## Probabilistic Time Series Classification

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## **Problem Statement**

• The goal is to assign "similar" sequences to same classes.



## **Problem Statement**



#### • It is not a trivial task. Variability within each class,

M.Sc. Thesis Defense

## **Problem Statement**

• Data in real life applications is even more challenging.



• So, we make a computer program "learn" how to classify sequences.

# Goal of this thesis

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- A new spectral learning based algorithm for learning mixture of HMMs
  - Faster compared to the conventional EM approach
  - Possible to generalize to infinite mixture of HMMs
- Survey of Discriminative versions of Markov models and HMMs

# Outline

- Learning a Latent Variable Model with ML
  - Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm description, drawbacks
- 2 Method of Moments based learning algorithms
  - Method of Moments vs ML
  - Spectral Learning for LVMs

### 3 Spectral Learning for Mixture of Markov models

- Derivation of an algorithm with existing methods
- Derivation of a superior learning scheme
- Results

### 4 Spectral Learning based algorithm for Mixture of HMMs

- For Finite mixtures
- For Infinite mixtures
- Results

### 5 Discriminative vs Generative Time Series Models

• The optimization problem to train a latent variable model:

$$egin{aligned} & heta^* = rg\max_{ heta} p(x| heta) \ & = rg\max_{ heta} \sum_{h} p(x,h| heta) \end{aligned}$$

where, x are the observations (sequences), h are the latent variables (cluster indicators/latent state sequences),  $\theta$  is the model parameter.

• The summation is over all possible combinations of *h*. An intractable summation in practice.

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$$\log p(x|\theta) = \log \sum_{h} p(x, h|\theta) = \log \sum_{h} p(x, h|\theta) \frac{q(h)}{q(h)}$$
$$= \log \sum_{h} \mathbb{E}_{q(h)} \left[ \frac{p(x, h|\theta)}{q(h)} \right]$$

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Then, using Jensen's inequality;

$$\log \sum_{h} \mathbb{E}_{q(h)} \left[ \frac{p(x, h|\theta)}{q(h)} \right] \ge \mathbb{E}_{q(h)} \left[ \log \frac{p(x, h|\theta)}{q(h)} \right]$$
$$\log p(x|\theta) \ge \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{q(h)} [\log p(x, h|\theta)] - \mathbb{E}_{q(h)} [\log q(h)]}_{\mathcal{Q}(\theta) :=}$$

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 $\mathcal{Q}(\theta)$  is easier to maximize than  $p(x|\theta)$ .

### EM Algorithm

### EM Algorithm

Initialize  $\theta$  then, at each iteration; E-Step: Compute the lower bound  $Q(\theta)$  using  $q(h) = p(h|x, \theta)$ M-Step:  $\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} Q(\theta)$ 

#### Let us consider the following toy example:



#### Joint distribution $p(x_1, x_2)$

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#### Let us consider the following toy example:



We take  $h = x_2$ ,  $\theta = x_1$ . The problem is:

$$x_1^* = rgmax_{x_1} \sum_{x_2} p(x_1, x_2)$$

Joint distribution  $p(x_1, x_2)$ 

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- In next section, we introduce an alternative local optima free, non-iterative learning method for LVMs, based on method of moments.

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- A maximum likelihood estimator for a and b would require to solve,

$$\log(a) - \psi(a) = \log\left(\frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=1}^{N}x_n\right) - \frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=1}^{N}\log(x_n)$$

to find an estimate  $\hat{a}$ . Then,

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• So, a ML estimate for  $\mathcal{G}(a, b)$  would require to use an iterative method.

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Then,

$$\hat{a} = rac{M_1^2}{M_2 - M_1^2} \hat{b} = rac{M_2 - M_1^2}{M_1}$$



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- Method of Moments solutions are not iterative. ML solutions are.
- ML solutions are more efficient, guaranteed to return parameter estimates in feasible range.
- ML solutions may get stuck in local maxima, require good initializations. Method of moments do not.

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Let us consider a simple mixture model:



 $h_n \sim \text{Discrete}(p(h_n))$  $x_n | h_n \sim p(x_n | h_n, O(:, h_n))$ 

where,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{L}$  observations,  $h_{n} \in \{1, ..., K\}$  cluster indicators,  $\mathbb{E}[x|h] = O \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times K}$  model parameters, e.g. for Poisson,  $O(i, k) = \lambda_{i,k}$ .

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• Given x<sub>1:N</sub>, one can use EM to learn O. Alternatively, we can use spectral learning to learn O, in a non iterative fashion.



 $h_n \sim \text{Discrete}(p(h_n))$  $x_n | h_n \sim p(x_n | h_n, O(:, h_n))$ 

Given that  $L \ge K$ , and O has K linearly independent columns then,

$$B_i := (U^T \mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x_i]V)(U^T \mathbb{E}[x \otimes x]V)^{-1}$$
$$= (U^T O) \operatorname{diag}(O(i, :))(U^T O)^{-1}$$

where,  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x] = U \Sigma V^T$ .



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where,  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x] = U \Sigma V^T$ .

- $B_i$  can be expressed in terms of observable moments  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x_i]$ .
- So, model parameters can be simply be read from the eigenvectors of *B<sub>i</sub>*.

Proof:

## $U^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x_i] V = U^{\mathsf{T}}O\operatorname{diag}(O(i,:))\operatorname{diag}(p(h))O^{\mathsf{T}}V$

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$$= U^{T}O\operatorname{diag}(O(i,:))(U^{T}O)^{-1}\underbrace{U^{T}O\operatorname{diag}(p(h))O^{T}V}_{U^{T}\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x]V}$$

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#### Proof:

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so,

 $(U^{\mathsf{T}} O) \mathsf{diag}(O(i, :)) (U^{\mathsf{T}} O)^{-1} = (U^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x_i] V) (U^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbb{E}[x \otimes x] V)^{-1}$ 

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- One can also modify this algorithm slightly to learn HMMs.
- The general goal is to express the observable moments so that, we obtain an eigen-decomposition form, from which we can read the parameters.
- This is a fast, and local optima free algorithm to learn LVMs.

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- One can also modify this algorithm slightly to learn HMMs.
- The general goal is to express the observable moments so that, we obtain an eigen-decomposition form, from which we can read the parameters.
- This is a fast, and local optima free algorithm to learn LVMs.
- However, this scheme requires high order moments to learn a temporally connected LVM such as mixture of Markov models.

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## Mixture of Markov models



$$h_n \sim \mathsf{Discrete}(p(h_n))$$
  
 $x_{t,n} \mid x_{t-1,n}, h_n, A \sim \mathsf{Discrete}(A(:, x_{t-1,n}, h_n))$ 

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- We propose an alternative scheme based on hierarchical Bayesian modeling:

$$p(A_{h_n}|\mathbf{x}_n, h_n) \propto p(\mathbf{x}_n|A_{h_n}, h_n)p(A_{h_n})$$
  
= Dirichlet $(c_{1,1}^n + \beta - 1, c_{1,2}^n + \beta - 1, \dots, c_{L,L}^n + \beta - 1)$ 

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= Dirichlet $(c_{1,1}^n + \beta - 1, c_{1,2}^n + \beta - 1, \dots, c_{L,L}^n + \beta - 1)$ 

• Assuming a uniform Dirichlet prior  $p(A_{h_n})$ , i.e. taking  $\beta = 1$ , the posterior of  $A_{h_n}$  becomes Dirichlet $(c_{1,1}^n, c_{1,2}^n, \dots, c_{L,L}^n)$ .

- We show that a spectral learning algorithm as in Anandkumar, et al. 2012, requires observable moments up to order five.
- We propose an alternative scheme based on hierarchical Bayesian modeling:

$$\begin{aligned} p(A_{h_n}|\mathbf{x}_n,h_n) &\propto \quad p(\mathbf{x}_n|A_{h_n},h_n)p(A_{h_n}) \\ &= \quad \text{Dirichlet}(c_{1,1}^n+\beta-1,c_{1,2}^n+\beta-1,\ldots,c_{L,L}^n+\beta-1) \end{aligned}$$

- Assuming a uniform Dirichlet prior p(A<sub>hn</sub>), i.e. taking β = 1, the posterior of A<sub>hn</sub> becomes Dirichlet(c<sup>n</sup><sub>1,1</sub>, c<sup>n</sup><sub>1,2</sub>,..., c<sup>n</sup><sub>L,L</sub>).
- So, we can represent a sequence only via empirical transition counts matrix  $s_n \sim \text{Dirichlet}(c_{1,1}^n, c_{1,2}^n, \dots, c_{L,L}^n) = p(A_{h_n} | \mathbf{x}_n, h_n).$

## Spectral Learning for Mixture of Markov models - Dirichlet distribution



## Spectral Learning for Mixture of Markov models - Dirichlet posterior



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## Spectral Learning for Mixture of Dirichlet Distributions



### $h_n \sim \text{Discrete}(p(h_n))$ $x_n | h_n, \alpha \sim \text{Dirichlet}(\alpha(1, h_n), \dots, \alpha(K, h_n))$

## Spectral Learning for Mixture of Dirichlet Distributions



$$h_n \sim \text{Discrete}(p(h_n))$$
  
 $x_n | h_n, \alpha \sim \text{Dirichlet}(\alpha(1, h_n), \dots, \alpha(K, h_n))$ 

• Note that 
$$\mathbb{E}[s_{n,i}|h_n = k] = \alpha(i,k)/\alpha_0.$$

• So, we can estimate  $\alpha$ , up to a scaling factor  $\alpha_0$  via spectral learning.

**Input:** Sequences  $x_{1:N}$ **Output:** Clustering assignments  $\hat{h}_{1:N}$ 

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3. Estimate  $\alpha$  by doing eigen-decomposition of  $B_i$ .

Input: Sequences  $x_{1:N}$ Output: Clustering assignments  $\hat{h}_{1:N}$ 1. Extract the sufficient statistics  $s_n$  from  $x_n, \forall n \in \{1, ..., N\}$ 2. Compute empirical moment estimates for  $\mathbb{E}[s \otimes s]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[s \otimes s \otimes s]$ . Compute U and V such that  $\mathbb{E}[s \otimes s] = U\Sigma V^T$ . 3. Estimate  $\alpha$  by doing eigen-decomposition of  $B_i$ . 4.  $\forall n \in \{1, ..., N\}, \hat{h}_n = \arg \max_k \text{Dirichlet}(s_n, \alpha(:, k)).$ 

## Results - Synthetic Data



• On 100 synthetic datasets, each consisting of 60 sequences, average clustering accuracies for varying sequence lengths.

## Results - Network Traffic Data

• Exploratory data analysis on network traffic data consisting of Skype and Bit-torrent


Results - Network Traffic Data

#### • Effect of clustering in training

Algorithm	Classification Accuracy	
No Clustering	63.41%	
Mixture of Dirichlet (Spectral)	84.85%	
Mixture of Dirichlet (EM)	79.39%	
Mixture of Markov (EM)	83.51%	

#### Results - Finding number of Clusters

• We can also estimate the number of clusters:

$$\mathbb{E}[s_n \otimes s_n] = \alpha \operatorname{diag}(p(h))\alpha^{\mathsf{T}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\mathsf{K}} p(h=k)\alpha(:,k)\alpha(:,k)^{\mathsf{T}}$$

• By looking at the jump  $\sigma_{k+1}/\sigma_k$  of  $\mathbb{E}[s_n \otimes s_n]$ , we can estimate K.



Figure: Network Traffic Data.

Figure: Synthetic Data.

# Results - Finding number of Clusters

• Finding number of clusters on motion capture data.



# Conclusions - Spectral Learning for Mixture of Markov models

- Spectral learning of mixture of Dirichlet disributions yield a simple and effective algorithm.
- On synthetic data, it outperforms its rivals.
- It is also possible to automatically determine the number clusters.

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#### Discriminative vs Generative Time Series Models

# Mixture of HMMs



$$\begin{array}{l} h_n \sim \mathsf{Discrete}(p(h_n)) \\ r_{t,n} | r_{t-1,n}, h_n \sim \mathsf{Discrete}(A(:, r_{t-1,n}, h_n)) \\ x_{t,n} | r_{t,n}, h_n \sim p(x_{t,n} | O(:, r_{t,n}, h_n)) \end{array}$$

# Spectral Learning based algorithm for Mixture of HMMs

- An EM algorithm for mixture of HMMs is expensive. Requires forward-backward message passing for each sequence in each EM iteration.
- We propose to replace the parameter estimation step with spectral learning.

```
Randomly initialize r_{1:N}
At each iteration,
for k = 1 \rightarrow K do
\theta_k \leftarrow \text{EMHMM}(\{x_n | \forall n, h_n = k\})
end for
for n = 1 \rightarrow N do
h_n = \arg \max_k p(x_n | \theta_k)
end for
```

```
Randomly initialize r_{1:N}
At each iteration,
for k = 1 \rightarrow K do
\theta_k \leftarrow \text{SpectralHMM}(\{x_n | \forall n, h_n = k\})
end for
for n = 1 \rightarrow N do
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```

With spectral learning, required computations for parameter estimation step become K low-rank SVDs and K eigen-decompositions, which is substantially cheaper compared to  $N \times K$  forward-backward.

## Results on mocap data

Results obtained on Motion capture data. We input the temporal difference of 3D coordinates of 32 markers on human body. In this case, we used 20 sequences. We restarted the algorithm 10 times with random  $r_{1:N}$ , and recorded the results:

	Average	Max	Iteration	Average
	Success(%)	Success(%)	time* (s)	convergence
EM1	70	100	7.5	3.2
EM2	73	100	12	2.9
Spectral	76	100	3.1	3.8

\*PC: 3.33 GHz dual core CPU, 4 GB RAM, Software: MATLAB

- In Finite mixtures, we fix the number of clusters K a-priori.
- In infinite mixtures, K is automatically learned.

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- In infinite mixtures, K is automatically learned.
- Learning an infinite mixture would involve an intractable integral over HMM parameters. We approximate these integrals using spectral learning.

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• For existing clusters:

$$p(h_n = k, k \le K | h_{1:N}^{-n}, \mathbf{x}_{1:N})$$
  
=  $\frac{N_k^{-n}}{N + \alpha - 1} \int p(x_n | \theta) p(\theta | \{x_l : l \ne n, h_l = k\}) d\theta$ 

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• To open a new cluster:

$$p(h_n = k + 1 | h_{1:N}^{-n}, \mathbf{x}_{1:N}) = \frac{\alpha}{N + \alpha - 1} \int p(x_n | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

- One can use Gibbs sampling with auxiliary variable method of Neal (2000). However, this would require sampling from the prior to approximate the marginal likelihood. Large number of samples, slow.
- We suggest to use spectral learning for learning IM-HMMs.

# IMM - Spectral learning

Assuming that the sequences are long enough, we make the following approximation;

$$\int p(x_n|\theta)p(\theta|\{x_l: l \neq n, h_l = k\})d\theta \approx p(x_n|\theta_k^{\text{spectral}})$$

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- We compute the marginal likelihood of each sequence offline, and then use them in each iteration.
- By modifying the spectral algorithm for finite mixtures, we obtain a learning algorithm for infinite mixtures of HMMs:

```
Randomly initialize h_{1:N}
At each iteration,
for k = 1 \rightarrow K do
\theta_k \leftarrow \text{SpectralHMM}(\{x_n | \forall n, h_n = k\})
end for
for n = 1 \rightarrow N do
h_n = \arg \max_k p(x_n | \theta_k)
end for
```

```
Randomly initialize h_{1 \cdot N}
At each iteration.
for k = 1 \rightarrow K do
   \theta_k \leftarrow \text{SpectralHMM}(\{x_n | \forall n, h_n = k\})
end for
for n = 1 \rightarrow N do
   h_n = \arg \max_k [p(x_n | \theta_k) \quad p(x_n)]
   if h_n > K then
      K = K + 1
   end if
end for
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   end if
end for
```

- Marginal likelihoods are computed before starting the algorithm  $p(x_n)$
- Note that this algorithm is the analogue of the infinite version of k-means, Dirichlet Process Means algorithm of Kulis and Jordan.

# Results - Human Action Classification



- We use KTH human action database. 6 classes (boxing, hand waving, hand clapping, walking, jogging, running), 100 sequences: 64 sequences for training 36 for testing.
- We do clustering in training phase to increase the clustering accuracy, as data instances in same class tend to show variability.

## Results - Human Action Classification

Algorithm	Classification Accuracy
No Clustering	70.1%
Spectral	74.1%
Gibbs Sampling	74.0%

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### Results - MoCap Data

A dataset 44 sequences with two different walking characteristics and running. Algorithm automatically determines K = 3. In 9 seconds algorithm converged.



Conclusions - Spectral Learning for Mixture of HMMs

- We have proposed a simple, fast and effective algorithm for learning mixture of HMMs.
- Algorithm is competitive with more conventional Gibbs sampling method.

# Outline

- 1 Learning a Latent Variable Model with ML
  - Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm description, drawbacks
- 2 Method of Moments based learning algorithms
  - Method of Moments vs ML
  - Spectral Learning for LVMs

#### 3 Spectral Learning for Mixture of Markov models

- Derivation of an algorithm with existing methods
- Derivation of a superior learning scheme
- Results

#### 4 Spectral Learning based algorithm for Mixture of HMMs

- For Finite mixtures
- For Infinite mixtures
- Results

#### 5 Discriminative vs Generative Time Series Models

#### Discriminative vs Generative Models

• Given the training set  $(\mathbf{x}_n, h_n)_{n=1}^N$ 

Training a Generative Model

$$\theta^* = rg\max_{ heta} \prod_n p(\mathsf{x}_n \mid heta, h_n)$$

Training a Discriminative Model

$$heta^* = rg\max_{ heta} \prod_n p(h_n | \mathbf{x}_n, heta)$$

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# Discriminative vs Generative Models

Logistic Regression vs Naive Bayes Classifiers (with Isotropic Gaussian observations)



- Generative Models model the data distribution p(x|h).
- Discriminative Models model the class labels p(h|x).

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- For Discriminative Markov model:

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}_n, h_n; \theta_k) = \sum_{t=1}^{T_n} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \sum_{l_1=1}^{L} \sum_{l_2=1}^{L} [h_n = k] [l_1 = x_t] [l_2 = x_{t-1}] \theta_{k, l_1, l_2}$$

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The training is:

$$\theta_{1:K}^* = \underset{\theta_{1:K}}{\arg \max} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \log \frac{\exp(\psi(\mathbf{x}_n, h_n; \theta_k))}{\sum_{h_n=1}^{K} \exp(\psi(\mathbf{x}_n, h_n; \theta_k))}$$

• Note that we treat data x as an input.

# Result

- We investigate amount of training data vs classification accuracy for generative and discriminative Markov model
- We use the synthetic control chart dataset from UCI machine learning repository. 6 classes 100 sequences for each class. 70 sequence for training 30 sequence for test.



# Conclusions and Future Work

- We have proposed two novel algorithms for time series clustering.
- We have investigated generative and discriminative classification of time series.
- As future work, we plan on investigating the hierarchical Bayesian viewpoint for deriving spectral learning algorithms for more complicated time series models.
- A complete spectral learning algorithm for mixture of HMMs based on constrained optimization.