



COS 484

Natural Language Processing

# L7: Sequence Models (cont'd)

Spring 2023

# Announcements

- A1 due today
- A2 will be released later today (due: 3/6)
  - Covering HMMs, MEMMs, parsing (next two lectures)
- If you don't know how to be added to Ed

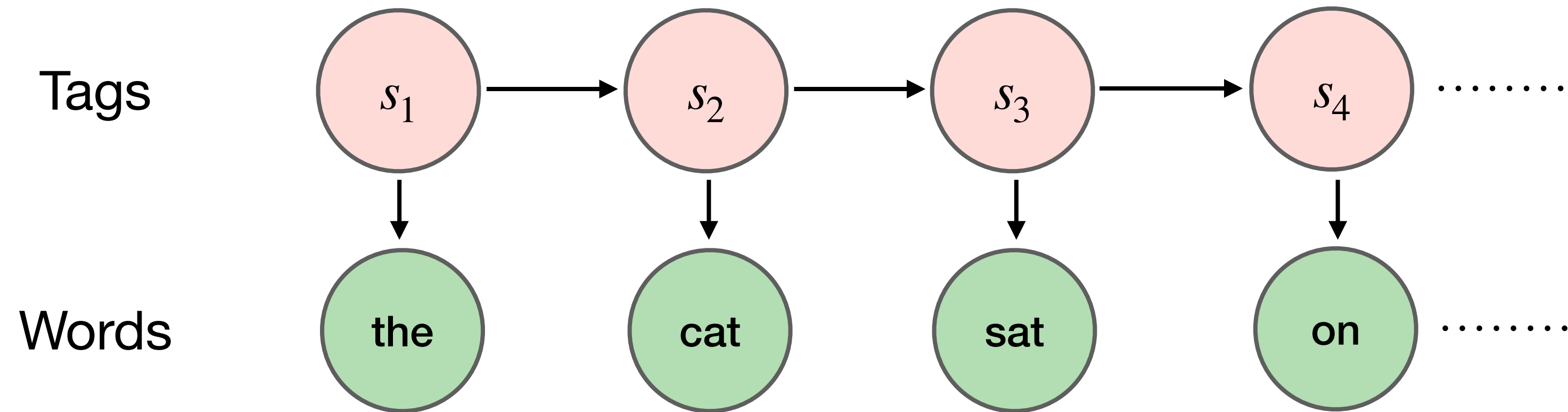
What do you think of assignment 1?

- A) Very easy    B) Easy    C) Moderate  
D) Somewhat hard    E) Hard



A screenshot of the course website for COS484\_S2023. The page has a dark blue header with the text "COS484\_S2023 Natural Language Processing" and an "Edit" button. A left sidebar menu lists various links: Home, Announcements, Collaboration Policy &amp; Learning Support, People, Grades, Photo Roster, NameCoach, Ed Discussion, and Gradescope. A red arrow points from the "Ed Discussion" link in the sidebar to the survey question. The main content area features a "Welcome!" banner and a timeline of course topics from 2003 to 2018: 2003 (Neural Language Models), 2013 (Word Embeddings), 2014 (Seq-to-seq Learning), and 2018 (Pretrained Models). Below the timeline, icons represent "Multi-task Learning", "NLP Neural Nets", and "Attention".

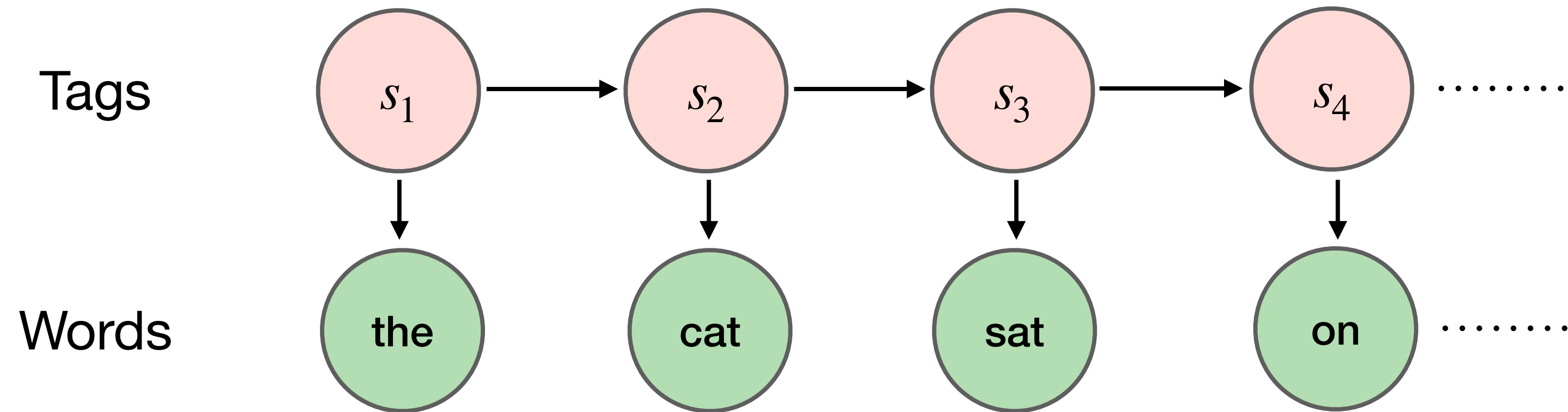
# Recap: Hidden Markov models



1. Set of states  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  and set of observations  $O = \{o_1, \dots, o_n\}$
2. **Initial state probability distribution**  $\pi(s_1)$
3. **Transition probabilities**  $P(s_{t+1} | s_t)$
4. **Emission probabilities**  $P(o_t | s_t)$

**Strong assumptions**

# Recap: Hidden Markov models



## 1. Markov assumption:

$$P(s_{t+1} | s_1, \dots, s_t) \approx P(s_{t+1} | s_t)$$

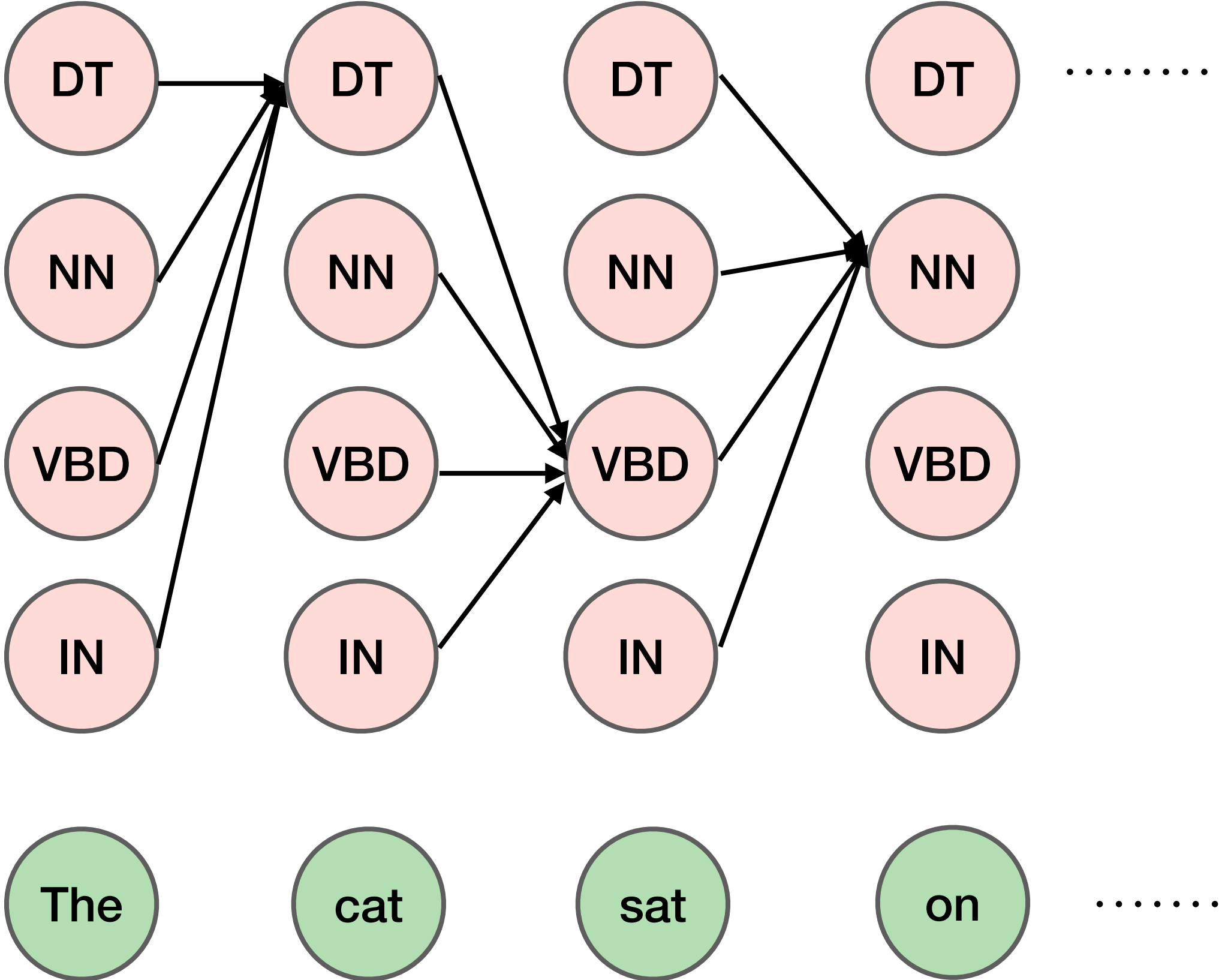
1) assumes **state** sequences do not have very strong priors/ long-range dependencies

## 2. Output independence:

$$P(o_t | s_1, \dots, s_t) \approx P(o_t | s_t)$$

2) assumes neighboring **states** don't affect current **observation**

# Recap: Viterbi decoding



$M[i, j]$  stores joint probability of most probable sequence of states ending with state  $j$  at time  $i$

$$M[i, j] = \max_k M[i - 1, k] P(s_j | s_k) P(o_i | s_j) \quad 1 \leq k \leq K \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

*Backward:* Pick  $\max_k M[n, k]$  and backtrack using  $B$

# Trigram hidden Markov models

What we have seen so far is also called bigram HMM

Can be extended to trigram, 4-gram etc.

$$P(S, O) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(s_i | s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}) P(o_i | s_i)$$

MLE estimate:  $P(s_i | s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}) = \frac{\text{Count}(s_i, s_{i-1}, s_{i-2})}{\text{Count}(s_{i-1}, s_{i-2})}$

Can add smoothing techniques to avoid zero probabilities!

Viterbi:  $M[i, j, k] = \max_r M[i-1, k, r] P(s_j | s_k, s_r) P(o_i | s_j) \quad 1 \leq j, k, r \leq K \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$

most probable sequence of states ending with state  $j$  at time  $i$ , and state  $k$  at  $i-1$

Time complexity:  $O(nK^3)$

# Maximum Entropy Markov Models (MEMMs)

ICML 2000

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**Maximum Entropy Markov Models  
for Information Extraction and Segmentation**

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**Andrew McCallum**

**Dayne Freitag**

Just Research, 4616 Henry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 USA

**Fernando Pereira**

AT&T Labs - Research, 180 Park Ave, Florham Park, NJ 07932 USA

MCCALLUM@JUSTRESEARCH.COM

DAYNE@JUSTRESEARCH.COM

PEREIRA@RESEARCH.ATT.COM

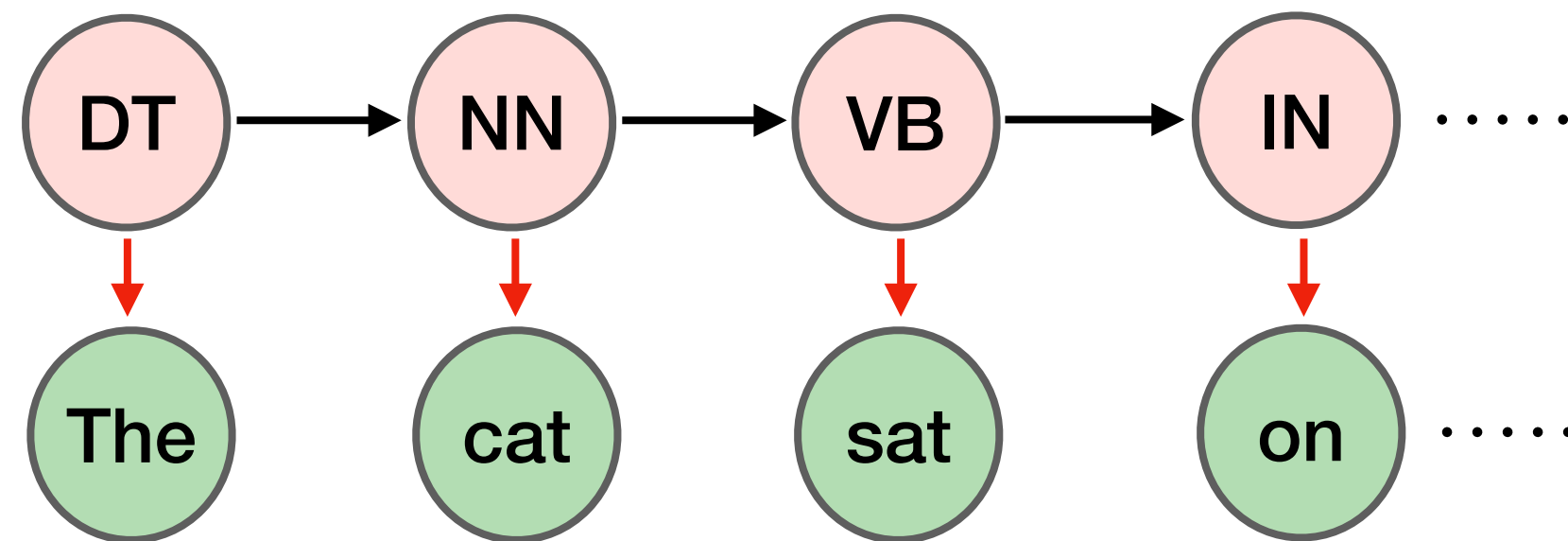
# Generative vs discriminative models

- HMM is a *generative* model
- Can we model  $P(s_1, \dots, s_n | o_1, \dots, o_n)$  directly?

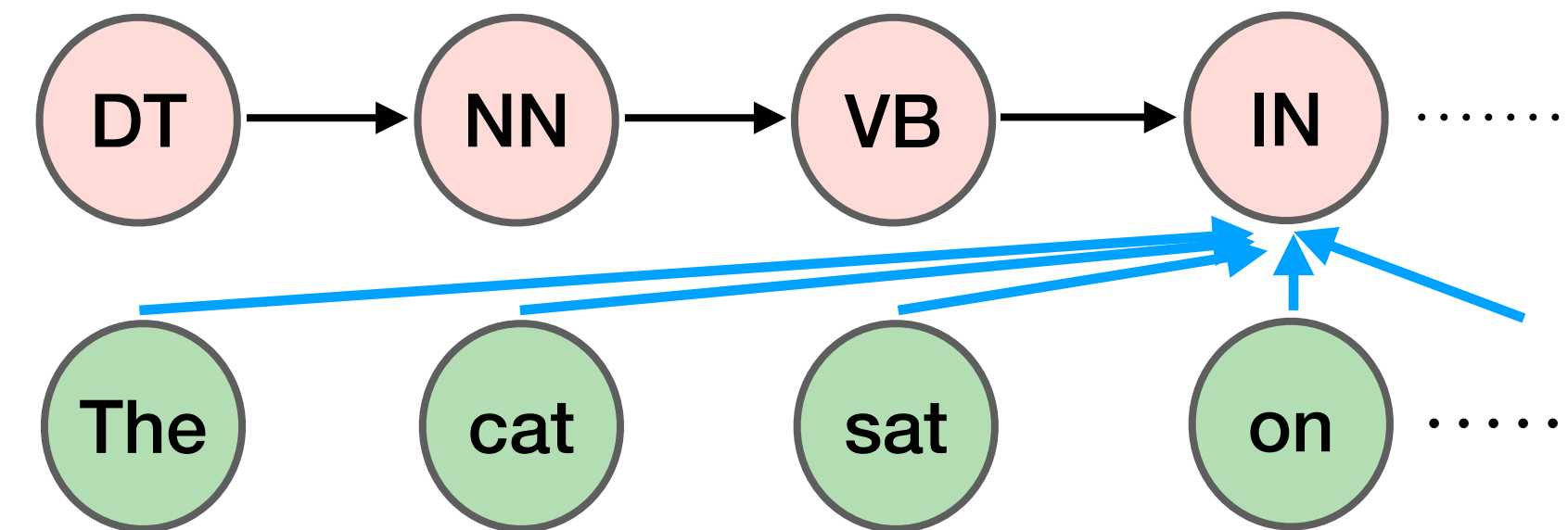
	<b>Generative</b>	<b>Discriminative</b>
Text classification	Naive Bayes: $P(c)P(d   c)$	Logistic Regression: $P(c   d)$
Sequence prediction	HMM: $P(s_1, \dots, s_n)P(o_1, \dots, o_n   s_1, \dots, s_n)$	MEMM: $P(s_1, \dots, s_n   o_1, \dots, o_n)$



# Maximum entropy Markov model (MEMM)



HMM



MEMM

$$P(S | O) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(s_i | s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}, \dots, s_1, O)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n P(s_i | s_{i-1}, O)$$

$$O = \langle o_1, o_2, \dots, o_n \rangle$$

Markov assumption:  
Bigram MEMM

$$P(s_i = s | s_{i-1}, O) \propto \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))$$

↑ weights      ← features

Important: you can define features over entire word sequence  $O$ !



Use features and weights:

$$P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, O) \propto \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))$$

- Which of the following is the correct way to calculate this probability?

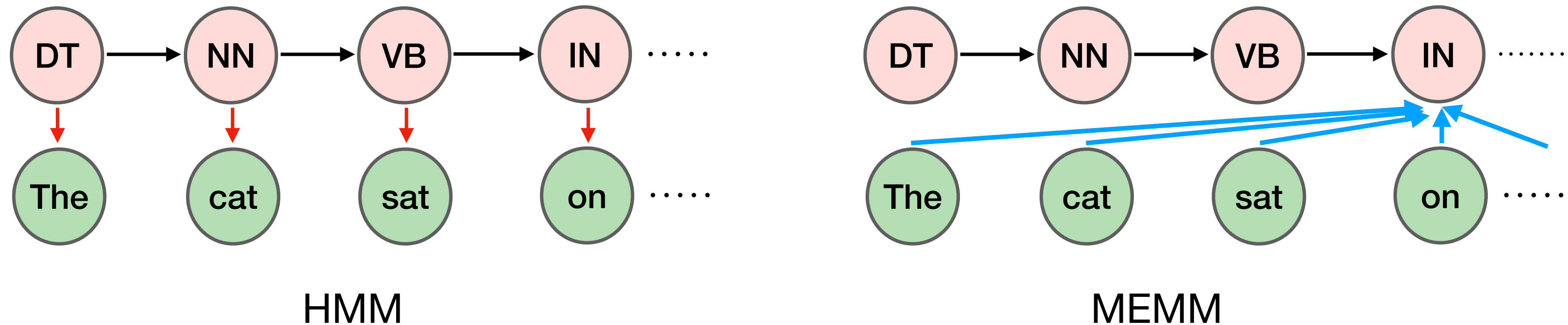
$$\text{A) } P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))}{\sum_{s'=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1} = s', O, i))}$$

$$\text{B) } P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))}{\sum_{s'=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s', s_{i-1}, O, i))}$$

$$\text{C) } P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))}{\sum_{O'} \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O', i))}$$

*The answer is (B)*

# Maximum entropy Markov model (MEMM)



- Bigram MEMM:

$$O = \langle o_1, o_2, \dots, o_n \rangle$$

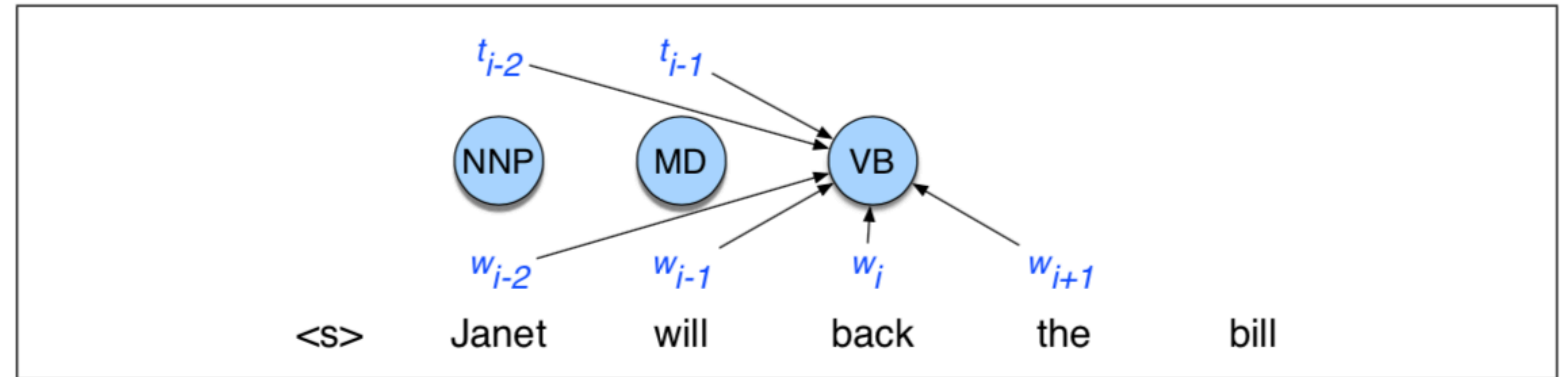
$$P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))}{\sum_{s'=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s', s_{i-1}, O, i))}$$

- Can be easily extended to trigram MEMM, 4-gram MEMM..

$$P(s_i = s \mid s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}, O, i))}{\sum_{s'=1}^K \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s', s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}, O, i))}$$

# How to define features?

$$\mathbf{f}(s_i = s', s_{i-1}, s_{i-2}, O, i)$$



$t_i$  = tags (states)

$w_i$  = words (observations)

$$\langle t_i, w_{i-2} \rangle, \langle t_i, w_{i-1} \rangle, \langle t_i, w_i \rangle, \langle t_i, w_{i+1} \rangle, \langle t_i, w_{i+2} \rangle$$

$$\langle t_i, t_{i-1} \rangle, \langle t_i, t_{i-2}, t_{i-1} \rangle,$$

$$\langle t_i, t_{i-1}, w_i \rangle, \langle t_i, w_{i-1}, w_i \rangle, \langle t_i, w_i, w_{i+1} \rangle,$$

Feature templates

- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_{i-2} = \text{Janet}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_{i-1} = \text{will}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_i = \text{back}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_{i+1} = \text{the}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_{i+2} = \text{bill}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $t_{i-1} = \text{MD}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $t_{i-1} = \text{MD}$  and  $t_{i-2} = \text{NNP}$
- $t_i = \text{VB}$  and  $w_i = \text{back}$  and  $w_{i+1} = \text{the}$

Features (binary)

# Features in an MEMM



*Incorrect*     DT   JJ   NN   DT   NN

*Correct*     DT   NN   VB   DT   NN

The   old   man   the   boat

$w_{i-1}$     $w_i$     $w_{i+1}$     $w_{i+2}$     $w_{i+3}$

Which of these feature templates would help most to tag 'old' correctly?

- A)  $\langle t_i, t_{i-1}, w_i, w_{i-1}, w_{i+1} \rangle$
- B)  $\langle t_i, t_{i-1}, w_i, w_{i-1} \rangle$
- C)  $\langle t_i, w_i, w_{i-1}, w_{i+1} \rangle$
- D)  $\langle t_i, w_i, w_{i-1}, w_{i+1}, w_{i+2} \rangle$

$t_i$  = tags (states)

$w_i$  = words (observations)

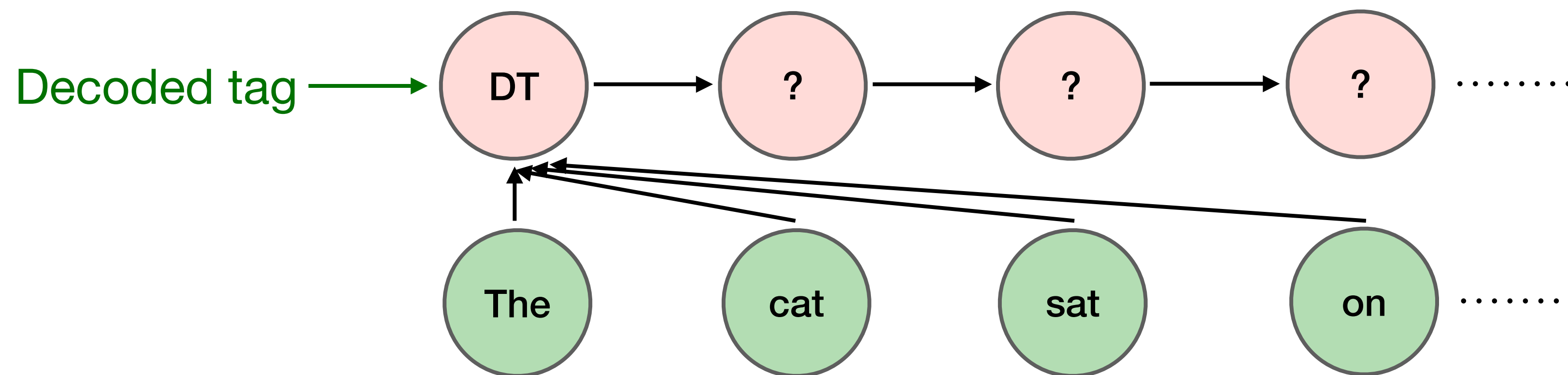
*The answer is (D)*

# MEMMs: Decoding

- Bigram MEMM:

$$\hat{S} = \arg \max_S P(S | O) = \arg \max_S \prod_i P(s_i | s_{i-1}, O)$$

- Greedy decoding:



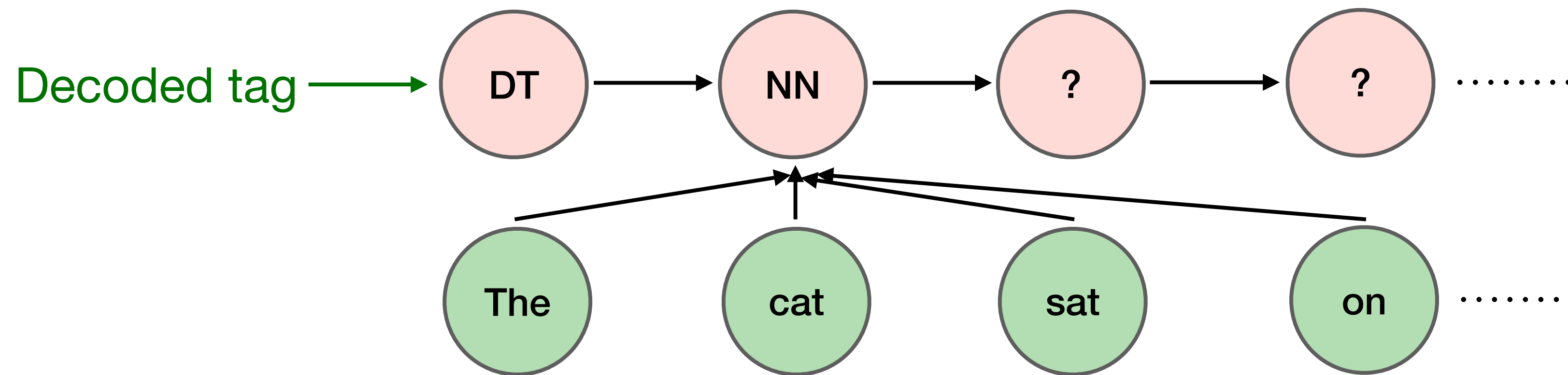
$$\hat{s}_1 = \arg \max_s P(s_i = s | \emptyset, O) = \arg \max_s \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1} = \emptyset, O) = \text{DT}$$

# MEMMs: Decoding

- Bigram MEMM:

$$\hat{S} = \arg \max_S P(S | O) = \arg \max_S \prod_i P(s_i | s_{i-1}, O)$$

- Greedy decoding:



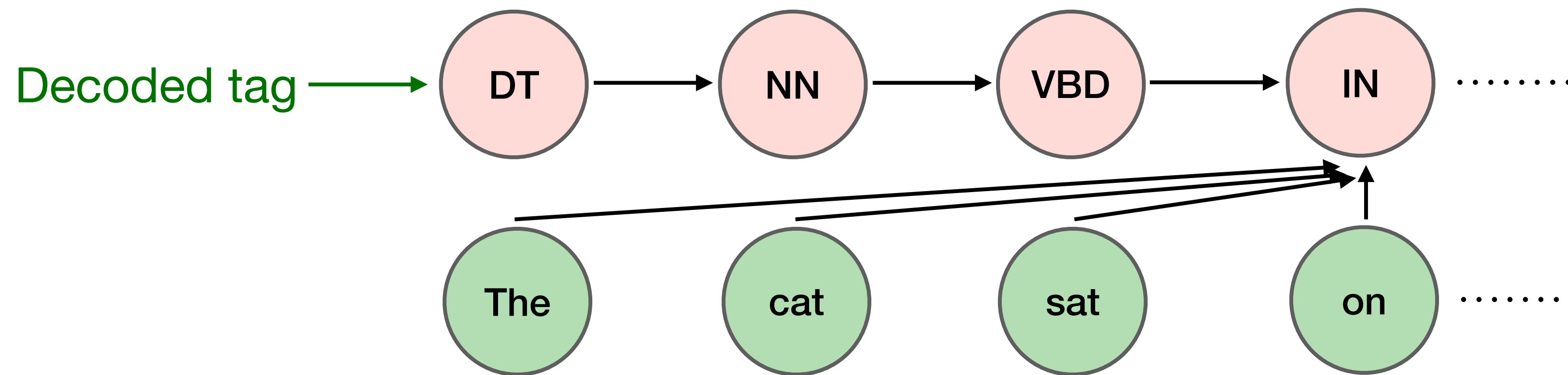
$$\hat{s}_2 = \arg \max_s P(s_i = s | DT, O) = NN$$

# MEMMs: Decoding

- Bigram MEMM:

$$\hat{S} = \arg \max_S P(S | O) = \arg \max_S \prod_i P(s_i | s_{i-1}, O)$$

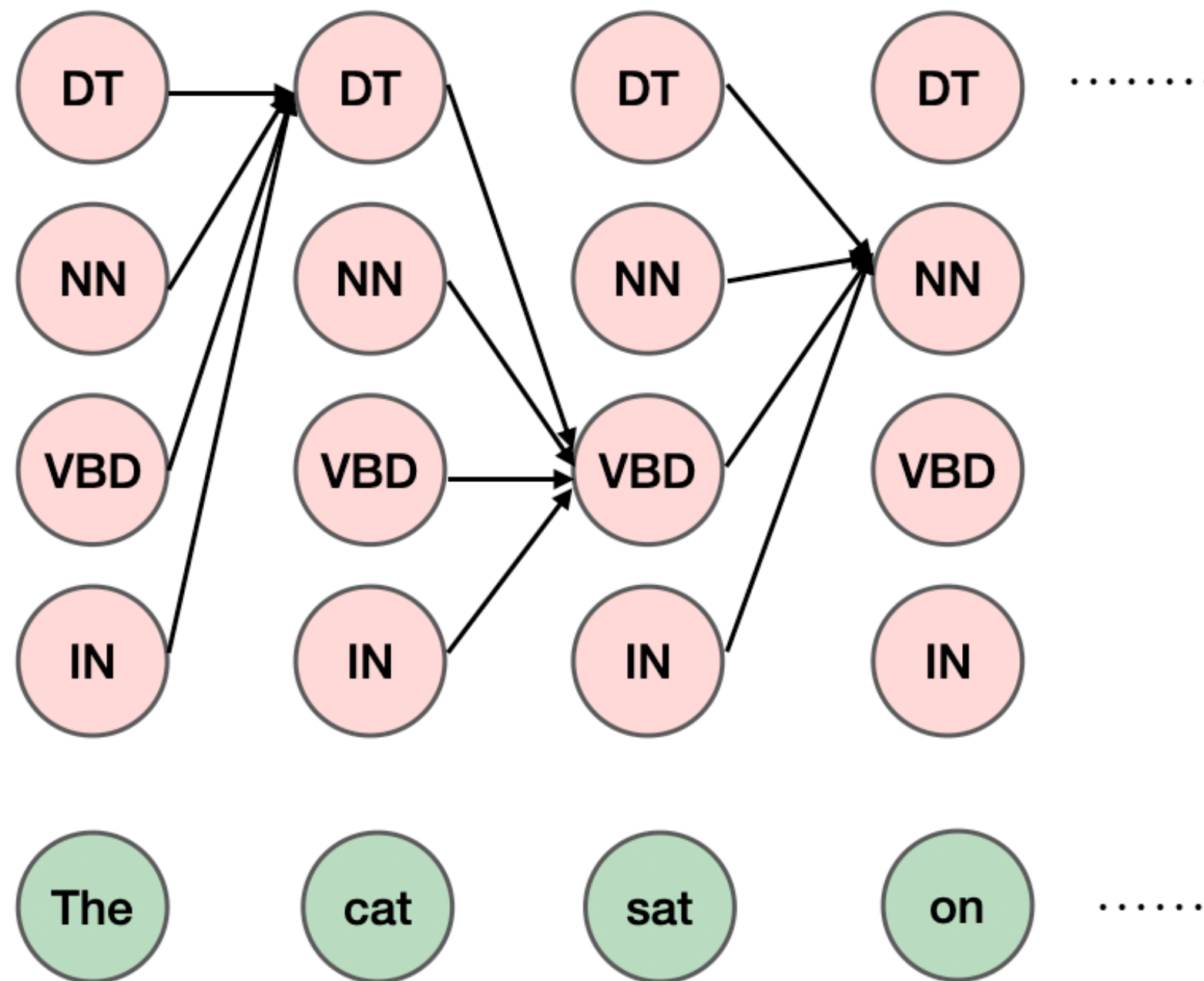
- Greedy decoding:



$$\hat{s}_i = \arg \max_s P(s_i = s | \hat{s}_{i-1}, O)$$



# Viterbi decoding for MEMMs



$M[i, j]$  stores joint probability of most probable sequence of states ending with state  $j$  at time  $i$

$$M[i, j] = \max_k M[i - 1, k] P(s_i = j | s_{i-1} = k, O) \quad 1 \leq k \leq K \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

*Backward:* Pick  $\max_k M[n, k]$  and backtrack using  $B$

# MEMM: Decoding



How would you compare the computational complexity of Viterbi decoding for bigram MEMMs compared to decoding for bigram HMMs?

- A) More operations in MEMM
- B) More operations in HMM
- C) Equal
- D) Depends on number of features in MEMM

*The answer is (D)*

MEMM:

$$M[i, j] = \max_k M[i-1, k] P(s_i = j | s_{i-1} = k, O) \quad 1 \leq k \leq K \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

HMM:

$$M[i, j] = \max_k M[i-1, k] P(s_j | s_k) P(o_i | s_j) \quad 1 \leq k \leq K \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

# MEMM: Learning

- **Gradient descent:** similar to logistic regression!

$$P(s_i = s | s_{i-1}, O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s, s_{i-1}, O, i))}{\sum_{s'} \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(s_i = s', s_{i-1}, O, i))}$$

- **Given:** annotated pairs of  $(S, O)$  where each  $S = \langle s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n \rangle$

$$\text{Loss for one sequence, } L = - \sum_{i=1}^n \log P(s_i | s_{i-1}, O)$$

- Compute gradients with respect to weights  $\mathbf{w}$  and update

# MEMM vs HMM

- HMM models the joint  $P(S, O)$  while MEMM models the required prediction  $P(S | O)$
- MEMM has more expressivity
  - accounts for dependencies between neighboring states and **entire observation sequence**
  - allows for **more flexible features**
- HMM may hold an advantage if the dataset is small

# Conditional Random Fields (CRFs)

ICML 2001

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**Conditional Random Fields: Probabilistic Models  
for Segmenting and Labeling Sequence Data**

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**John Lafferty**<sup>†\*</sup>

**Andrew McCallum**<sup>\*†</sup>

**Fernando Pereira**<sup>\*‡</sup>

LAFFERTY@CS.CMU.EDU

MCCALLUM@WHIZBANG.COM

FPEREIRA@WHIZBANG.COM

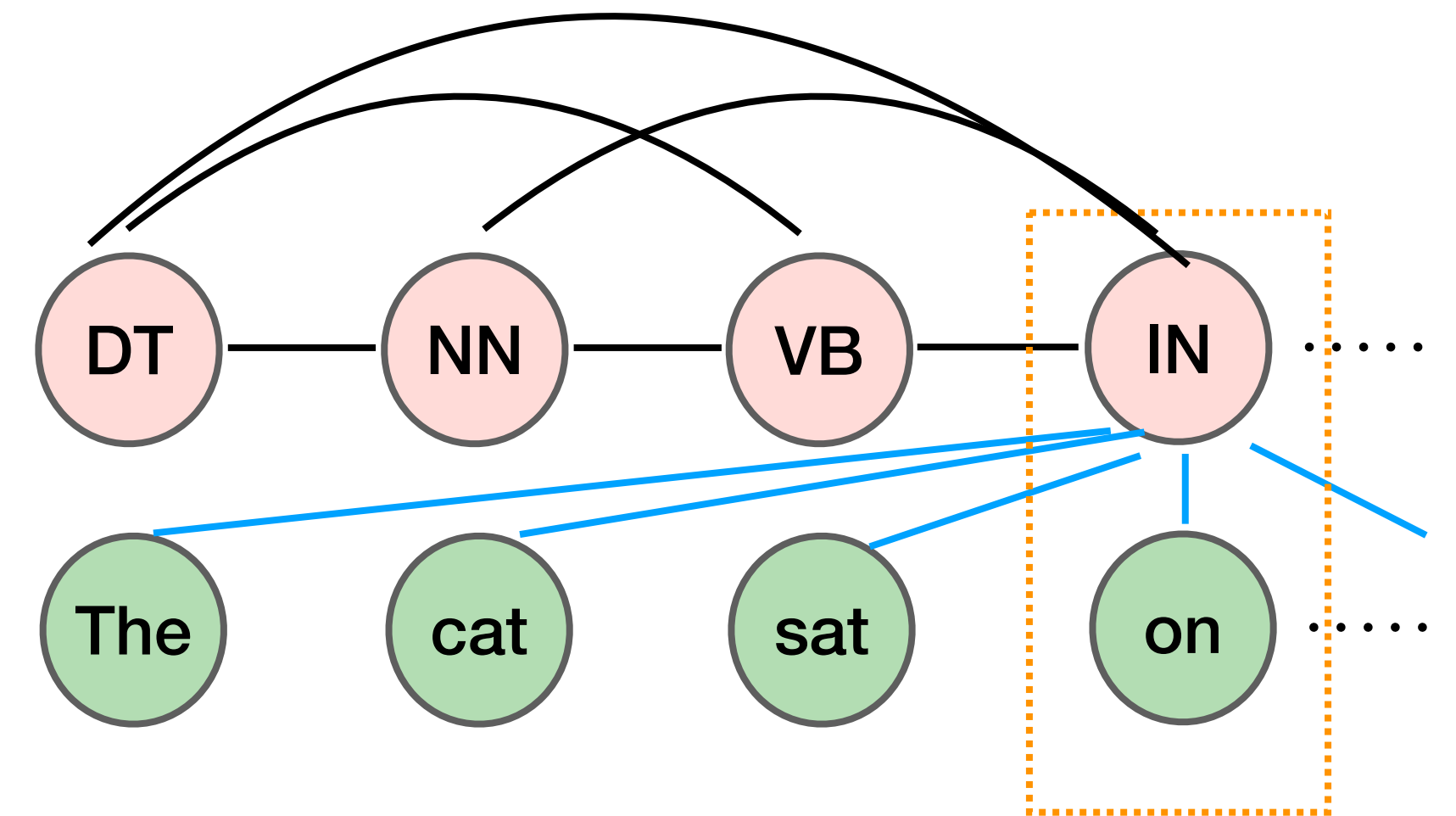
\*WhizBang! Labs—Research, 4616 Henry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 USA

†School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 USA

‡Department of Computer and Information Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104 USA

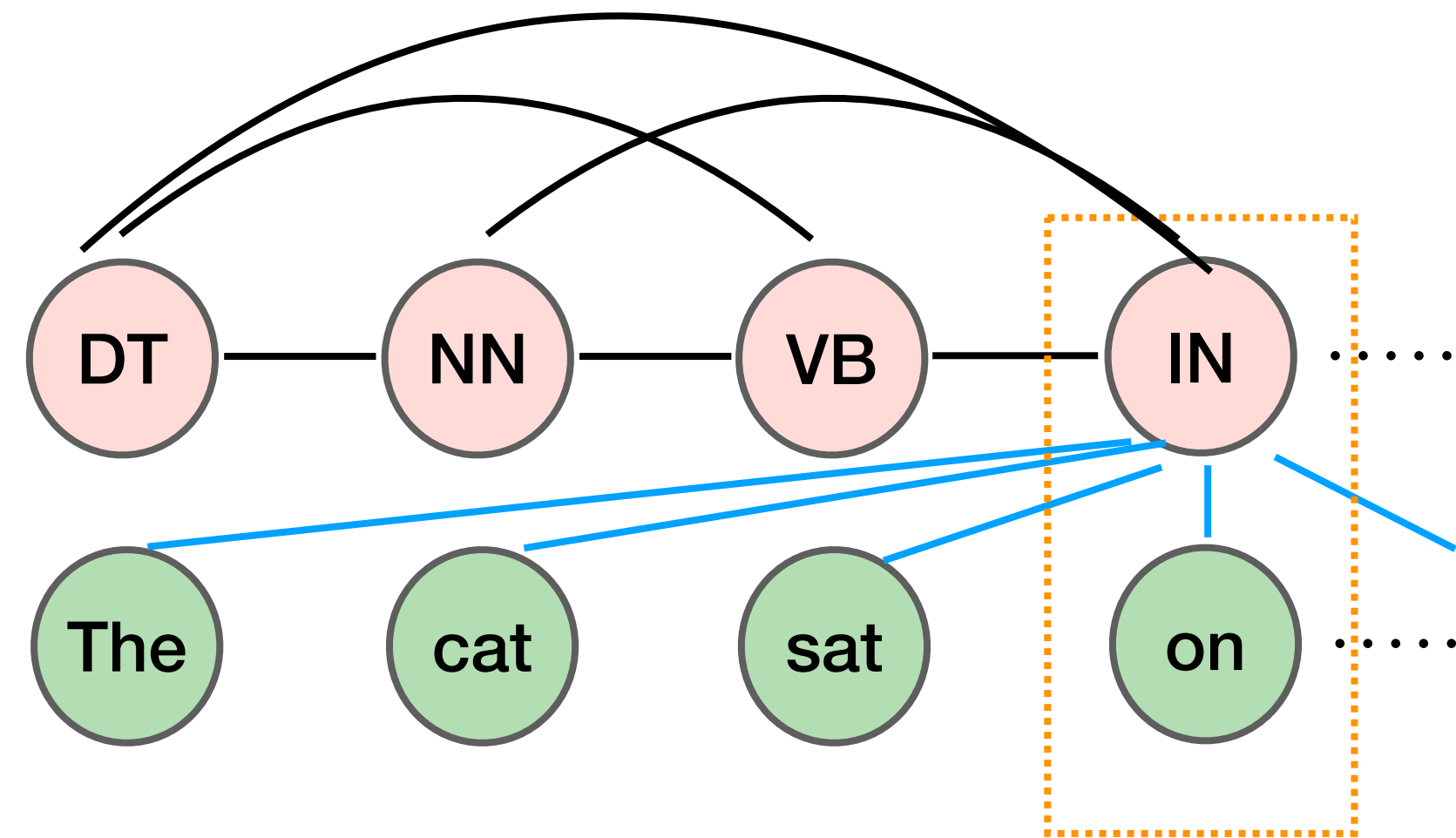
# Conditional Random Field

- Model  $P(s_1, \dots, s_n | o_1, \dots, o_n)$  directly
- No Markov assumption
- Map entire sequence of states  $S$  and observations  $O$  to a **global** feature vector
- Normalize over entire sequences



$$P(S | O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S, O))}{\sum_{S'} \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S', O))} = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S, O))}{Z(O)}$$

# Features



$$P(S | O) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S, O))}{\sum_{S'} \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S', O))}$$

- Each  $F_k$  in  $\mathbf{f}$  is a **global** feature function

$$P(S | O) = \frac{\exp(\sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot F_k(S, O))}{\sum_{S'} \exp(\sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot F_k(S', O))}$$

- Can be computed as a combination of local

features: 
$$F_k = \sum_{i=1}^n f_k(s_{i-1}, s_i, O, i)$$

- Each local feature only depends on previous and current states

$\mathbb{1}\{x_i = \textit{the}, y_i = \text{DET}\}$   
 $\mathbb{1}\{y_i = \text{PROPN}, x_{i+1} = \textit{Street}, y_{i-1} = \text{NUM}\}$   
 $\mathbb{1}\{y_i = \text{VERB}, y_{i-1} = \text{AUX}\}$

# CRF: Decoding

- $\hat{S} = \arg \max_S P(S | O) = \arg \max_S \frac{\exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S, O))}{Z(O)}$   
 $= \arg \max_S \exp(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(S, O))$   
 $= \arg \max_S \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s_{i-1}, s_i, O, i)$

- Use Viterbi similar to HMM and MEMM



# CRF: Learning

Log-Linear Models, MEMMs, and CRFs

Michael Collins

$$P(S | O) = \frac{\exp(\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s_{i-1}, s_i, O, i))}{Z(O)}$$

$$= \frac{\exp(\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s_{i-1}, s_i, O, i))}{\sum_{s'_1, \dots, s'_n} \exp(\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s'_{i-1}, s'_i, O, i))}$$

$$-\log P(S | O) = - \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s_{i-1}, s_i, O, i) + \log \sum_{s'_1, \dots, s'_n} \exp(\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n w_k f_k(s'_{i-1}, s'_i, O, i))$$

$\frac{-\partial \log P(S | O)}{\partial w_k}$  can be done efficiently using dynamic programming

# CRF vs MEMM

- MEMM models the required prediction  $P(S | O)$  using the Markov assumption, while the CRF does not
- CRF uses global features while MEMM features are localized
- Feature design is flexible in both models
- CRF is computationally more complex

# History of CRFs

- Very popular in the 2000s
- Wide variety of applications:
  - Information extraction
  - Summarization
  - Image labeling/segmentation

Information extraction from research papers using conditional random fields ☆

Fuchun Peng<sup>a</sup>  , Andrew McCallum<sup>b</sup> 

**Multiscale conditional random fields for image labeling**

Publisher: IEEE

[Cite This](#)

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Xuming He ; R.S. Zemel ; M.A. Carreira-Perpinan [All Authors](#)

**Document Summarization using Conditional Random Fields**

**Dou Shen<sup>1</sup>, Jian-Tao Sun<sup>2</sup>, Hua Li<sup>2</sup>, Qiang Yang<sup>1</sup>, Zheng Chen<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong  
{dshen, qyang}@cse.ust.hk

<sup>2</sup>Microsoft Research Asia, 49 Zhichun Road, China  
{jtsun, huli, zhengc}@microsoft.com

# History of CRFs

- Very popular in the 2000s
- Wide variety of applications:
  - Information extraction
  - Summarization
  - Image labeling/segmentation

## Software [\[ edit \]](#)

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This is a partial list of software that implement generic CRF tools.

- [RNNSharp](#) [↗](#) CRFs based on recurrent neural networks ([C#](#), [.NET](#))
- [CRF-ADF](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain CRFs with fast online ADF training ([C#](#), [.NET](#))
- [CRFSharp](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain CRFs ([C#](#), [.NET](#))
- [GCO](#) [↗](#) CRFs with submodular energy functions ([C++](#), [Matlab](#))
- [DGM](#) [↗](#) General CRFs ([C++](#))
- [GRMM](#) [↗](#) General CRFs ([Java](#))
- [factorie](#) [↗](#) General CRFs ([Scala](#))
- [CRFall](#) [↗](#) General CRFs ([Matlab](#))
- [Sarawagi's CRF](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain CRFs ([Java](#))
- [HCRF library](#) [↗](#) Hidden-state CRFs ([C++](#), [Matlab](#))
- [Accord.NET](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain CRF, HCRF and HMMs ([C#](#), [.NET](#))
- [Wapiti](#) [↗](#) Fast linear-chain CRFs ([C](#))<sup>[15]</sup>
- [CRFSuite](#) [↗](#) Fast restricted linear-chain CRFs ([C](#))
- [CRF++](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain CRFs ([C++](#))
- [FlexCRFs](#) [↗](#) First-order and second-order Markov CRFs ([C++](#))
- [crf-chain1](#) [↗](#) First-order, linear-chain CRFs ([Haskell](#))
- [imageCRF](#) [↗](#) CRF for segmenting images and image volumes ([C++](#))
- [MALLET](#) [↗](#) Linear-chain for sequence tagging ([Java](#))

# Empirical performance

Model	F score
SVM combination (Kudo and Matsumoto, 2001)	94.39%
CRF	94.38%
Generalized winnow (Zhang et al., 2002)	93.89%
Voted perceptron	94.09%
MEMM	93.70%

Table 2: NP chunking F scores

null hypothesis	p-value
CRF vs. SVM	0.469
CRF vs. MEMM	0.00109
CRF vs. voted perceptron	0.116
MEMM vs. voted perceptron	0.0734

Table 4: McNemar's tests on labeling disagreements

# CRFs in deep learning era

## Conditional Random Fields as Recurrent Neural Networks

*Shuai Zheng, Sadeep Jayasumana, Bernardino Romera-Paredes, Vibhav Vineet, Zhizhong Su, Dalong Du, Chang Huang, Philip H. S. Torr*, Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2015, pp. 1529-1537

## Neural Architectures for Named Entity Recognition

**Guillaume Lample<sup>♣</sup> Miguel Ballesteros<sup>♣♣</sup>**  
**Sandeep Subramanian<sup>♣</sup> Kazuya Kawakami<sup>♣</sup> Chris Dyer<sup>♣</sup>**  
<sup>♣</sup>Carnegie Mellon University   <sup>♣♣</sup>NLP Group, Pompeu Fabra University  
{glample, sandeeps, kkawakam, cdyer}@cs.cmu.edu,  
miguel.ballesteros@upf.edu

## Bidirectional LSTM-CRF Models for Sequence Tagging

<b>Zhiheng Huang</b> Baidu research huangzhiheng@baidu.com	<b>Wei Xu</b> Baidu research xuwei06@baidu.com	<b>Kai Yu</b> Baidu research yukai@baidu.com
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- Use CRFs on top of neural representations (instead of features and weights)
- Joint sequence prediction without the need for defining features!
- Recent architectures such as seq2seq w/ attention or Transformer may implicitly do the job

# Named entity recognition (NER)



# Named entity recognition

Person p Loc l Org o Event e Date d Other z

Barack Hussein Obama II \* (born August 4, 1961 \*) is an American \* attorney and politician who served as the 44th President of the United States \* from January 20, 2009 \*, to January 20, 2017 \*. A member of the Democratic Party \*, he was the first African American \* to serve as president. He was previously a United States Senator \* from Illinois \* and a member of the Illinois State Senate \*.



# Named entities

- Named entity, in its core usage, means anything that can be referred to with a proper name.
- NER is the task of 1) finding spans of text that constitute proper names; 2) tagging the type of the entity
- Most common 4 tags:
  - **PER** (Person): “Marie Curie”
  - **LOC** (Location): “New York City”
  - **ORG** (Organization): “Princeton University”
  - **MISC** (Miscellaneous): nationality, events, ..

Only France and Britain backed Fischler 's proposal .

O LOC O LOC O PER O O O

Steve Jobs founded Apple with Steve Wozniak .

PER PER O ORG O PER PER .

O = not an entity

If multiple words constitute a named entity, they will be labeled with the same tag.

# NER: BIO Tagging

[PER Jane Villanueva] of [ORG United] , a unit of [ORG United Airlines Holding] ,  
said the fare applies to the [LOC Chicago ] route.

Words	BIO Label
Jane	B-PER
Villanueva	I-PER
of	O
United	B-ORG
Airlines	I-ORG
Holding	I-ORG
discussed	O
the	O
Chicago	B-LOC
route	O
.	O

B: token that begins a span

I: tokens that inside a span

O: tokens outside of a span