

Unsupervised Neural Hidden Markov Models

Ke Tran¹, **Yonatan Bisk**, Ashish Vaswani²,
Daniel Marcu and Kevin Knight
USC Information Sciences Institute
¹*Univ of Amsterdam*, ²*Google Brain*



I am not Ke Tran

<https://github.com/ketranm/neuralHMM>

Bayesian Models

- HMMs, CFGs, ... have been standard workhorses of the NLP community 
- Generative models lend themselves to unsupervised estimation 
- Bayesian models have elegant, but often very parametrically expensive smoothing approaches 

Why Neuralize Bayesian Models?

- Unsupervised structure learning 
- Simple modular extensions 
- Embeddings and vector representations have been shown to generalize well. 

This is a nice direction

Relevant EMNLP 2016 Papers:

Online Segment to Segment Neural Transduction.
Lei Yu, Jan Buys, and Phil Blunsom.

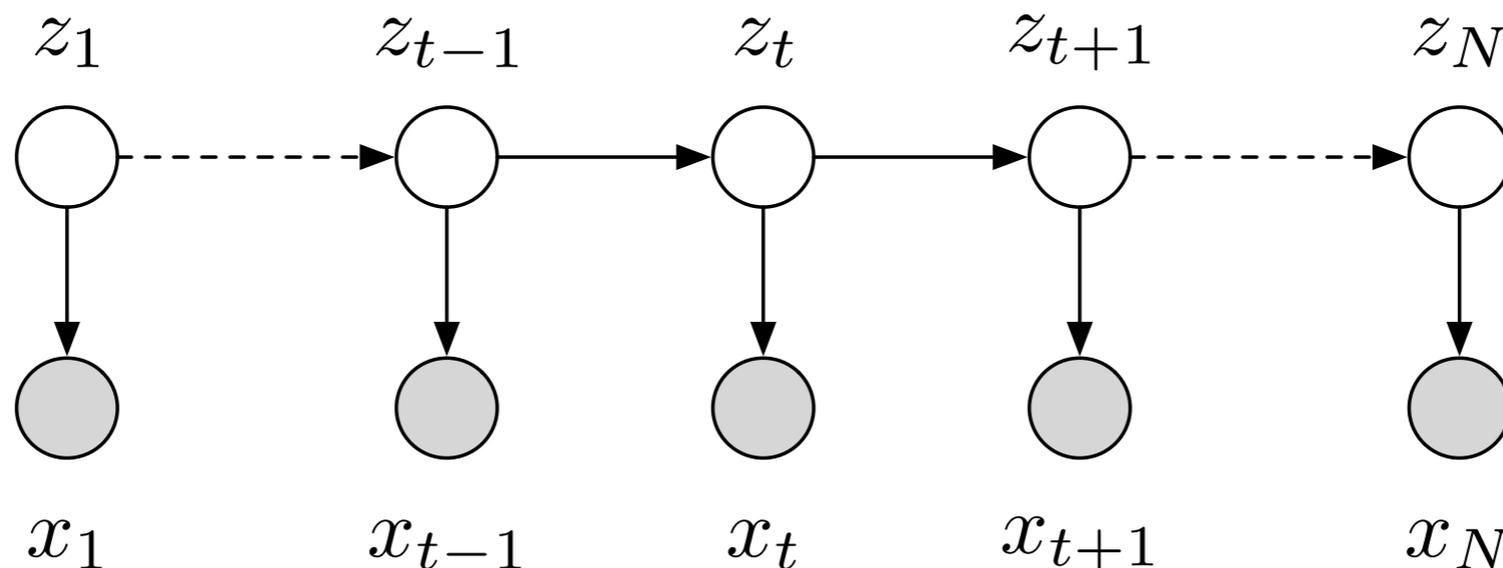
Unsupervised Neural Dependency Parsing.
Yong Jiang, Wenjuan Han, and Kewei Tu.

Hidden Markov Models

Given an observed sequence of text: \mathcal{X}

Probability of a given token: $p(x_t | z_t) \times P(z_t | z_{t-1})$

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \prod_{t=1}^{n+1} p(z_t | z_{t-1}) \prod_{t=1}^n p(x_t | z_t)$$



Supervised POS Tagging

The	orange	man	will	lose	the	election
DT	JJ	NN	MD	VB	DT	NN

Goal: Predict the correct class for each word in the sentence

Solution: Count and divide

$$p(\text{orange}|\text{JJ}) = \frac{|\text{orange, JJ}|}{|\text{JJ}|} \quad p(\text{JJ}|\text{DT}) = \frac{|\text{DT, JJ}|}{|\text{DT}|}$$

Parameters:

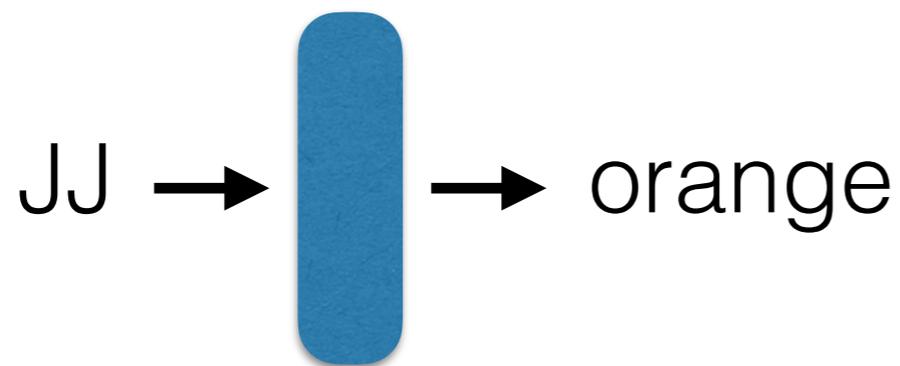
$$V \times K$$

$$K \times K$$

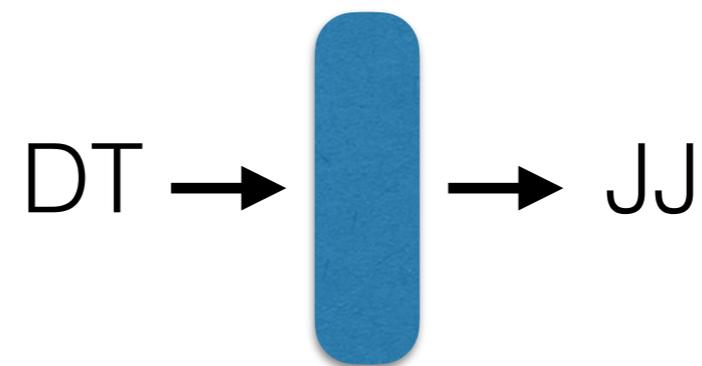
Simple Supervised Neural HMM

The	orange	man	will	lose	the	election
DT	JJ	NN	MD	VB	DT	NN

Replace parameter matrices with NNs + Softmax
Train with Cross Entropy



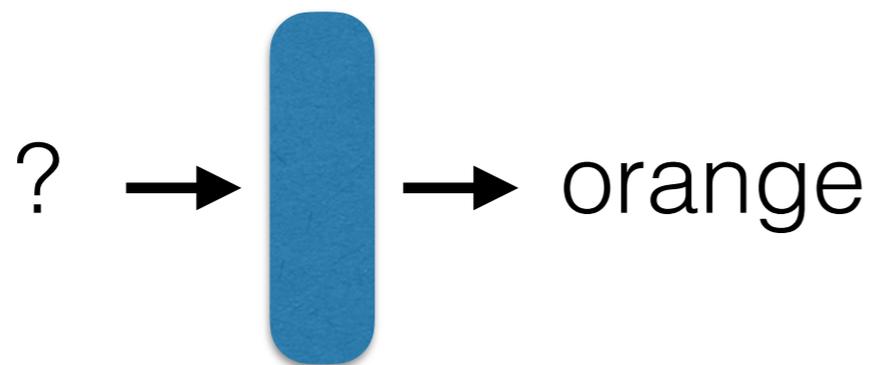
Emission Network



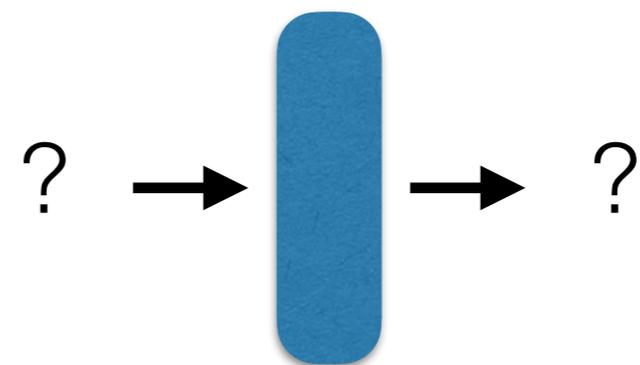
Transition Network

Unsupervised Neural HMM

The	orange	man	will	lose	the	election
?	?	?	?	?	?	?



Emission Network



Transition Network

Bayesian POS Tag Induction

The	orange	man	will	lose	the	election
C_1	C_2	C_4	C_{14}	C_{12}	C_1	C_4

Goal: Discover the set of classes which best model the observed data.

Solution: Baum-Welch

Posteriors

Probability of a specific cluster assignment

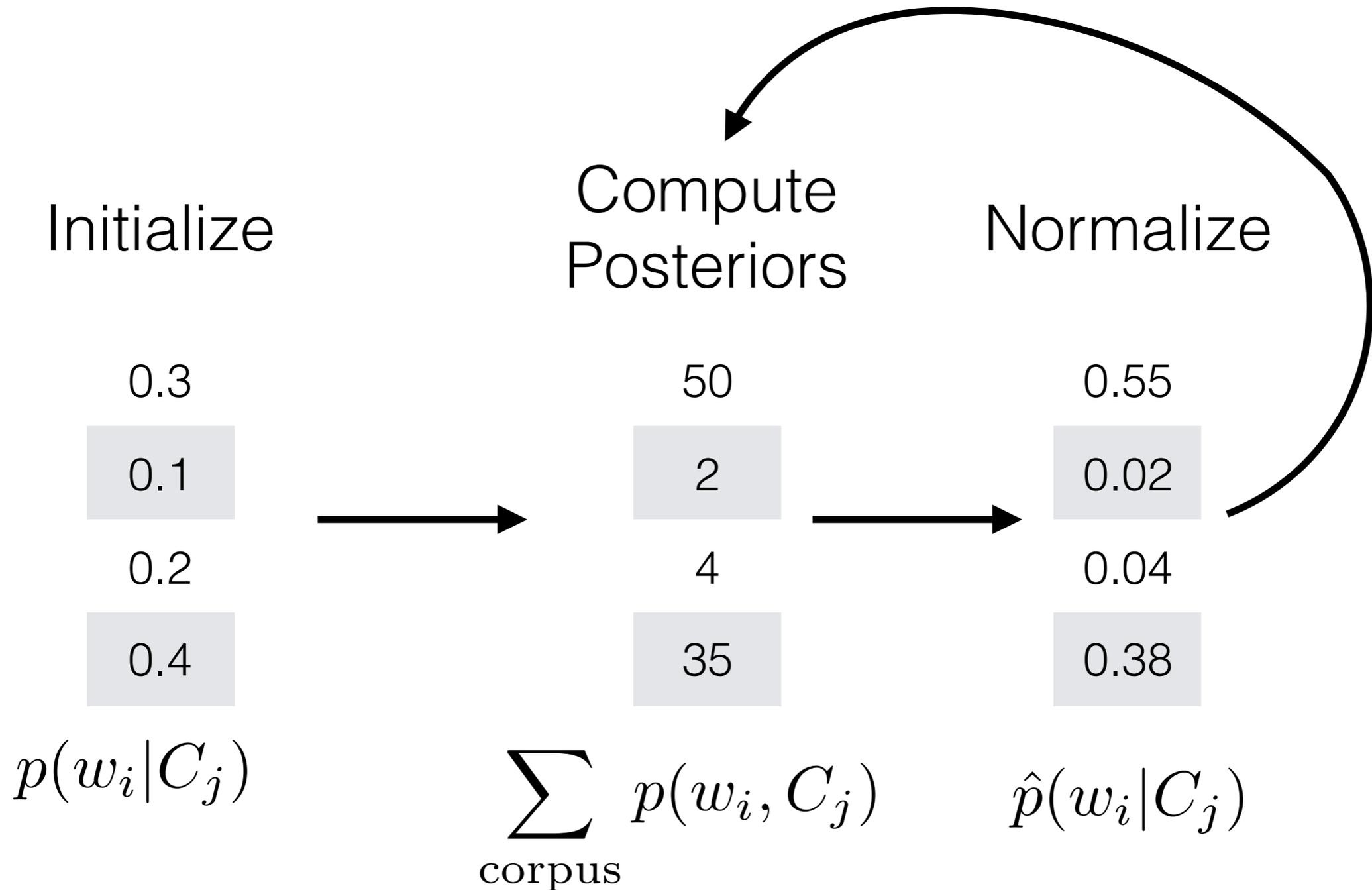
$$p(z_t = i | \mathbf{x})$$

Probability of a specific cluster transition

$$p(z_t = i, z_{t+1} = j | \mathbf{x})$$

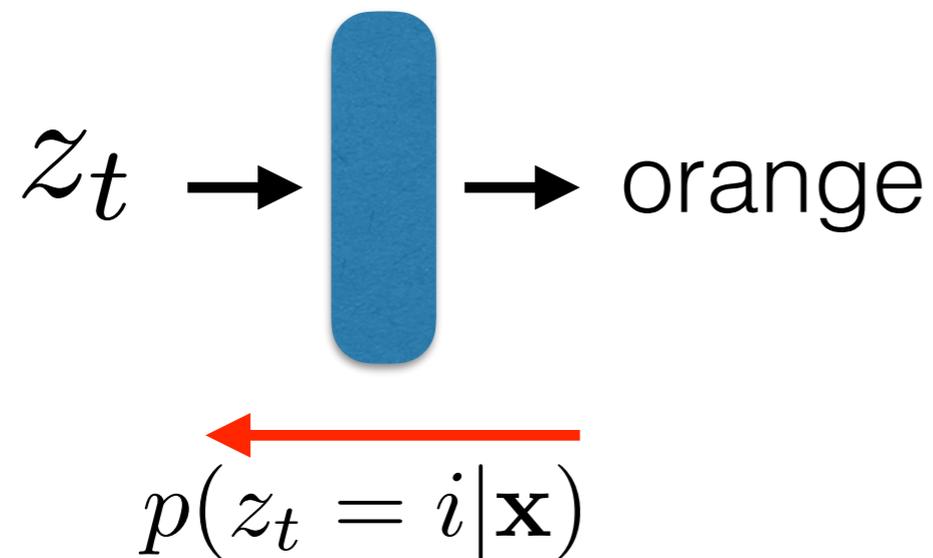
Bayesian update: Count and Divide

Count and Divide

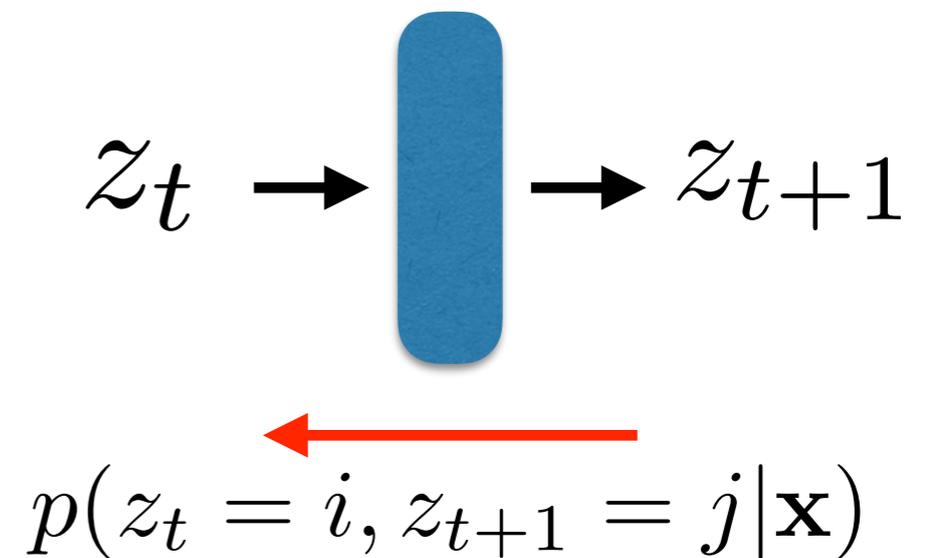


Unsupervised Neural HMM

The	orange	man	will	lose	the	election
?	?	?	?	?	?	?



Emission Network



Transition Network

Generalized EM

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}|\theta) =$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\theta)] + H[q(\mathbf{z})] + \text{KL}[q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \theta)]$$

E-Step Compute Surrogate q

M-Step Maximize Expectation

What is the gradient?

Set $q(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \theta)$

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\theta)] + \text{H}[q(\mathbf{z})] + \text{KL}[q(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \theta)]$$

0

Take Derivative w.r.t. θ

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\theta)] + \text{H}[q(\mathbf{z})]$$

0

$$J(\theta) = \sum_{\mathbf{z}} \underline{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \frac{\partial \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$

Jason Eisner probably has something to say here

Initial Evaluation

Induction Metrics

- 1-1: Bijection between induced and gold classes
- M-1: Map induced class to its closest gold class
- V-M: Harmonic mean of $H(c,g)$ and $H(g,c)$

Higher numbers are better

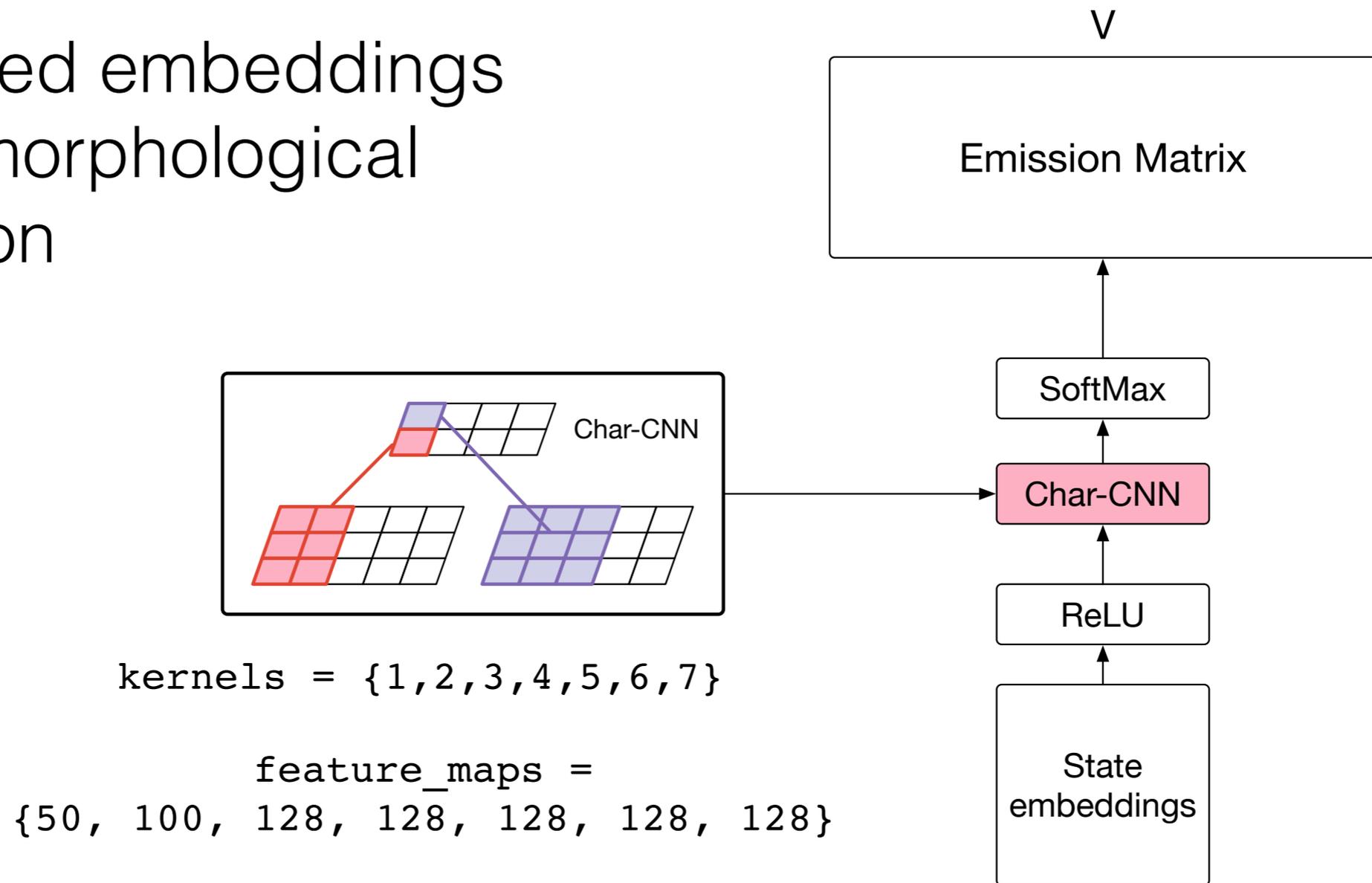
Evaluation

	1-1	M-1	V-M
HMM	41.4	62.5	53.3
Neural HMM	45.7	59.8	54.2

The neural model has access to no additional information

Morphology

CNN based embeddings provide morphological information



Evaluation

	1-1	M-1	V-M
HMM	41.4	62.5	53.3
Neural HMM	45.7	59.8	54.2
+ Conv	48.3	74.1	66.1

Extended Context

Traditional:

Bi-gram transition	$p(z_t z_{t-1})$	K^2
Tri-gram transition	$p(z_t z_{t-1}, z_{t-2})$	K^3
N-gram transition	$p(z_t z_{t-1}, z_{t-2}, \dots, z_{t-n})$	K^{n+1}

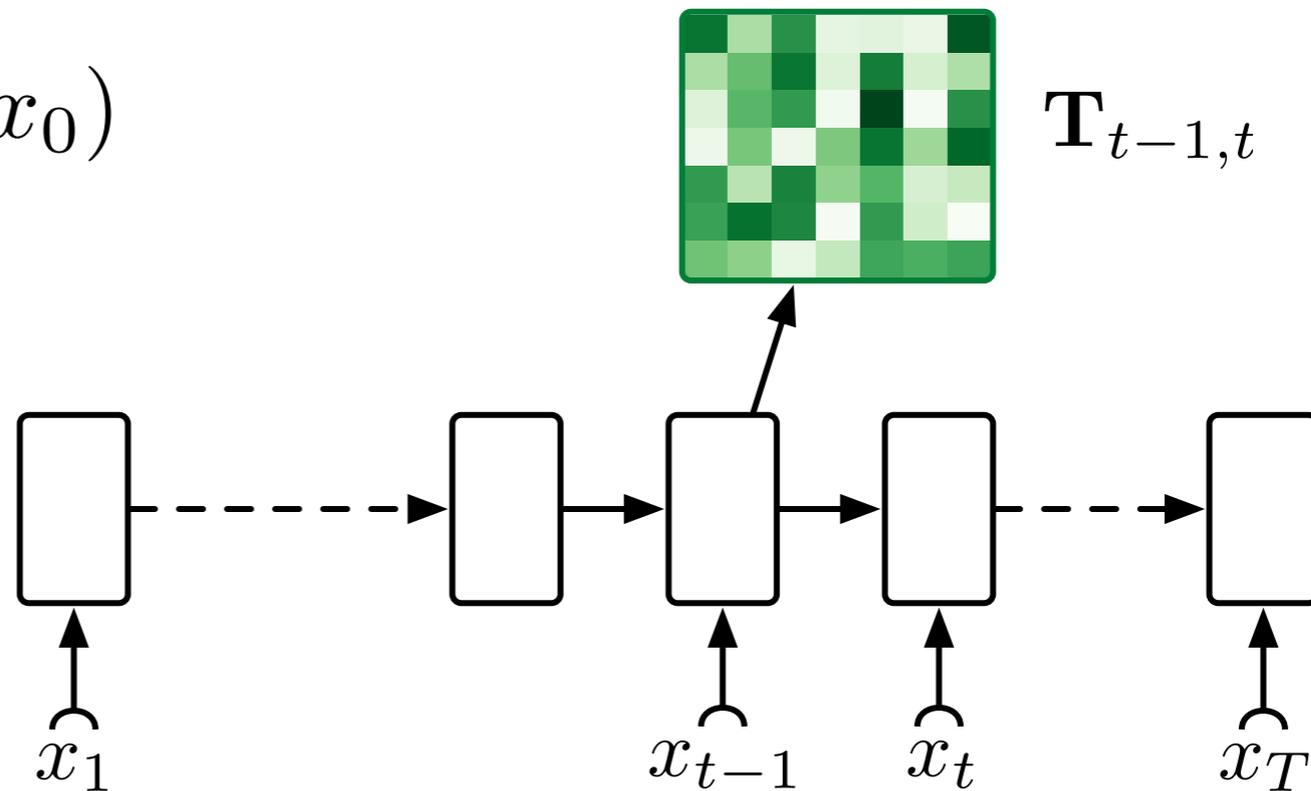
Alternative:

Previous tag and word	$p(z_t z_{t-1}, x_{t-1})$	$V \times K^2$
Previous tag and sentence	$p(z_t z_{t-1}, x_{t-1}, \dots, x_0)$	$V^t \times K^2$

LSTM Context

LSTM consumes the sentence
and produces a transition matrix

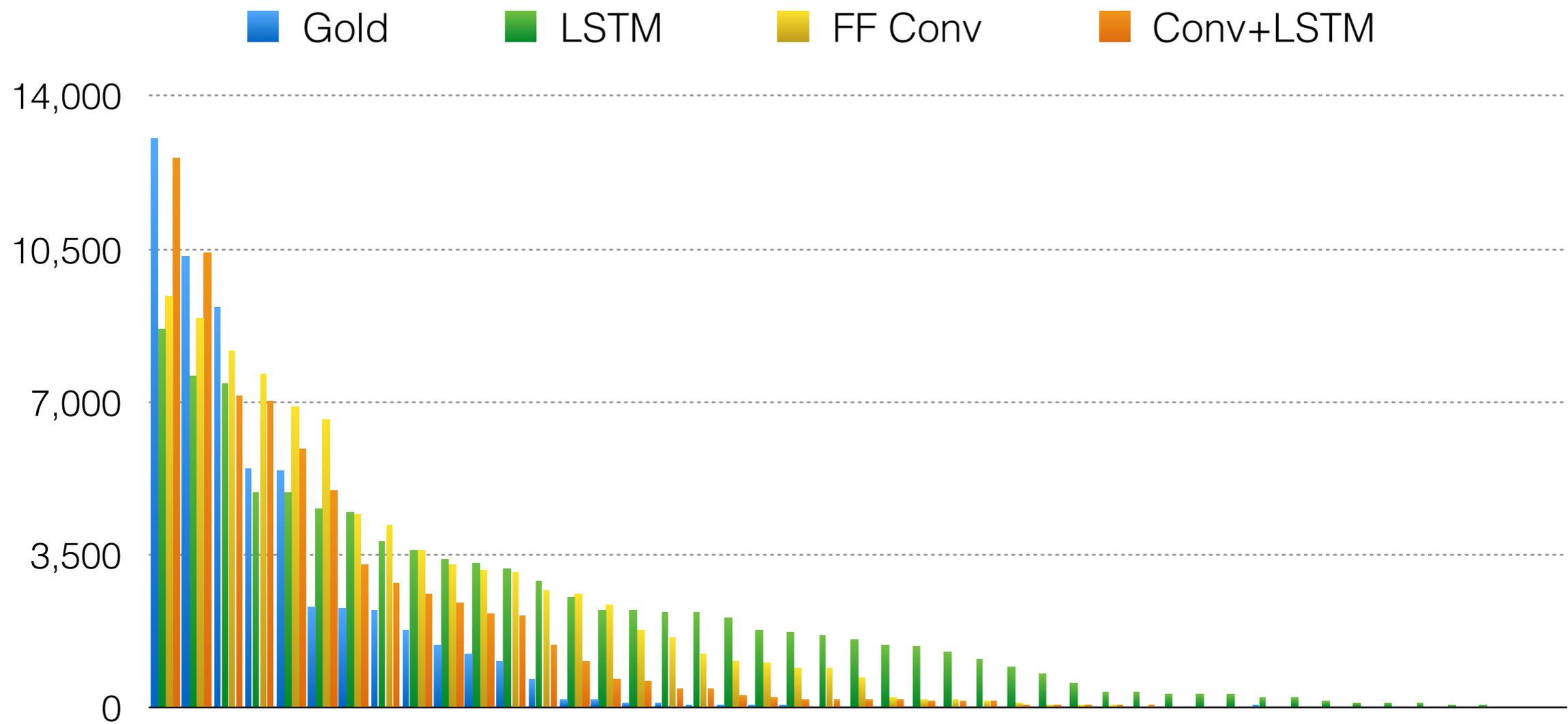
$$p(z_t | z_{t-1}, x_{t-1}, \dots, x_0)$$



Evaluation

	1-1	M-1	V-M
HMM	41.4	62.5	53.3
Neural HMM	45.7	59.8	54.2
+ Conv	48.3	74.1	66.1
+ LSTM	52.4	65.1	60.4
+ Conv & LSTM	60.7	79.1	71.7
Blunsom 2011		77.4	69.8
Yatbaz 2012		80.2	72.1

Types / Cluster



Clusterings

Largest Cluster

LSTM

of
in
to
for
on
from

Conv

years
trading
sales
president
companies
prices

Numbers

LSTM

%
million
year
share
cents
1/2

Conv

million
billion
cents
points
point
trillion

What's a good clustering?

NNP

C₁₅

American
British
National
Congress
Japan
San
Federal
West
Dow

C₂₅

Corp.
Inc.
Co.
Board
Group
Bank
Inc
Bush
Department

Future Work

- Harnessing Extra Data
- Modifying the objective function
- Multilingual experiments
- Using this approach with other generative models

Thanks!

<https://github.com/ketranm/neuralHMM>

Parameter Initialization, Tricks, Ablation
in paper and in Github README