

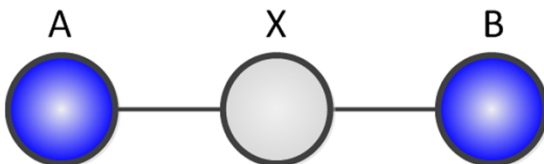
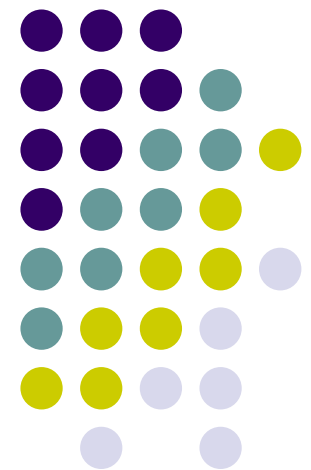


# Probabilistic Graphical Models

## Spectral Learning for Graphical Models

Eric Xing

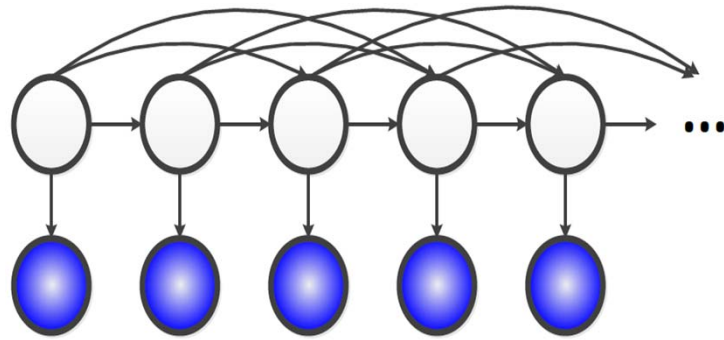
Lecture 24, April 14, 2014



**Acknowledgement: slides drafted by Ankur Parikh**

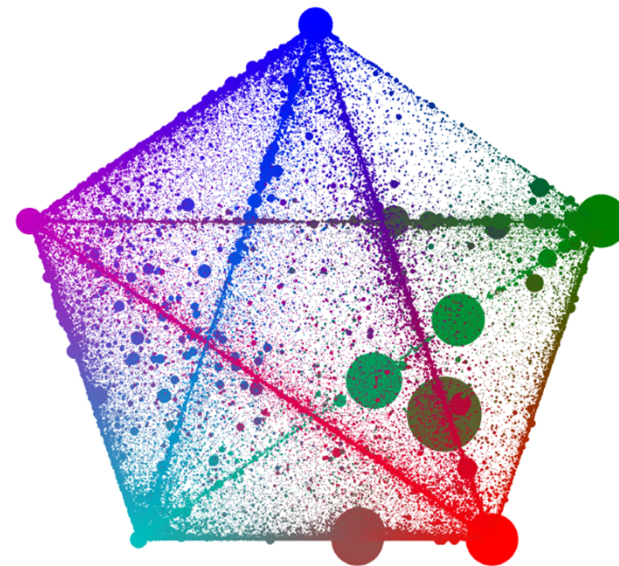
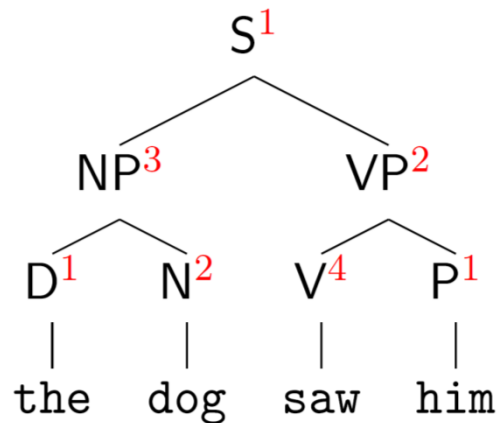


# Latent Variable Models



Sequence models

Parsing



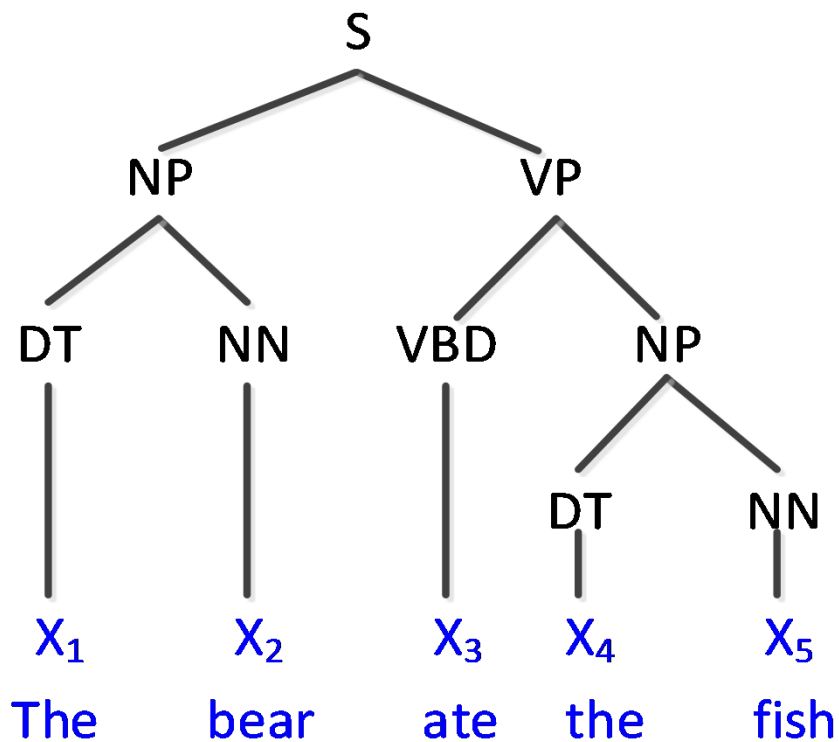
Ho. et al. 2012

Mixed membership models

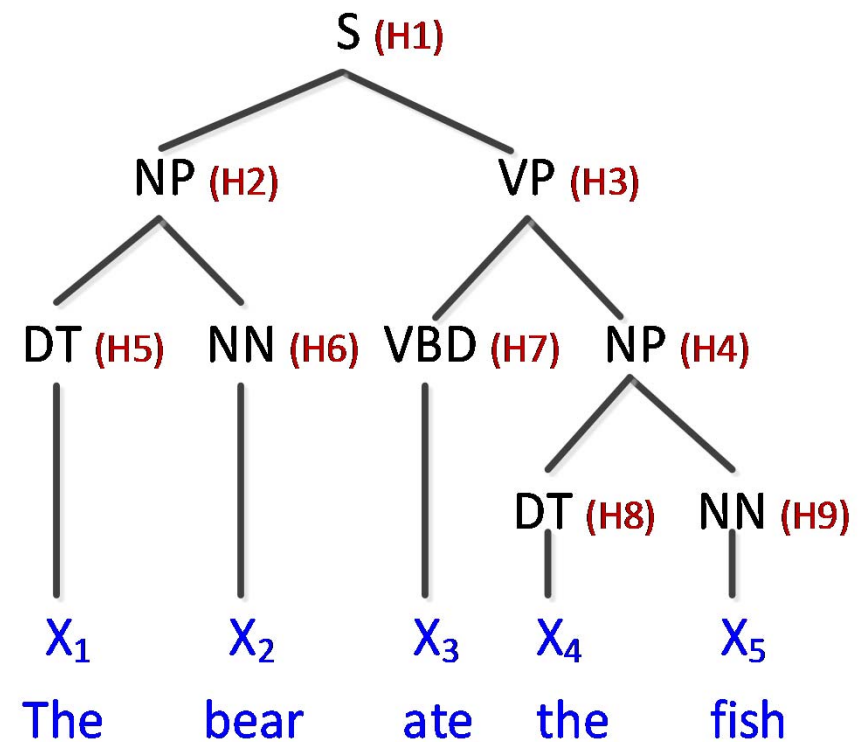
# Latent Variable PCFG [Matsuzaki et al., 2005, Petrov et al. 2006]



## PCFG

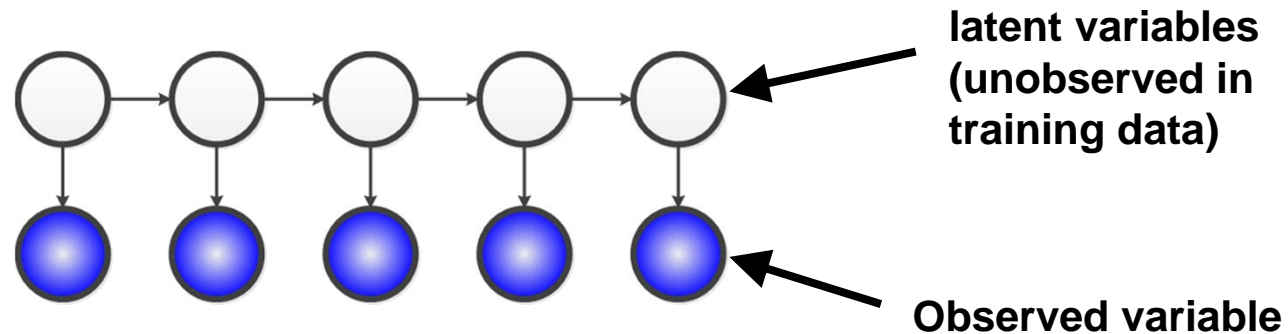


## Latent Variable PCFG





# Learning Parameters (EM)



$$\mathbb{P}[X_1, \dots, X_5, H_1, \dots, H_5] = \mathbb{P}[H_1] \prod_{i=2}^5 \mathbb{P}[H_i | H_{i-1}] \prod_{i=1}^5 \mathbb{P}[X_i | H_i]$$

Since latent variables are not observed in the data, we have to use Expectation Maximization (EM) to learn parameters

- **Slow**
- **Local Minima**

# Spectral Learning



- Different paradigm of learning in latent variable models based on linear algebra
- **Theoretically,**
  - Provably consistent
  - Can offer deeper insight into the identifiability
- **Practically,**
  - Local minima free
  - As if now, performs comparably to EM with 10-100x speed-up
  - Can also model non-Gaussian continuous data using kernels (usually performs much better than EM in this case)



# Related References

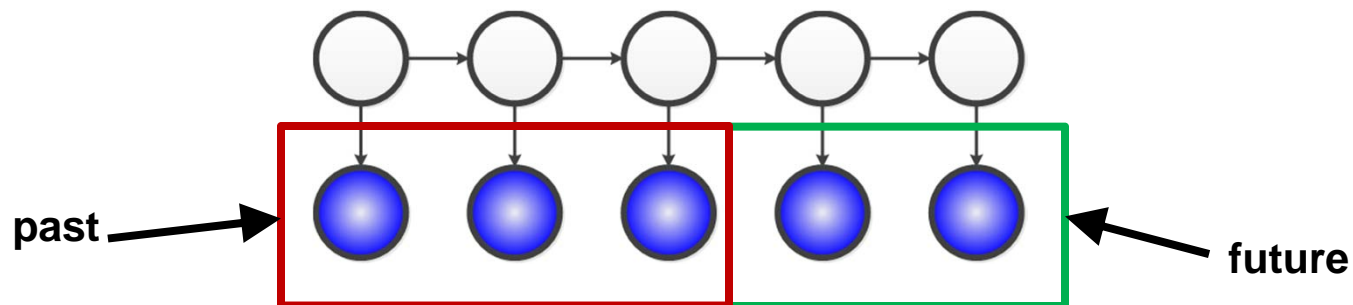
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- Relevant works
  - **Hsu et al. 2009** – Spectral HMMs (also Bailly 2009)
  - **Siddiqi et al. 2009** – Features in Spectral Learning
  - **Parikh et al. 2011/2012** – Tensors to Generalize to Trees/Low Treewidth Graphs
  - **Cohen et al. 2012 / 2013** – Spectral Learning of latent PCFGs
- Will present it from “matrix factorization” view:
  - **Balle et al. 2012** – Connection between Spectral Learning / Hankel Matrix Factorization
  - **Song et al. 2013** – Spectral Learning as Hierarchical Tensor Decomposition



# Focusing on Prediction

- In many applications that use latent variable models, the end task is not to recover the latent states, but rather to use the model for prediction among observed variables.
- Dynamical Systems – Predict future given past



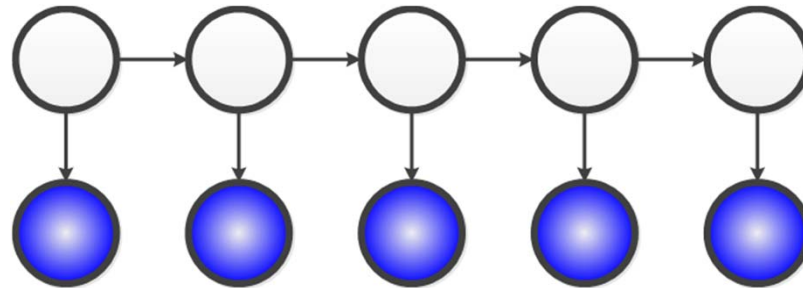


# Focusing on Prediction

- We will only be concerned with quantities related to the observed variables:

$$\mathbb{P}[X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5]$$

- We do not care about the latent variables explicitly.



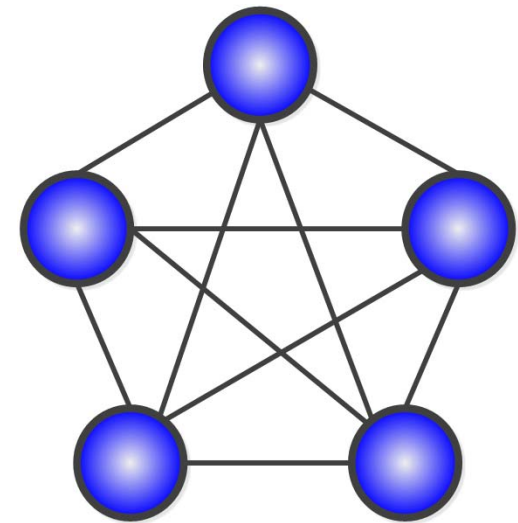
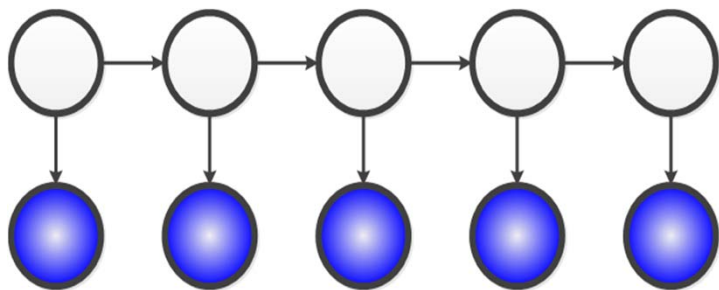
- **Do we still need EM to learn the parameters?**



# But if we don't care about the latent variables....

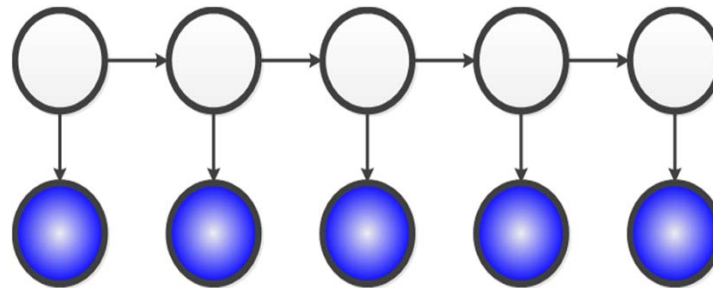


- Why don't we just integrate them out?
- Because integrating them out results in a clique 😞





# Marginal Does Not Factorize



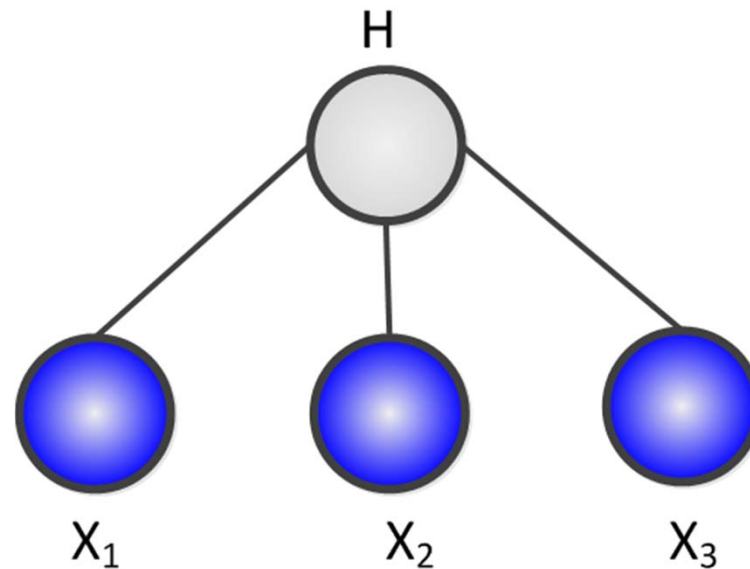
$$\mathbb{P}[X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5] = \sum_{H_1, \dots, H_5} \mathbb{P}[H_1] \mathbb{P}[H_1] \prod_{i=2}^5 \mathbb{P}[H_i | H_{i-1}] \prod_{i=1}^5 \mathbb{P}[X_i | H_i]$$

Does not factorize due to the outer sum (Can somewhat distribute the sum, but doesn't solve problem)

# But isn't an HMM different from a clique?



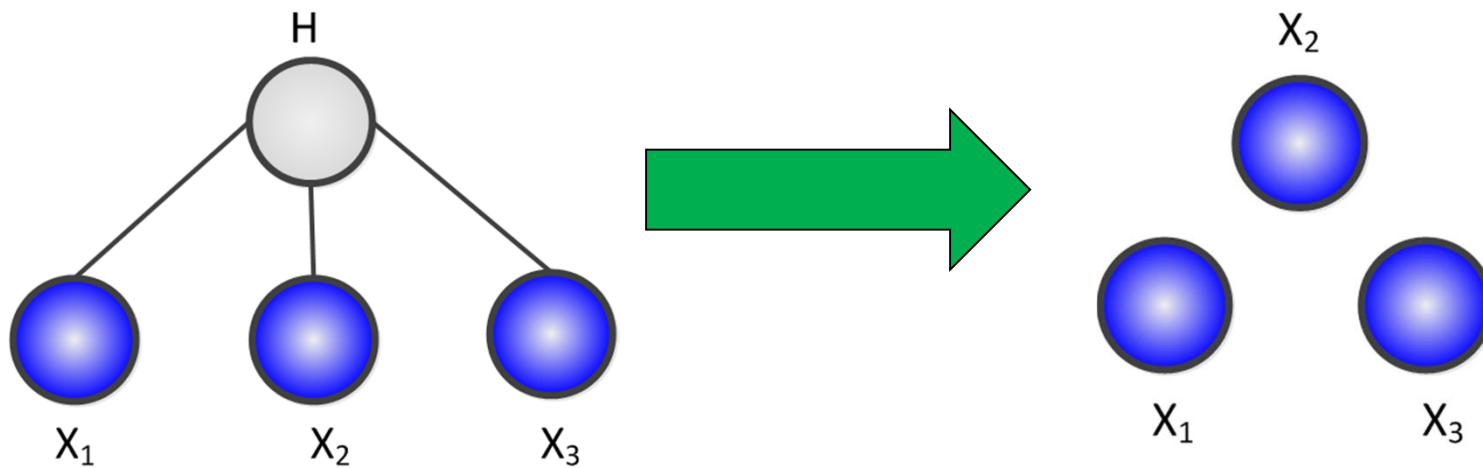
- It depends on the number of latent states.
- Consider the following model.





# If H has only one state.....

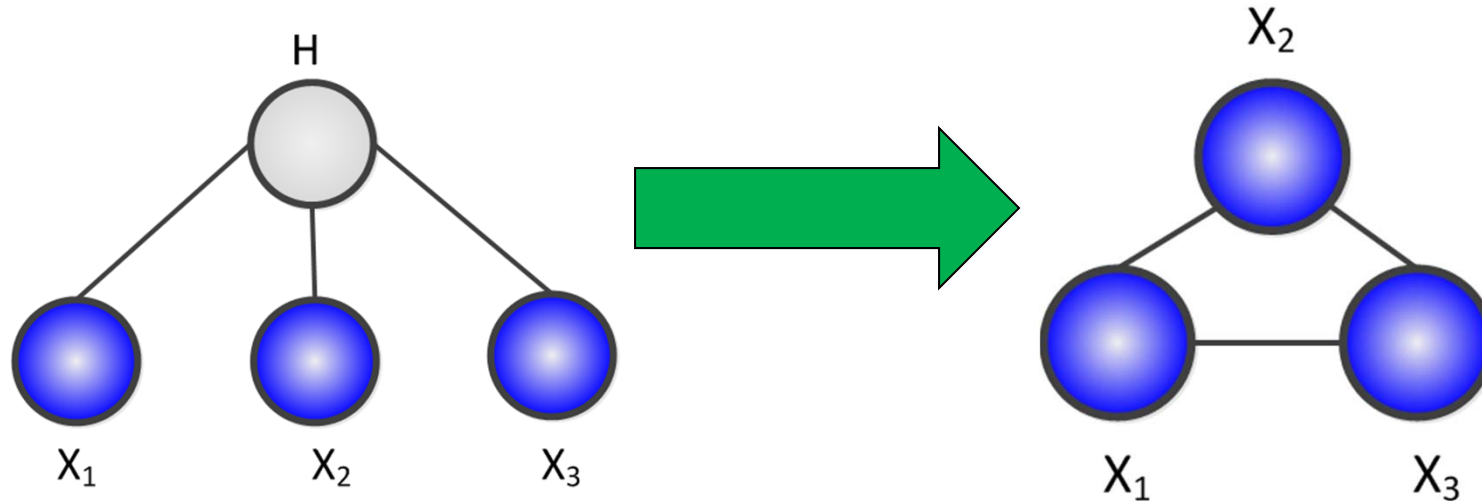
- Then the observed variables are independent!





# What if H has many states?

- Let us say the observed variables each have  $m$  states.
- Then if H has  $m^3$  states then the latent model can be exactly equivalent to a clique (depending on how parameters are set).



- But what about all the other cases?



# The Question

---

- Under existing methods, latent models all require EM to learn regardless of the number of hidden states.
- However, is there a formulation of latent variable models where the difficulty of learning is a function of the number of latent states?
- This is the question that the *spectral view* will answer.



# Sum Rule (Matrix Form)

- Sum Rule

$$\mathbb{P}[X] = \sum_Y \mathbb{P}[X|Y]\mathbb{P}[Y]$$

- Equivalent view using Matrix Algebra

$$\mathcal{P}[X] = \mathcal{P}[X|Y] \times \mathcal{P}[Y]$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[X = 0] \\ \mathbb{P}[X = 1] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[X = 0|Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 0|Y = 1] \\ \mathbb{P}[X = 1|Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 1|Y = 1] \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[Y = 0] \\ \mathbb{P}[Y = 1] \end{pmatrix}$$



# Important Notation

---

- Calligraphic  $\mathcal{P}$  to denotes that the probability is being treated as a matrix/vector/tensor

- Probabilities

$$\mathbb{P}[X, Y] = \mathbb{P}[X|Y]\mathbb{P}[Y]$$

- Probability Vectors/Matrices/Tensors

$$\mathcal{P}[X] = \mathcal{P}[X|Y]\mathcal{P}[Y]$$





# Chain Rule (Matrix Form)

- Chain Rule

$$\mathbb{P}[X, Y] = \mathbb{P}[X|Y]\mathbb{P}[Y] = \mathbb{P}[Y|X]\mathbb{P}[Y]$$

- Equivalent view using Matrix Algebra

$$\mathcal{P}[X, Y] = \mathcal{P}[X|Y] \times \mathcal{P}[\textcircled{Y}]$$

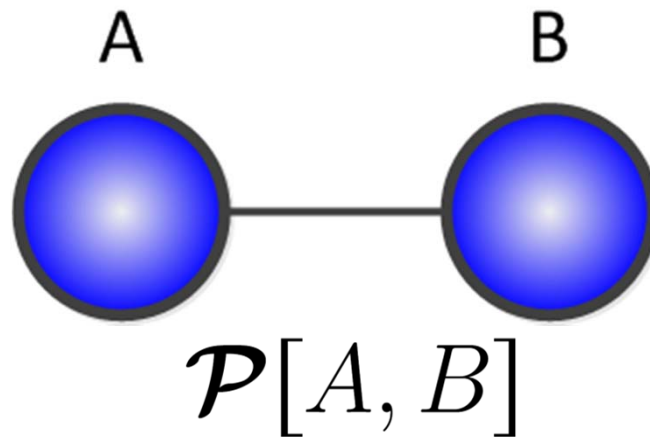
Means on diagonal



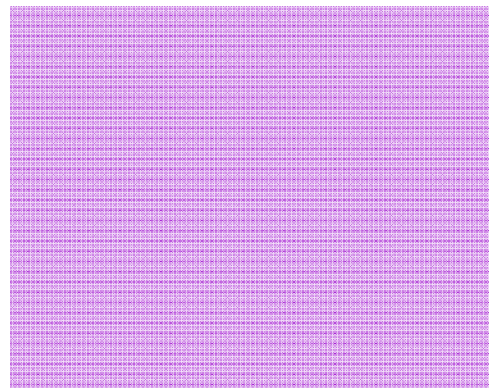
$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[X = 0, Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 0, Y = 1] \\ \mathbb{P}[X = 1, Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 1, Y = 1] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[X = 0|Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 0|Y = 1] \\ \mathbb{P}[X = 1|Y = 0] & \mathbb{P}[X = 1|Y = 1] \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{P}[Y = 0] & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{P}[Y = 1] \end{pmatrix}$$

- Note how diagonal is used to keep **Y** from being marginalized out.

# Graphical Models: The Linear Algebra View



**A and B have  $m$  states each.**

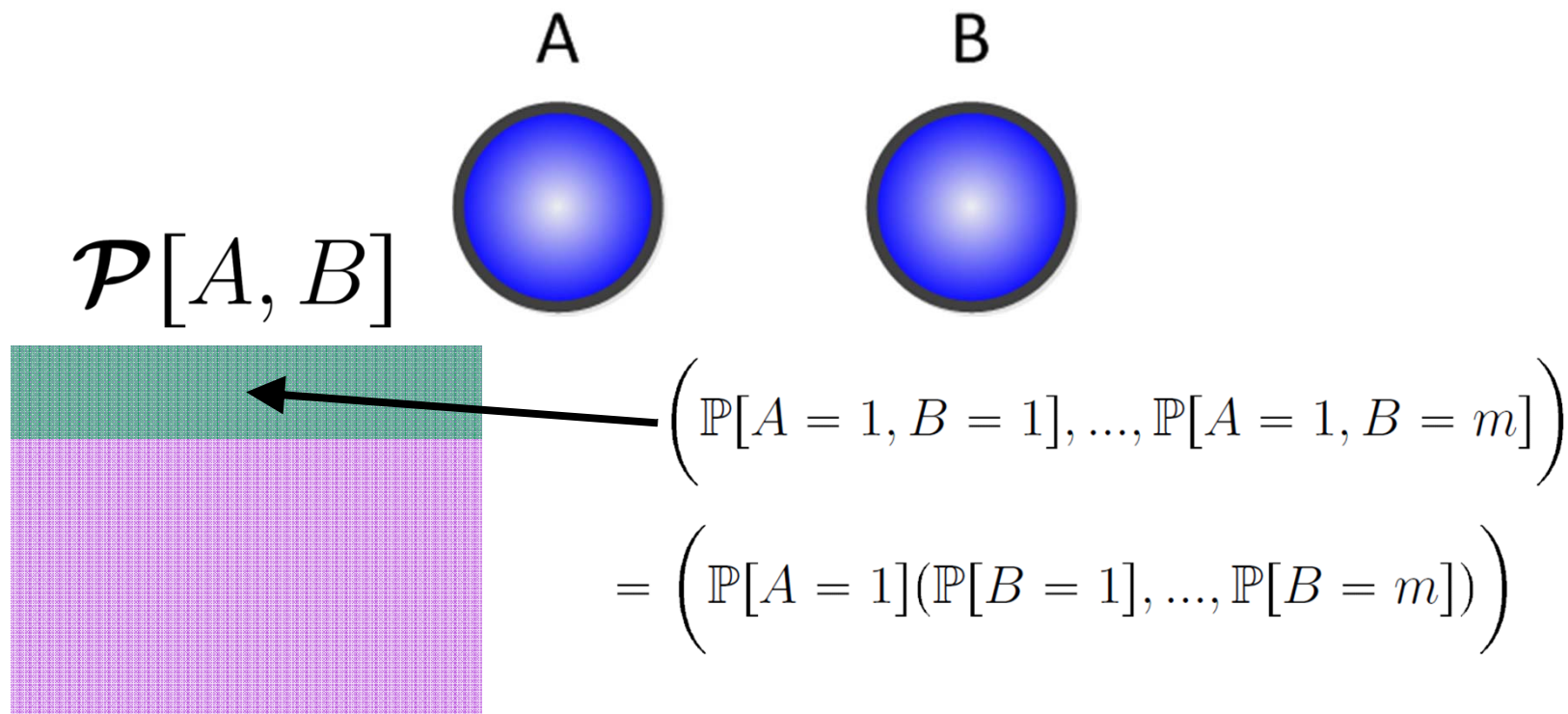


- In general, nothing we can say about the nature of this matrix.

# Independence: The Linear Algebra View



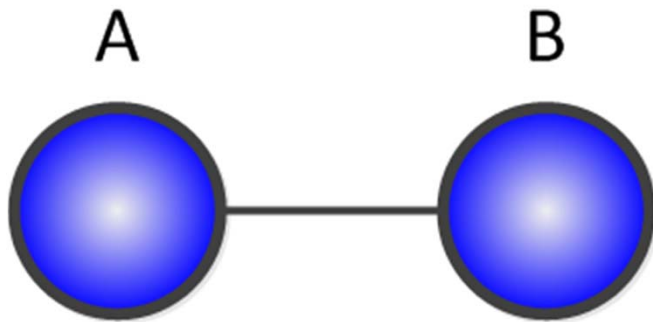
- What if we know A and B are independent?



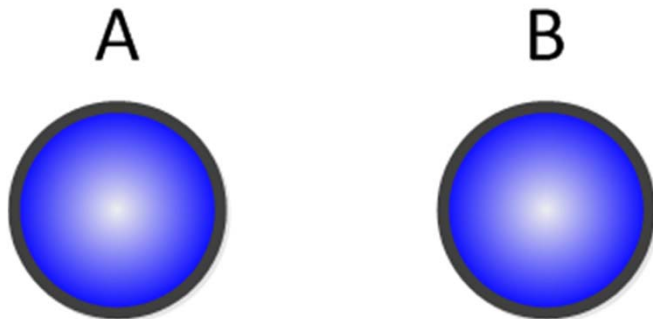
- Joint probability matrix is rank one, since all rows are multiples of one another!!



# Independence and Rank

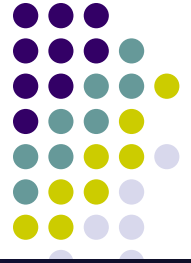


$\mathcal{P}[A, B]$  has rank  $m$  (at most)



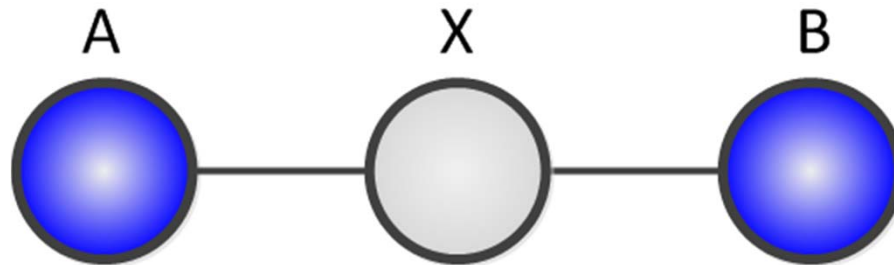
$\mathcal{P}[A, B]$  has rank 1

- What about rank in between 1 and  $m$ ?



# Low Rank Structure

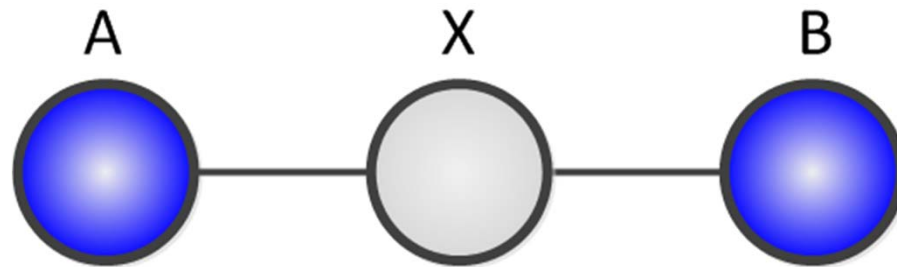
- **A** and **B** are not marginally independent (They are only conditionally independent given **X**).



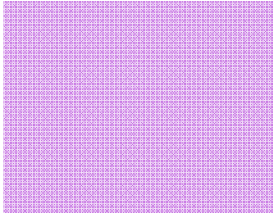
- Assume **X** has **k** states (while **A** and **B** have **m** states).
- Then,  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{P}[A, B]) \leq k$
- Why?



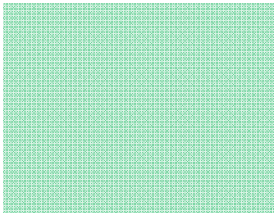
# Low Rank Structure

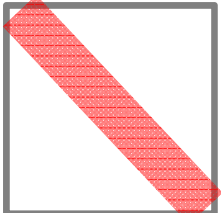


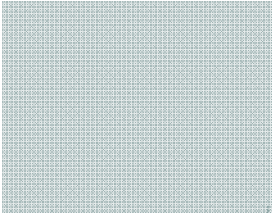
$$\mathcal{P}[A, B] = \mathcal{P}[A|X] \mathcal{P}(\emptyset X) \mathcal{P}[B|X]^T$$

  $\text{rank} \leq k$

$=$

  $\text{rank} \leq k$

  $\text{rank} \leq k$

  $\text{rank} \leq k$

# The Spectral View

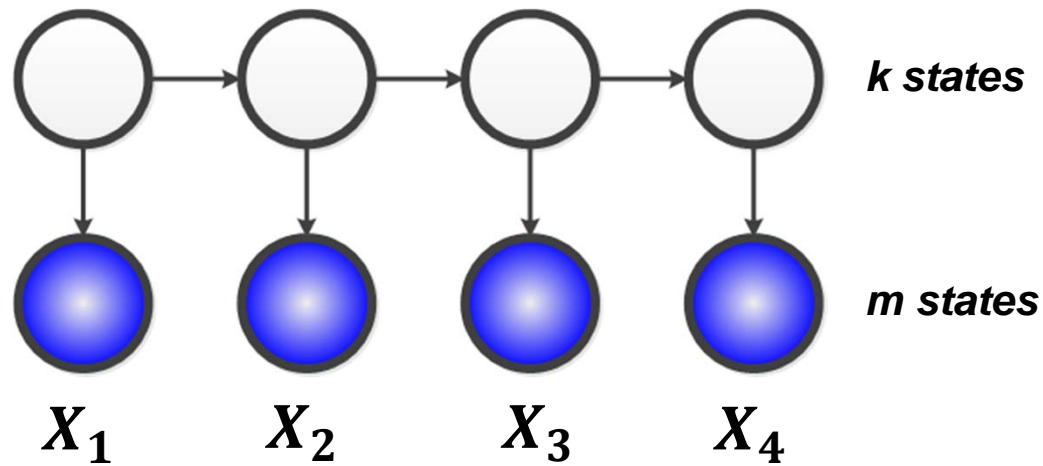
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- Latent variable models encode **low rank dependencies** among variables (*both marginal and conditional*)
- Use tools from linear algebra to exploit this structure.
  - Rank
  - Eigenvalues
  - SVD
  - Tensors



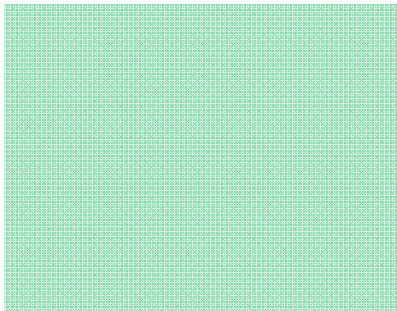
# A More Interesting Example



$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

$\{X_1, X_2\}$

$\{X_3, X_4\}$



*has rank  $k$*





# Low Rank Matrices “Factorize”

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{R} \quad \text{If M has rank } \mathbf{k}$$

$m$  by  $n$        $m$  by  $k$     $k$  by  $n$

We already know one factorization!!!

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}|H_2] \mathcal{P}[\bigoplus H_2] \mathcal{P}[X_{\{3,4\}}|H_2]^\top$$

$\text{Factor of 4 variables}$        $\text{Factor of 3 variables}$        $\text{Factor of 3 variables}$

↑  
 $\text{Factor of 1 variable}$



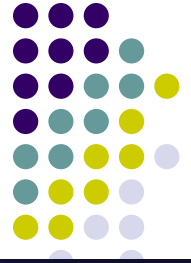
# Alternate Factorizations

---

- The key insight is that this factorization is not unique.
- Consider Matrix Factorization. Can add any invertible transformation:

$$M = LR$$
$$M = LSS^{-1}R$$

- **The magic of spectral learning is that there exists an alternative factorization that only depends on observed variables!**



# An Alternate Factorization

- Let us say we only want to factorize this matrix of 4 variables

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

such that it is product of matrices that contain at most three *observed* variables e.g.

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3]$$

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$



# An Alternate Factorization

- Note that

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}|H_2]}_{\text{green}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[\ominus H_2]}_{\text{green}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_3|H_2]}_{\text{red}}^\top$$

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_2|H_2]}_{\text{red}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[\ominus H_2]}_{\text{red}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_{\{3,4\}}|H_2]}_{\text{green}}^\top$$

- Product of green terms (in some order) is

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

- Product of red terms (in some order) is  $\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]$



# An Alternate Factorization

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

factor of 4 variables

factor of 3 variables

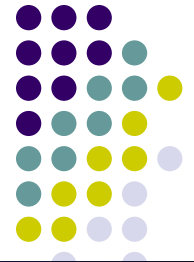
factor of 3 variables

**Advantage:** Factors are only functions of observed variables! Can be directly computed from data without EM!!!!

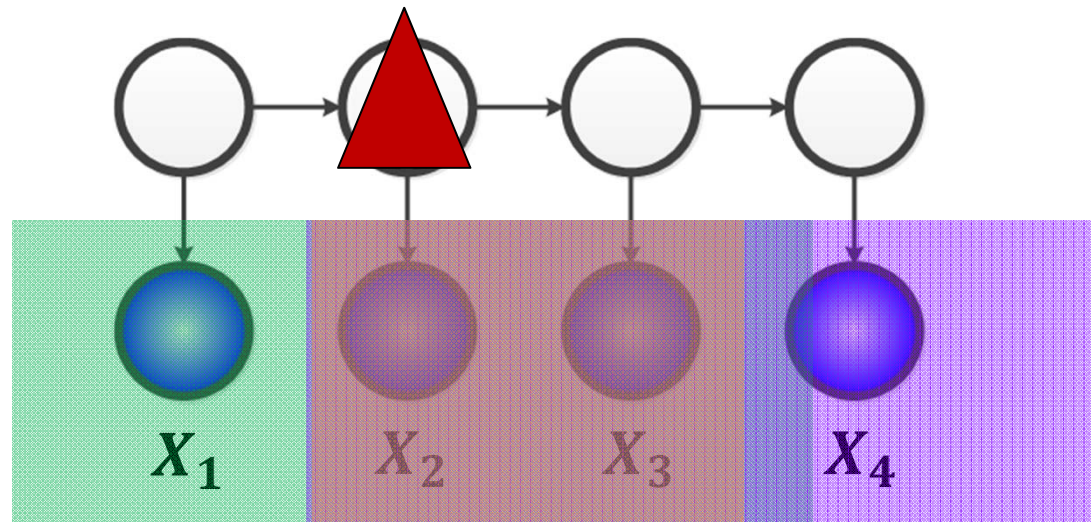
**Caveat:** some factors are no longer probability tables (do not have to be non-negative)

We will call this factorization the **observable factorization**.

# Graphical Relationship



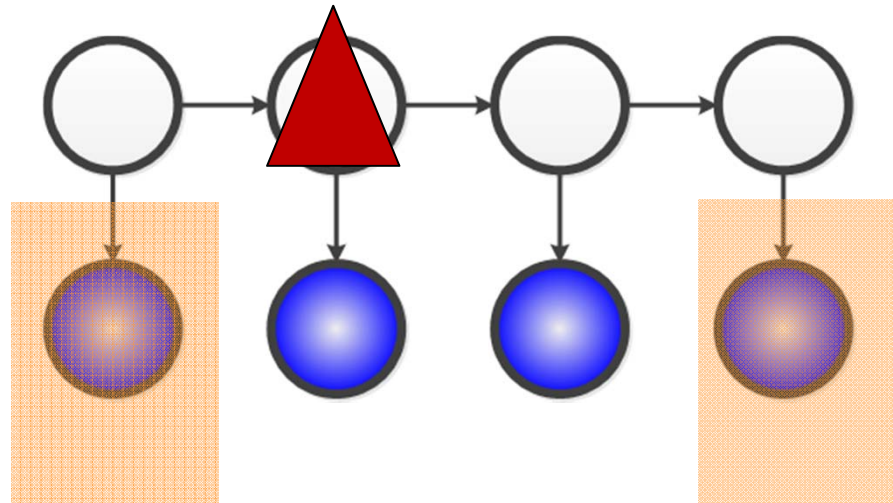
$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$





# Another Factorization

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_4] \mathcal{P}[X_1, X_4]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_1, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$



- Seems we would do better empirically if you could “combine” both factorizations. Will come back to this later.

# Relationship to Original Factorization



- What is the relationship between the original factorization and the new factorization?

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}]}_{\mathbf{M}} = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}|H_2]}_{\mathbf{L}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[\ominus H_2]}_{\mathbf{S}} \underbrace{\mathcal{P}[X_{\{3,4\}}|H_2]}_{\mathbf{R}}^{\top}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{R}$$
$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{R}$$

Can I choose  $\mathbf{S}$  to get the observable factorization?



# Relationship to Original Factorization



- Let

$$S := \mathcal{P}[X_3 | H_2]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] &= \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}] \\ &= LS \qquad \qquad \qquad = S^{-1}R \end{aligned}$$



# Our Alternate Factorization

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

factor of 4 variables

factor of 3 variables

factor of 3 variables

- It may not seem very amazing at the moment (we have only reduced the size of the factor by 1)
- What is cool is that every latent tree of  $\mathbf{V}$  variables has such a factorization where:
  - All factors are of size 3
  - All factors are only functions of observed variables

# Training / Testing with Spectral Learning



- We have that

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

- In training, we compute estimates:

$$\mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \quad \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \quad \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

- In test time, we can compute probability estimates (let lowercase letters denote fixed evidence values):

$$\hat{\mathbb{P}}_{spec}[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4] = \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[x_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, x_{\{3,4\}}]^\top$$



# Generalizing To More Variables

- Consider HMM with 5 observations. Using similar arguments as before we will get that:

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4,5\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4,5\}}]$$



**reshape and decompose  
recursively**

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{2,3\}}, X_{\{4,5\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{2,3\}}, X_4] \mathcal{P}[X_3, X_4]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_3, X_{\{4,5\}}]$$



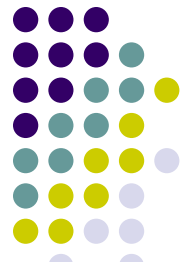
# Consistency

- A trivial consistent estimator is to simply attempt to estimate the “big” probability table from the data without making any conditional independence assumptions

$$\mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_1, X_2; X_3, X_4] \rightarrow \mathcal{P}[X_1, X_2; X_3, X_4]$$

as number of samples increases

- While this is consistent, it is not very statistically efficient



# Consistency

- A better estimate is to get compute likelihood estimates of the factorization:

$$\mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_{\{1,2\}} | H_2] \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[\ominus H_2] \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_{\{3,4\}} | H_2]^\top \\ \rightarrow \mathcal{P}[X_1, X_2; X_3, X_4]$$

- But this requires running EM, which will get stuck in local optima and is not guaranteed to obtain the MLE of the factorized model

# Consistency



- In spectral learning, we estimate the alternate factorization from the data

$$\mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}_{MLE}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}] \\ \rightarrow \mathcal{P}[X_1, X_2; X_3, X_4]$$

- This is consistent and computationally tractable (at some loss of statistical efficiency due to the dependence on the inverse)



# Where's the Catch?

- Before we said that if the number of latent states was very large then the model was equivalent to a clique.
- Where does that scenario enter in our factorization?

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

When does this inverse exist?





# When Does the Inverse Exist

---

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] = \mathcal{P}[X_2|H_2]\mathcal{P}[\ominus H_2]\mathcal{P}[X_3|H_2]^\top$$

- All the matrices on the right hand side must have full rank. (This is in general a requirement of spectral learning, although it can be somewhat relaxed)



## When $m > k$

- The inverse cannot exist, but this situation is easily fixable (project onto lower dimensional space)

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathbf{V} (\mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] \mathbf{V})^{-1} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

- Where  $\mathbf{U}$ ,  $\mathbf{V}$  are the top left/right  $\mathbf{k}$  singular vectors of  $\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]$

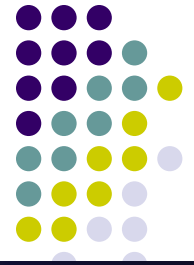


## When $k > m$

- The inverse does exist. But it no longer satisfies the following property, which we used to derive the factorization

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} = (\mathcal{P}[X_3|H_2]^\top)^{-1} \mathcal{P}[\ominus H_2]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2|H_2]^{-1}$$

- This is much more difficult to fix, and intuitively corresponds to how the problem becomes intractable if  $k \gg m$ .



# What does $k > m$ mean?

- Intuitively, large  $k$ , small  $m$  means long range dependencies
- Consider following generative process:
  - (1) With probability 0.5, let  $S=X$ , and with probability 0.5 let  $S=Y$ .
  - (2) Print  $A$   $n$  times.
  - (3) Print  $S$
  - (4) Go back to step (2)

With  $n=1$  we either generate:

AXAXAXA..... or AYAYAYA.....

With  $n=2$  we either generate:

AAXAAXAA..... or AAYAAYAA.....

# How many hidden states does HMM need?

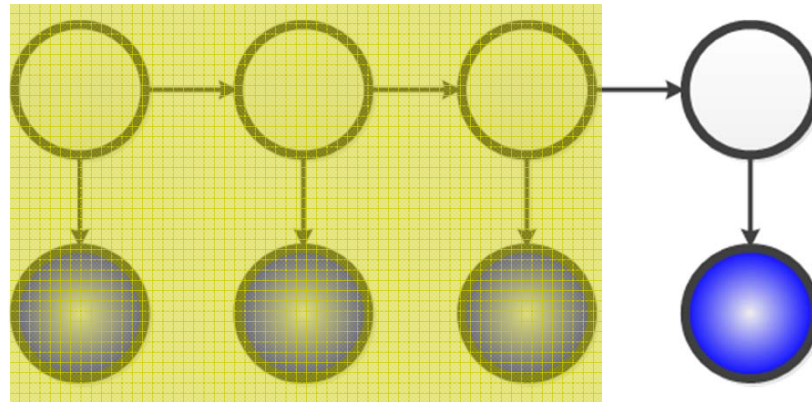


- HMM needs  $2n$  states.
- Needs to remember count as well as whether we picked  $S=X$  or  $S=Y$
- However, number of observed states  $m$  does not change, so our previous spectral algorithm will break for  $n > 2$ .
- How to deal with this in spectral framework?

# Making Spectral Learning Work In Practice



- We are only using marginals of pairs/triples of variables to construct the full marginal among the observed variables.
- Only works when  $k < m$ .

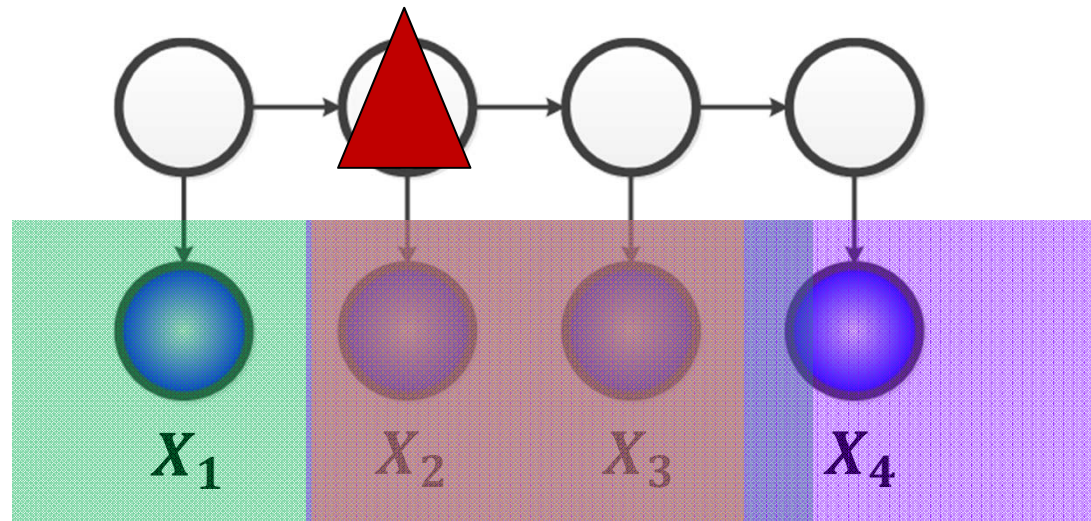


- However, in real problems we need to capture longer range dependencies.

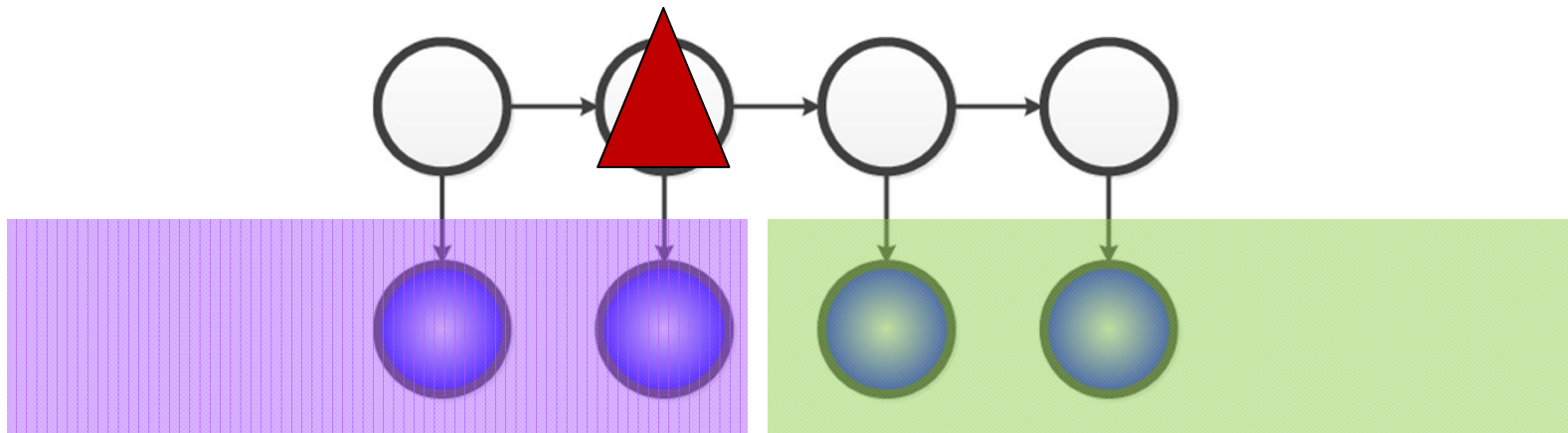


# Recall our factorization

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3]^{-1} \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$



# Key Idea: Use Long-Range Features



Construct feature vector of left side

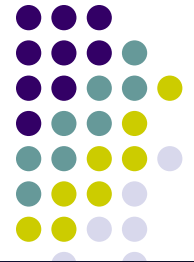
$$\phi_L$$

Construct feature vector of right side

$$\phi_R$$



# Spectral Learning With Features



$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] = \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \otimes \delta_3] := \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \delta_3^\top]$$



Use more complex feature instead:

$$\mathbb{E}[\phi_L \otimes \phi_R]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] &= \mathbb{E}[\delta_{1 \otimes 2}, \delta_{3 \otimes 4}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\delta_{1 \otimes 2}, \phi_R] \mathbf{V} (\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbb{E}[\phi_L \otimes \phi_R] \mathbf{V})^{-1} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{P}[\phi_L, X_{\{3,4\}}] \end{aligned}$$



# Experimentally,

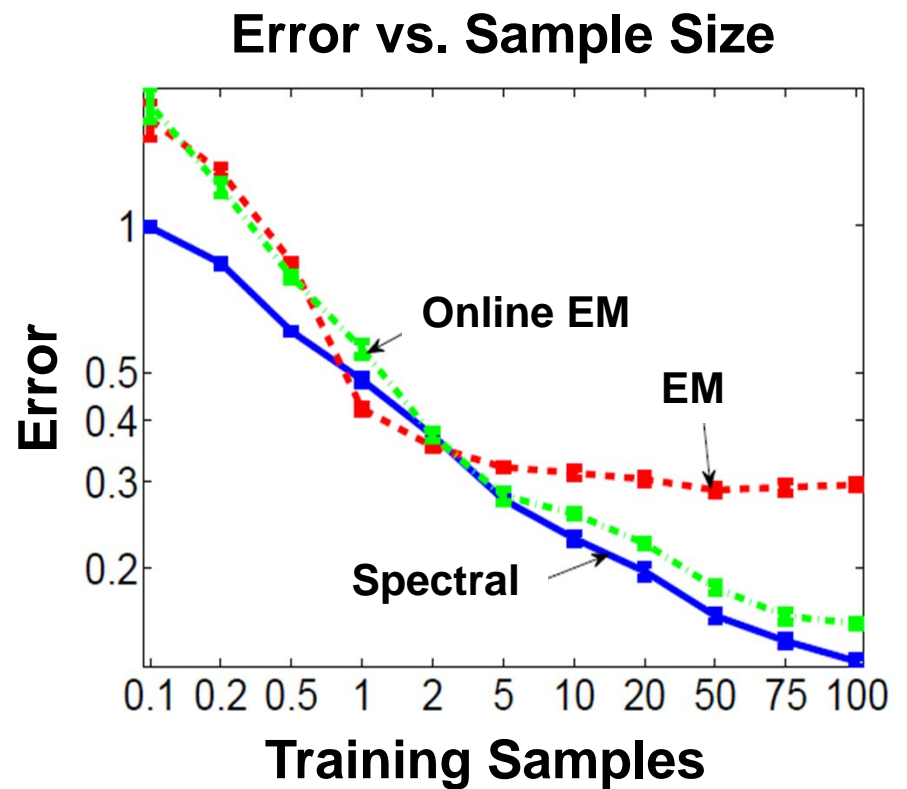
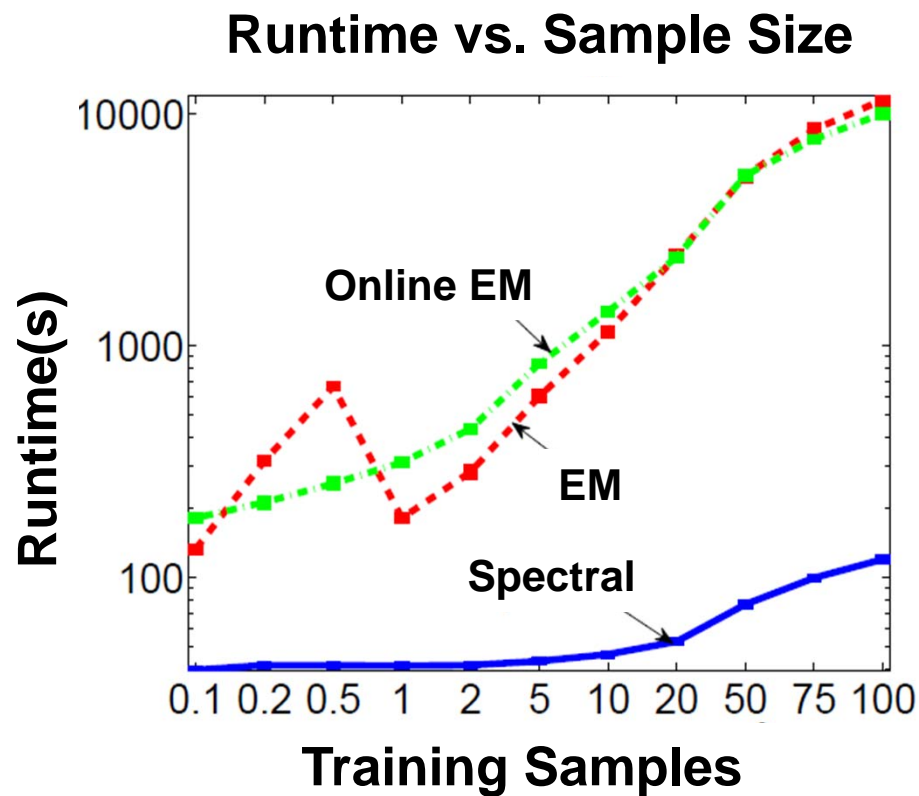
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- Has been shown by many authors that (with some work) spectral methods achieve comparable results to EM but are 10-50x faster
  - Parikh et al. 2011 / 2012
  - Balle et al. 2012
  - Cohen et al. 2012 / 2013
  
- The following are some synthetic and real data results demonstrating the comparison between EM and spectral methods.



# Synthetic Data [Parikh et al. 2012]

- Synthetic 3<sup>rd</sup> order HMM Example (Spectral/EM/Online EM):



# Empirical Results for Latent PCFGs [Cohen et al. 2013]



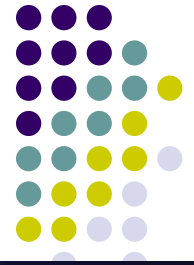
	section 22		section 23	
	EM	spectral	EM	spectral
$m = 8$	86.87	85.60	—	—
$m = 16$	88.32	87.77	—	—
$m = 24$	88.35	88.53	—	—
$m = 32$	88.56	88.82	87.76	88.05

# Timing Results on Latent PCFGs [Cohen et al. 2013]

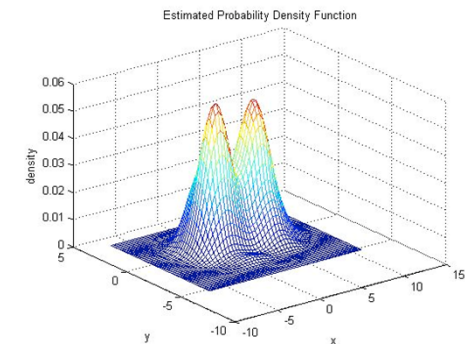
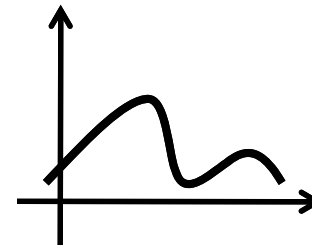
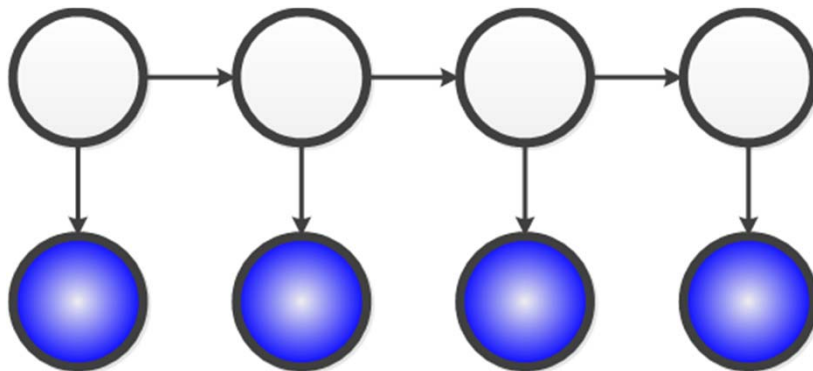


	single EM iter.	EM best model	spectral algorithm					
			total	feature	transfer + scaling	SVD	$a \rightarrow b c$	$a \rightarrow x$
$m = 8$	6m	3h	3h32m			36m	1h34m	10m
$m = 16$	52m	26h6m	5h19m			34m	3h13m	19m
$m = 24$	3h7m	93h36m	7h15m	22m	49m	36m	4h54m	28m
$m = 32$	9h21m	187h12m	9h52m			35m	7h16m	41m

# Dealing with Nonparametric, Continuous Variables



- It is difficult to run EM if the conditional/marginal distributions are continuous and do not easily fit into a parametric family.



- However, we will see that Hilbert Space Embeddings can easily be combined with spectral methods for learning nonparametric latent models.

# Connection to Hilbert Space Embeddings



- Recall that we could substitute features for variables

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] = \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \otimes \delta_3] := \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \delta_3^\top]$$



Use more complex feature instead:

$$\mathbb{E}[\phi_L \otimes \phi_R]$$

# Can Also Use Infinite Dimensional Features



- Replace

$$\mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] = \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \otimes \delta_3] := \mathbb{E}[\delta_2 \delta_3^\top]$$

- with

$$\mathcal{C}[X_2, X_3] = \mathbb{E}[\phi_{X_2} \otimes \phi_{X_3}]$$

**covariance  
operator**

- (and similarly for other quantities)



# Connection to Hilbert Space Embeddings

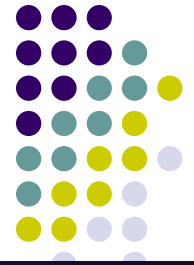


Discrete case:

$$\mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{P}[X_{\{1,2\}}, X_3] \mathbf{V} (\mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_3] \mathbf{V})^{-1} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{P}[X_2, X_{\{3,4\}}]$$

Continuous case:

$$\mathcal{C}[X_{\{1,2\}}; X_{\{3,4\}}] = \mathcal{C}[X_{\{1,2\}}; X_3] \mathbf{V} (\mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{C}[X_2, X_3] \mathbf{V})^{-1} \mathbf{U}^\top \mathcal{C}[X_2; X_{\{3,4\}}]$$



# Summary - EM & Spectral (Part I)

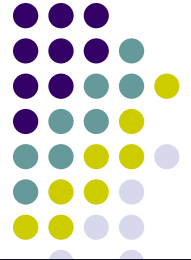
## EM

- Aims to Find MLE so more “statistically” efficient
- Can get stuck in local-optima
- Lack of theoretical guarantees
- Slow
- Easy to derive for new models

## Spectral

- Does not aim to find MLE so less statistically efficient.
- Local-optima-free
- Provably consistent
- Very fast
- Challenging to derive for new models (Unknown whether it can generalize to arbitrary loopy models)

# Summary - EM & Spectral (Part II)



## EM

- **No issues with negative numbers**
- **Allows for easy modelling with conditional distributions**
- **Difficult to incorporate long-range features (since it increases treewidth).**
- **Generalizes poorly to non-Gaussian continuous variables.**

## Spectral

- **Problems with negative numbers. Requires explicit normalization to compute likelihood.**
- **Allows for easy modelling with marginal distributions**
- **Easy to incorporate long-range features.**
- **Easy to generalize to non-Gaussian continuous variables via Hilbert Space Embeddings**