

## Exercises for HMM lecture 1

markov

### Conditional probabilities and Markov chains

1. Consider an occasionally dishonest casino that uses two types of dice. Of the dice 99% are fair but 1% are loaded so that a six comes up 50% of the time. Assume that you pick up a die from a table at random. Calculate the following probabilities:
  - a)  $P(\text{six} \mid \text{die loaded})$
  - b)  $P(\text{six}, \text{die loaded})$
  - c)  $P(\text{six}, \text{die fair})$
  - d)  $P(\text{six})$
2. A Markov chain  $\{X_n, n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  has state space  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  and transition matrix

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Given that the Markov chain starts in state 2 at time 1, what is the probability that  $X_4 = 3$ ?

3. An insurance company has estimated that the conditional probability for a driver to be involved in at least one accident next year is 10% given that he/she was not involved in any accident this year, and it is 40% given that he/she was involved in at least one accident this year. Their statistics also show that during the very first year of driving (year 0), 80% of the drivers are not involved in any accidents. Let

$$X_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if no accidents year } n, \\ 1 & \text{if at least one accident year } n, \end{cases}$$

for  $n \geq 1$ .

Assume  $\{X_n, n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a Markov chain.

- a) Write the transition matrix for  $\{X_n, n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ . What is the initial distribution of  $\{X_n\}$ , (that is  $P(X_1 = 0)$  and  $P(X_1 = 1)$ )?
- b) Calculate  $P(X_4 = 0 \mid X_1 = 1)$ .
- c) Determine the probability distribution of  $X_2$ , that is calculate  $P(X_2 = 0)$  and  $P(X_2 = 1)$ .

### An example of a simple HMM

4. Read the article *What is a hidden Markov model* by Sean Eddy.

For the toy HMM presented there, specify the following:

- a) The state space of the Markov chain (also called the state path).
- b) The observable sequence, and its state space.
- c) The set of emission probabilities, and the set of transition probabilities.

## Literature for the HMM part of Sequence Bioinformatics

Parts of chapter 2 and 3 in the book **Comparative gene finding**, Springer 2010, written by Marina Axelsson-Fisk.

Chapter 2: Single Species gene finding.  
Chapter 3: Sequence alignment.

Available online:

<http://www.springer.com/computer/bioinformatics/book/978-1-84996-103-5>

Lecture 1.

2.1.1  
2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.1.5, 2.1.6