Application: predicting the earthquake rate

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What do we want to do?

We want to predict number of earthquakes and seismic states in future years, based on number of earthquakes in previous years, from 1900 to 2006.

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- ► Earth can be in 3 possible seismic states $\lambda_1 = 13.15$, $\lambda_2 = 19.72$ and $\lambda_3 = 29.71$,
- occurrence of earthquakes in a year depends on the seismic state in that year,
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graphical representation: stationary imprecise hidden Markov model



observations



state variables



A state variable represents the seismic state: $\mathscr{X} = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$

no observations for future years: Markov chain



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INFERENCE: predicting future earthquakes



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known emission model



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LEARNING: unknown transition model



A state variable represents the seismic state: $\mathscr{X} = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$ The emission model is given in terms of mass function $p(o|X) = \frac{e^{-X}X^o}{o!}$ The transition model is unknown: $\underline{Q}(\cdot|X) = ?$

Our problem: estimating the local models



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An easier problem

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What if the state sequence were known?

We know the output sequence: $O_{1:n} = o_{1:n} \in \mathcal{O}^n$. Suppose we know in addition also the state sequence: $X_{1:n} = x_{1:n} \in \mathcal{X}^n$, how can we learn local models now?







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With (known) hidden state sequence $x_{1:n}$ and output sequence $o_{1:n}$ ($x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ and $z \in \mathcal{O}$):

 n_x : number of times a state x is reached,

 $n_{x,y}$: number of times a state transition from x to y takes place, $n_{x,z}$: number of times a state x emits an output z.



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Here:

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With these counts, how can we estimate local models?

Imprecise Dirichlet model

We use the imprecise Dirichlet model (IDM) to compute estimates for the local models. If n(A) is the number of occurrences of an event A in N experiments, then the lower and upper probability of A according to an IDM are defined as

$$\underline{P}(A) = \frac{n(A)}{s+N}$$
 and $\overline{P}(A) = \frac{s+n(A)}{s+N}$.

s > 0 is the number of pseudo-counts, which is an inverse measure of the speed of convergence to a precise model.

Now, we use the quantities n_x , $n_{x,y}$ and $n_{x,z}$ (with $x, y \in \mathscr{X}$ and $z \in \mathscr{O}$) to estimate the imprecise transition and emission models:

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Now, we use the quantities n_x , $n_{x,y}$ and $n_{x,z}$ (with $x, y \in \mathscr{X}$ and $z \in \mathscr{O}$) to estimate the imprecise transition and emission models:

$$\underline{Q}(\{y\}|x) = \frac{n_{x,y}}{s + \sum_{y^* \in \mathscr{X}} n_{x,y^*}} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{Q}(\{y\}|x) = \frac{s + n_{x,y}}{s + \sum_{y^* \in \mathscr{X}} n_{x,y^*}},$$
$$\underline{S}(\{z\}|x) = \frac{n_{x,z}}{s + n_x} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{S}(\{z\}|x) = \frac{s + n_{x,z}}{s + n_x}.$$

Example



(with $x, y \in \mathscr{X}$ and $z \in \mathscr{O}$):

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Here, with s = 2: $Q(\{a\}|a) = \frac{2}{5},$ $Q(\{a\}|a) = 3/5,$ $Q(\{b\}|a) = 2/5,$ $Q(\{b\}|a) = 3/5,$ $Q(\{a\}|b) = 3/5,$ $\overline{Q}(\{a\}|b)=1,$ $Q(\{\boldsymbol{b}\}|\boldsymbol{b})=0,$ $\overline{Q}(\{b\}|b) = \frac{2}{5},$ $\overline{S}(\{o\}|a) = \frac{7}{10}$, $S(\{\boldsymbol{o}\}|\boldsymbol{b})=0,$ $\overline{S}(\{\boldsymbol{o}\}|\boldsymbol{b}) = 1/3,$ $S(\{o\}|a) = 1/2,$ $S(\{p\}|a) = 3/10$, $\overline{S}(\{\mathbf{p}\}|\mathbf{a}) = 1/2,$ $S(\{p\}|b) = 1/6,$ $\overline{S}(\{\boldsymbol{p}\}|\boldsymbol{b}) = 1/2,$ $S(\{q\}|b) = 3/5.$ $S(\{q\}|a) = 0,$ $S(\{q\}|a) = 1/5,$ $S(\{q\}|b) = 1/5,$

But the state sequence is hidden...



We are almost there





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Idea: instead of using real counts, use estimates:

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Idea: instead of using real counts, use expected counts:

$$\hat{n}_{x} = E(N_{x}|o_{1:n}, \theta^{*}), \\ \hat{n}_{x,y} = E(N_{x,y}|o_{1:n}, \theta^{*}), \\ \hat{n}_{x,z} = E(N_{x,z}|o_{1:n}, \theta^{*}).$$



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 $o_{1:n}$ is the known output sequence, and θ^* represents the model parameter.



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 $o_{1:n}$ is the known output sequence, and θ^* represents the model parameter. We can calculate θ^* with the Baum–Welch algorithm, so the idea makes sense.

Estimated local models

With known state sequence $x_{1:n}$ ($x, y \in \mathscr{X}$ and $z \in \mathscr{O}$):

$$\underline{Q}(\{y\}|x) = \frac{n_{x,y}}{s + \sum_{y^* \in \mathscr{X}} n_{x,y^*}} \text{ and } \overline{Q}(\{y\}|x) = \frac{s + n_{x,y}}{s + \sum_{y^* \in \mathscr{X}} n_{x,y^*}},$$

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Estimated local models

With unknown state sequence $X_{1:n}$ ($x, y \in \mathscr{X}$ and $z \in \mathscr{O}$):

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Learned model



Based on the data, we learn the (imprecise) transition model.

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