## Applications of HMMs



## Today

- Applications:
- "I Know Why You Went to the Clinic: Risks and Realization of HTTPS Traffic Analysis"
- Speech recognition


## Al in the News



New attack on HTTPS crypto might reveal if you're pregnant or have cancer Scientist-devised technique determines precise address of SSL-protected websites.

| by Dan Goodin - Mar 6 2014, 1:51pm PST |  |
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I Know Why You Went to the Clinic: Risks and Realization of HTTPS Traffic Analysis Brad Miller, Ling Huang, A. D. Joseph, J. D. Tygar (UC Berkeley)

## Challenge

- Setting
- User we want to spy on use HTTPS to browse the internet
- Measurements
- IP address
- Sizes of packets coming in
- Goal
- Infer browsing sequence of that user
- E.g.: medical, financial, legal, ...


## HMM

- Transition model
- Probability distribution over links on the current page + some probability to navigate to any other page on the site
- Noisy observation model due to traffic variations
- Caching
- Dynamically generated content
- User-specific content, including cookies
$\rightarrow$ Probability distribution P( packet size \| page )


## Results



BoG $=$ described approach, others are prior work

## Results

## Session Length Effect



## Speech Recognition



Hello, this is charter. We're trying to reach you to confirm your appointment scheduled tomorrow. Saturday. Yep, timber 20th, between 5 PM, and 7 PM, service calls typically take up to 1 hour to complete. After our technician arrives during the scheduled appointment window if you will receive another call from us tomorrow. 45 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment. If you do not confirm your appointment. At that time, your service call may be cancelled. Please call us at 1(800) 747-8134 if you wish to make any changes to your appointment. Thank you. We look forward to resolving your service issue, goodbye.

Play message

And you're a hard died in mail bone. But you'd be able more excitable listening Stone $A$ at my place soul. Hot no ready for you to test it all here. One of these days ago but.

## Play message

## Digitizing Speech



## Speech in an Hour

- Speech input is an acoustic waveform



## Spectral Analysis

- Frequency gives pitch; amplitude gives volume
- Sampling at ~8 kHz (phone), ~16 kHz (mic) (kHz=1000 cycles/sec)

- Fourier transform of wave displayed as a spectrogram
- Darkness indicates energy at each frequency



## Part of [ae] from "lab"



- Complex wave repeating nine times
- Plus smaller wave that repeats $4 x$ for every large cycle
- Large wave: freq of 250 Hz (9 times in . 036 seconds)
- Small wave roughly 4 times this, or
 roughly 1000 Hz


## Why These Peaks?

- Articulator process:
- Vocal cord vibrations create harmonics
- The mouth is an amplifier
- Depending on shape of mouth, some harmonics are amplified more than others



## Resonances of the Vocal Tract

- The human vocal tract as an open tube



## Spectrum Shapes



Model of vocal tract





## Vowel [i] sung at successively higher pitches



## Acoustic Feature Sequence

- Time slices are translated into acoustic feature vectors (~39 real numbers per slice)

- These are the observations E, now we need the hidden states X


## Speech State Space

- HMM Specification
- $P(E \mid X)$ encodes which acoustic vectors are appropriate for each phoneme (each kind of sound)
- $P\left(X \mid X^{\prime}\right)$ encodes how sounds can be strung together
- State Space
- We will have one state for each sound in each word
- Mostly, states advance sound by sound
- Build a little state graph for each word and chain them together to form the state space X


## States in a Word

Word Model


## Transitions with a Bigram Model



## Decoding

- Finding the words given the acoustics is an HMM inference problem
- Which state sequence $\mathrm{x}_{1: \mathrm{T}}$ is most likely given the evidence $\mathrm{e}_{1: \text { T }}$ ?

$$
x_{1: T}^{*}=\underset{x_{1: T}}{\arg \max } P\left(x_{1: T} \mid e_{1: T}\right)=\underset{x_{1: T}}{\arg \max } P\left(x_{1: T}, e_{1: T}\right)
$$

- From the sequence $x$, we can simply read off the words


