is either *broken* or *working*. Each day you make one of the following observations: *blue-screen*, *slow*, or *snappy*, depending on the state of your computer. You decide to use the following HMM to model your daily observations:

| Initial Distribution |                  | Transition Distribution |                |                  | Emission Distribution |                    |              |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| State                | $P(X_{\bullet})$ | State                   | Next State     | $P(X_{t+1} X_t)$ | State                 | Observation        | $P(O_t X_t)$ |
| <i>working</i>       | 0.9              | <i>working</i>          | <i>working</i> | 0.9              | <i>working</i>        | <i>snappy</i>      | 0.7          |
| <i>broken</i>        | 0.1              | <i>working</i>          | <i>broken</i>  | 0.1              | <i>working</i>        | <i>slow</i>        | 0.2          |
|                      |                  | <i>broken</i>           | <i>broken</i>  | 1.0              | <i>working</i>        | <i>blue-screen</i> | 0.1          |
|                      |                  | <i>broken</i>           | <i>working</i> | 0.0              | <i>broken</i>         | <i>snappy</i>      | 0.1          |
|                      |                  |                         |                |                  | <i>broken</i>         | <i>slow</i>        | 0.4          |
|                      |                  |                         |                |                  | <i>broken</i>         | <i>blue-screen</i> | 0.5          |

1. What is the posterior distribution of  $X_1$ , your computer's state on day one, given the observation (*slow*) on day 1?

The equation for starting out is:

$$P(X_1|e_1) = \alpha P(e_1|X_1) \sum_{x_0} P(X_1|x_0)P(x_0)$$

Particularized to this problem, and using the relevant CPTs:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_1|slow) &= \alpha P(slow|X_1) \sum_{x_0} P(X_1|x_0)P(x_0) \\
 &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} P(slow|working) \\ P(slow|broken) \end{bmatrix} \left\{ P(working) \begin{bmatrix} P(working|working) \\ P(broken|working) \end{bmatrix} + \right. \\
 &\quad \left. P(broken) \begin{bmatrix} P(working|broken) \\ P(broken|broken) \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\
 &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \left\{ 0.9 \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 \\ 0.1 \end{bmatrix} + 0.1 \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 \\ 1.0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\
 &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.81 \\ 0.19 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.162 \\ 0.076 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Normalizing,

$$P(X_1|slow) = \frac{1}{119} \begin{bmatrix} 81 \\ 38 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. What is the posterior distribution of  $X_2$ , your computer's state on day two, given the observation sequence (*slow, slow*)?

For day 2, the general expression is:

$$P(X_2|e_1, e_2) = \alpha P(e_2|X_2) \sum_{x_1} P(X_2|x_1)P(x_1|e_1)$$

For this problem,

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_2|slow, slow) &= \alpha P(slow|X_2) \sum_{x_1} P(X_2|x_1)P(x_1|slow) \\ &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} P(slow|working) \\ P(slow|broken) \end{bmatrix} \left\{ P(working|slow) \begin{bmatrix} P(working|working) \\ P(broken|working) \end{bmatrix} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. P(broken|slow) \begin{bmatrix} P(working|broken) \\ P(broken|broken) \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\ &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \frac{81}{119} \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 \\ 0.1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{38}{119} \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 \\ 1.0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\ &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 72.9 \\ 46.1 \end{bmatrix} / 119 \\ &= \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0.1225 \\ 0.1550 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Normalizing,

$$P(X_2|slow, slow) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4414 \\ 0.5586 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. If you observe that your computer is *slow* every day, what is the first day for which the computer is most likely *broken*?

Day 2 is the first time when *broken* is more likely (denominator greater than the numerator).