## TTIC 31210:

Advanced Natural Language Processing

Kevin Gimpel Spring 2019

## Lecture 11:

Finish Learning in Structured Prediction;
Probabilistic Modeling and Latent
Variables

# Roadmap

- intro (1 lecture)
- deep learning for NLP (5 lectures)
- structured prediction (4.5 lectures)
  - introducing/formalizing structured prediction, categories of structures
  - inference: dynamic programming, greedy algorithms, beam search
  - inference with non-local features
  - learning in structured prediction
- generative models, latent variables, unsupervised learning, variational autoencoders (1.5 lectures)
- Bayesian methods in NLP (2 lectures)
- Bayesian nonparametrics in NLP (2 lectures)
- review & other topics (1 lecture)

# Assignments

 Assignment 1 grades were sent out today (sorry for the multiple emails)

any questions about Assignment 3?

after the break, we'll go over Assignment 2 solutions briefly

# Inference: Summary

- exact DP algorithms if parts are small
- beam search
- coarse-to-fine
- gradient descent for inference
- inference networks
- linear programming / ILP

## Learning in Structured Prediction

$$\operatorname{classify}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \operatorname{argmax} \ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\theta})$$
 
$$\boldsymbol{y}$$
 
$$\mathsf{learning: choose} \ \boldsymbol{\theta}$$

- most loss functions used in structured prediction have the same form as those used in multi-class classification
- part that changes: now structured inference is required for computing gradients
- we can use any inference strategy we discussed in the context of learning
- there are also new inference problems that arise for certain loss functions

## **Cost Functions**

cost function: how different are these two structures?

$$cost: \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

- typically used to compare predicted structure to gold standard
- should reflect evaluation metric for task

## **Cost Functions**

typical cost for multi-class classification:

$$cost(y, y') = \mathbb{I}[y \neq y']$$

• how about for sequences?  $\mathrm{cost}: \mathcal{Y} imes \mathcal{Y} o \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ 

- "Hamming cost": 
$$\operatorname{cost}({m y},{m y}') = \sum_{t=1}^{|{m y}|} \mathbb{I}[y_t \neq y_t']$$

$$-$$
 "0-1 cost":  $\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{y}')=\mathbb{I}[oldsymbol{y}
eq oldsymbol{y}']$ 

## **Empirical Risk Minimization**

$$\hat{m{ heta}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{m{\langle x,y \rangle} \in \mathcal{D}} \operatorname{cost}(m{y}, \operatorname{predict}(m{x}, m{ heta}))$$

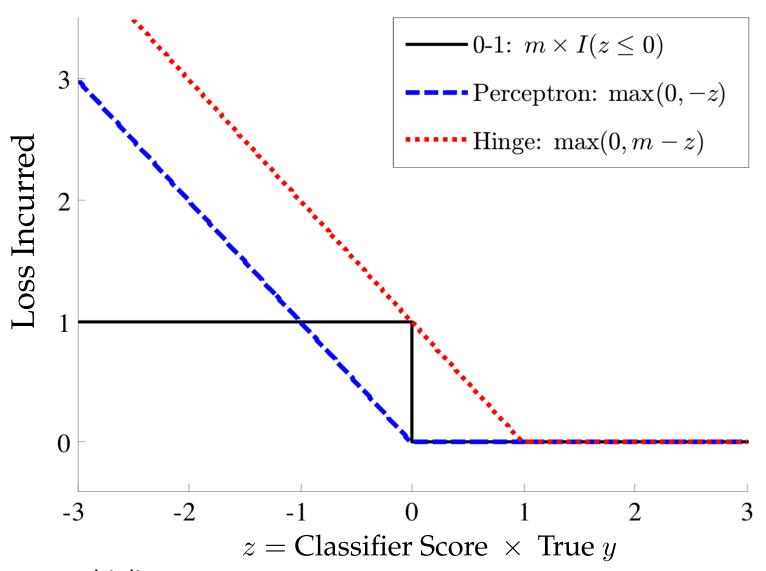
$$\underset{\boldsymbol{y}}{\operatorname{predict}}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underset{\boldsymbol{y}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

 this is intractable so we typically minimize a surrogate loss function instead

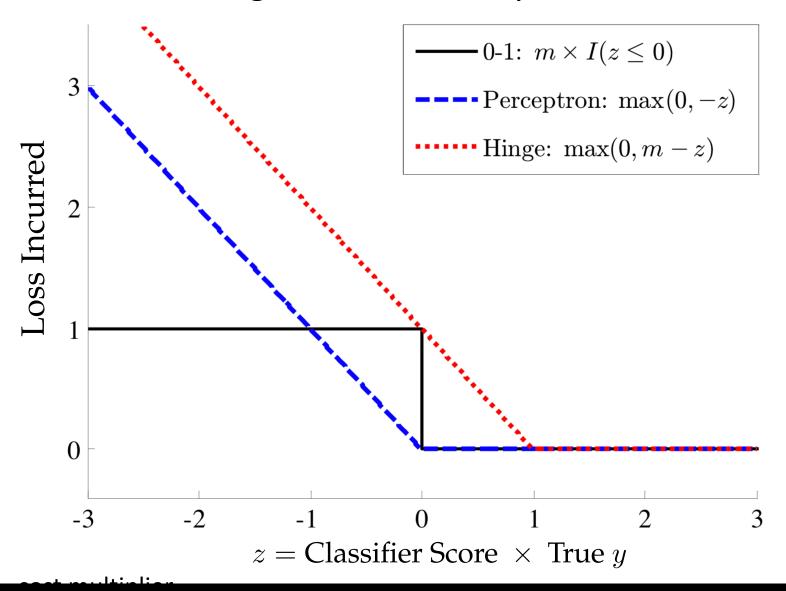
name	loss	where used
cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)

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cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)
percep- tron	$-\mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ \mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta})$	structured perceptron (Collins, 2002)

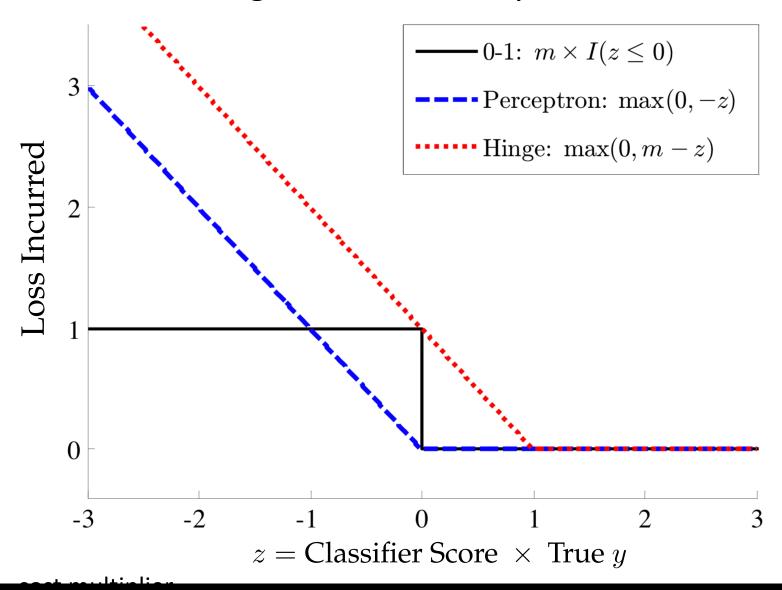
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hinge	$-\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ (\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta}) + \operatorname{cost}(oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{y}'))$	structured SVMs (Taskar et al., inter alia)



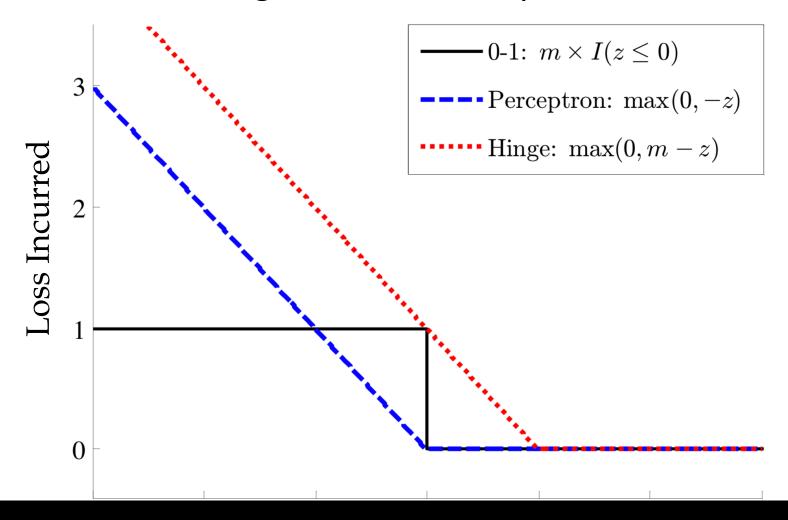
 $m = \cos t$  multiplier this is for binary classification, so true y is either -1 or 1 the larger the classifier score is, the more confident the classifier is



with 0-1 loss: if classifier is correct, what is the loss?

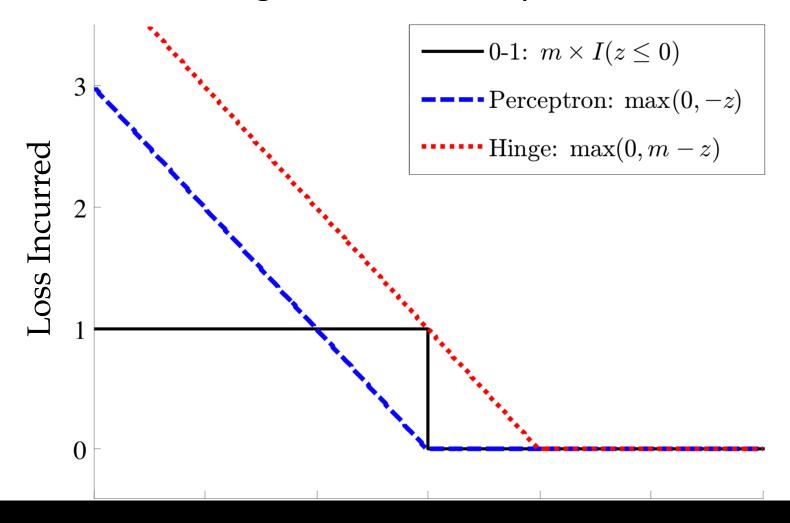


with 0-1 loss: if classifier is correct, what is the loss? 0



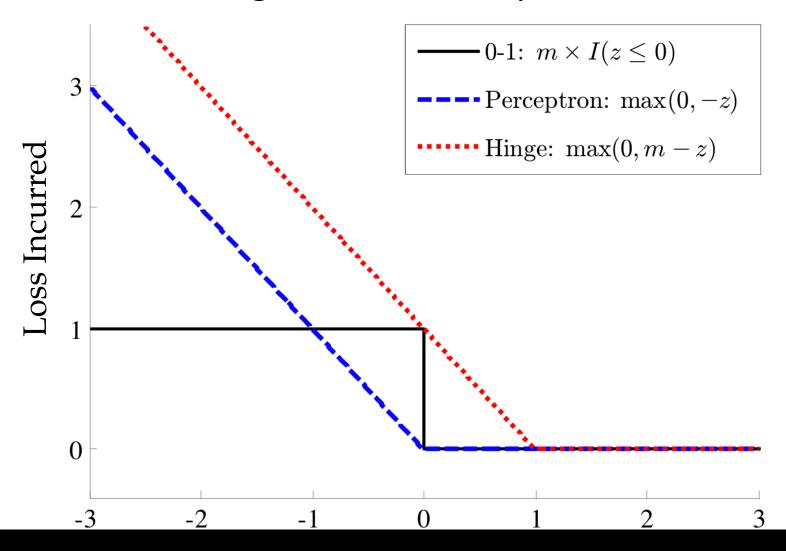
## with perceptron loss:

if classifier is correct, what is the loss? if classifier is incorrect, what is the loss?

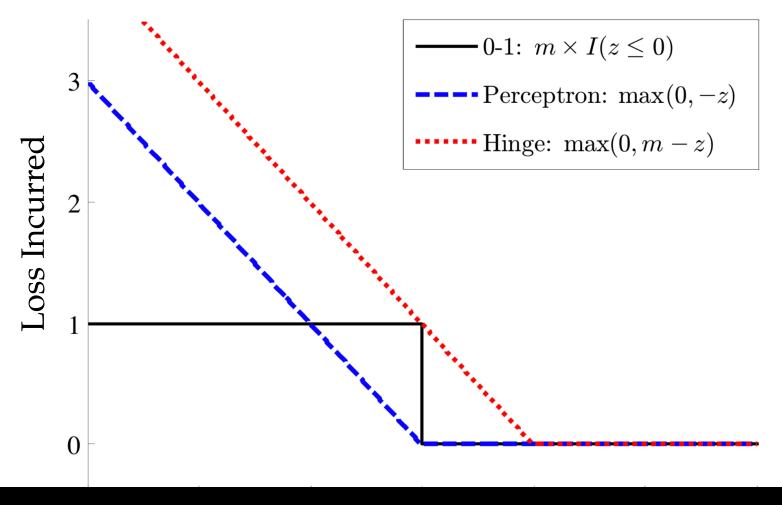


## with perceptron loss:

if classifier is correct, what is the loss? O if classifier is incorrect, what is the loss? classifier score



with hinge loss: if classifier is correct, what is the loss? if classifier is incorrect, what is the loss?



#### with hinge loss:

if classifier is correct, what is the loss? 0 if classifier score bigger than m, else m minus classifier score

if classifier is incorrect, what is the loss? classifier score + m

name	loss	where used
cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)
percep- tron	$-\mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{y}, oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ \mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{y}', oldsymbol{ heta})$	structured perceptron (Collins, 2002)
hinge	$-\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ (\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta}) + \operatorname{cost}(oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{y}'))$	structured SVMs (Taskar et al., inter alia)
log	$-\log p_{m{ heta}}(m{y}\midm{x})$	CRFs (Lafferty et al., 2001)

 $oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}$  form a structured input/output pair in the training data

loss

name

where used

cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)
percep- tron	$-\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta})$	structured perceptron (Collins, 2002)
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log	$-\log p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{y} \mid \boldsymbol{x}) = -\log \frac{\exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}$	CRFs (Lafferty et al., 2001)

note: this uses the usual softmax transformation to convert scores to probabilities, but the summation is over all output structures

 $= -\text{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum \exp\{\text{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta})\}$ 

# New Inference Problem: Summing

$$-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right\}$$

- to compute gradients of this loss, we need to sum over all structured outputs
- for certain structures, we can do this efficiently using DP algorithms

# Viterbi Algorithm for HMMs

$$V(1, y) = p_{\eta}(x_1 \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid \langle s \rangle)$$

$$V(m, y) = \max_{y' \in \mathcal{L}} (p_{\eta}(x_m \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid y') V(m - 1, y'))$$

Viterbi efficiently iterates over **all** label sequences in polynomial time

can we repurpose this algorithm to efficiently sum over all label sequences?

# Viterbi → "Forward" Algorithm

$$V(1, y) = p_{\eta}(x_1 \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid \langle s \rangle)$$

$$V(m, y) = \max_{y' \in \mathcal{L}} (p_{\eta}(x_m \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid y') V(m - 1, y'))$$

just change max to sum!

$$F(1,y) = p_{\eta} x_1 \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid \langle s \rangle)$$

$$F(m,y) = \sum_{y' \in \mathcal{L}} p_{\eta}(x_m \mid y) p_{\tau}(y \mid y') F(m-1,y')$$

# Forward-Backward Algorithm?

- we used to derive a second algorithm ("backward" or "outside") and use both algorithms to compute expected counts/posteriors/gradients
- now, we just implement the forward DP algorithm with memoization directly using computation graphs, then use autodifferentiation
- this is not new, though for many years it was not mainstream

see Eisner (2016): *Inside-Outside and Forward-Backward Algorithms Are Just Backprop* 

## **Summing Over Structures**

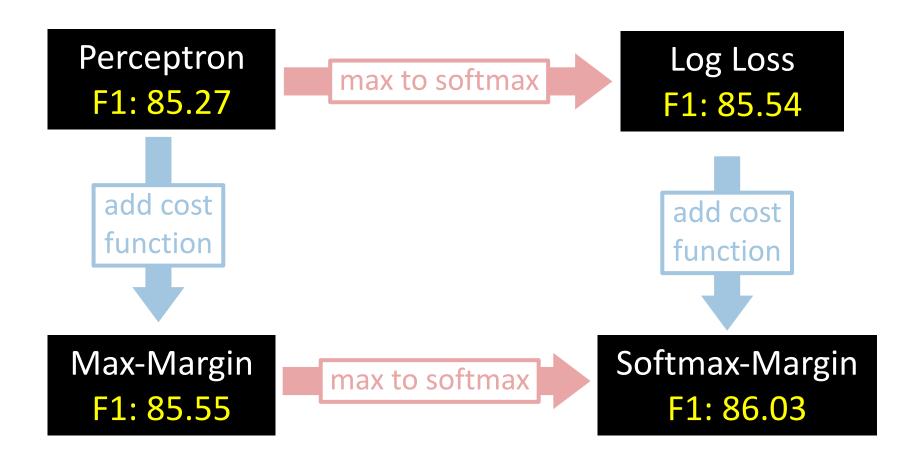
- when parts are small, we can repurpose max DP algorithms for summing
- how about when parts are big or DP is too slow?
- "approximate summing" is much trickier than approximate argmax
- depending on what you want to do in the summation, you may have to be careful about bias (e.g., if you're estimating expectations)

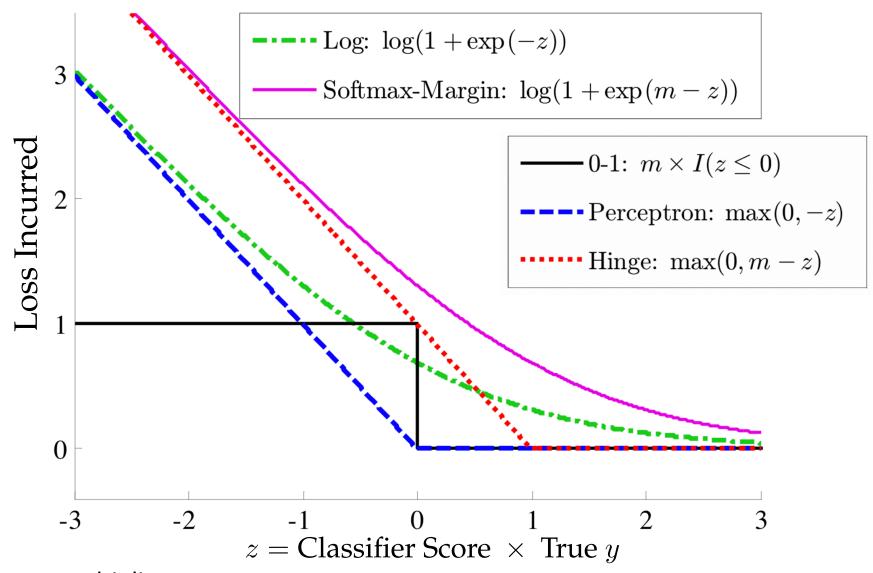
name	loss	where used
cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)
percep- tron	$-\mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{y}, oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ \mathrm{score}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{y}', oldsymbol{ heta})$	structured perceptron (Collins, 2002)
hinge	$-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \max_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \ \left(\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{y}')\right)$	structured SVMs (Taskar et al., inter alia)
log	$-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \ \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right\}$	CRFs (Lafferty et al., 2001)
softmax margin	$-\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \log \sum_{oldsymbol{y}'} \ \exp \left\{\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta}) + \operatorname{cost}(oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{y}') ight\}$	Povey et al. (2008), Gimpel & Smith (2010)

## Relationships Among Losses

$$-\operatorname{score}(x,y,\theta) + \max_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) \\ -\operatorname{score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) \right\} \\ \operatorname{perceptron loss} \\ \operatorname{max to softmax} \\ \operatorname{log loss} \\ \operatorname{add cost}_{\operatorname{function}} \\ \operatorname{max-margin} \\ \operatorname{max to softmax} \\ \operatorname{softmax-margin} \\ -\operatorname{score}(x,y,\theta) + \max_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \left( \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right) \\ -\operatorname{score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(x,y',\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') \right\} \\ \\ \operatorname{-score}(x,y,\theta) + \operatorname{cost}(y,y') + \operatorname{cost$$

## Results: Named Entity Recognition



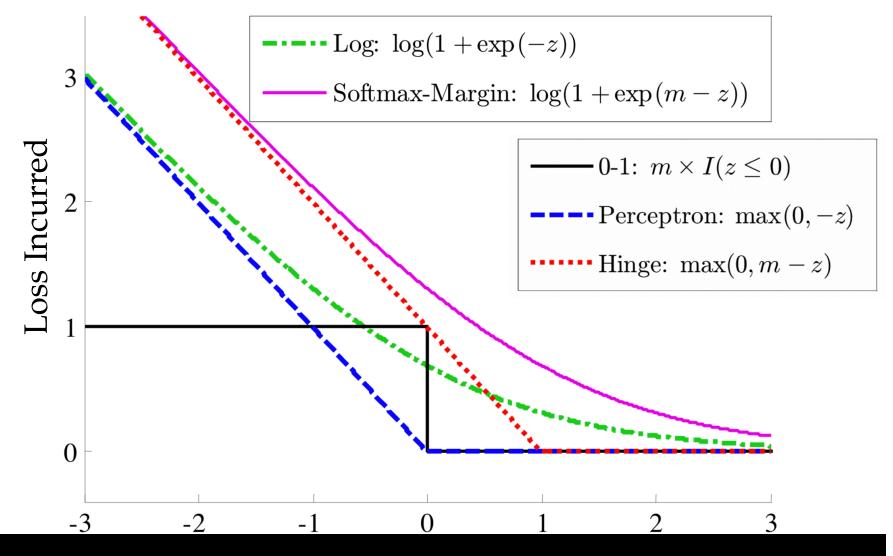


m = cost multiplierthis is for binary classification, so true y is either -1 or 1 the larger the classifier score is, the more confident the classifier is

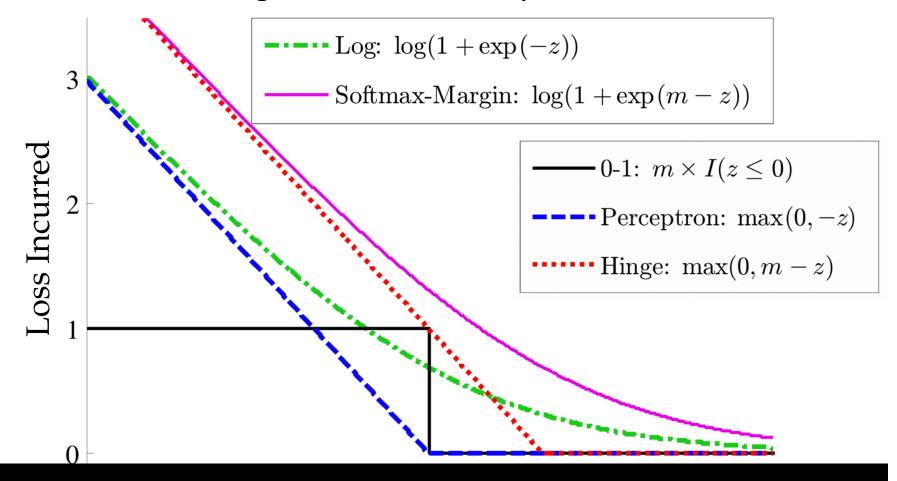
#### New Inference Problem: Cost-Augmented Summing

$$-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \ \exp \left\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}')\right\}$$

 if cost function decomposes additively like the score function (i.e., if cost and score functions use same parts), we can use same algorithms as for log loss



- these 4 surrogate loss functions are convex
- good for optimization, but any potential problems?



- these 4 surrogate loss functions are convex
- good for optimization, but:
  - loose approximations to 0-1 loss
  - may be sensitive to outliers

# Non-Convex Surrogate Losses

risk (also called Bayes risk)

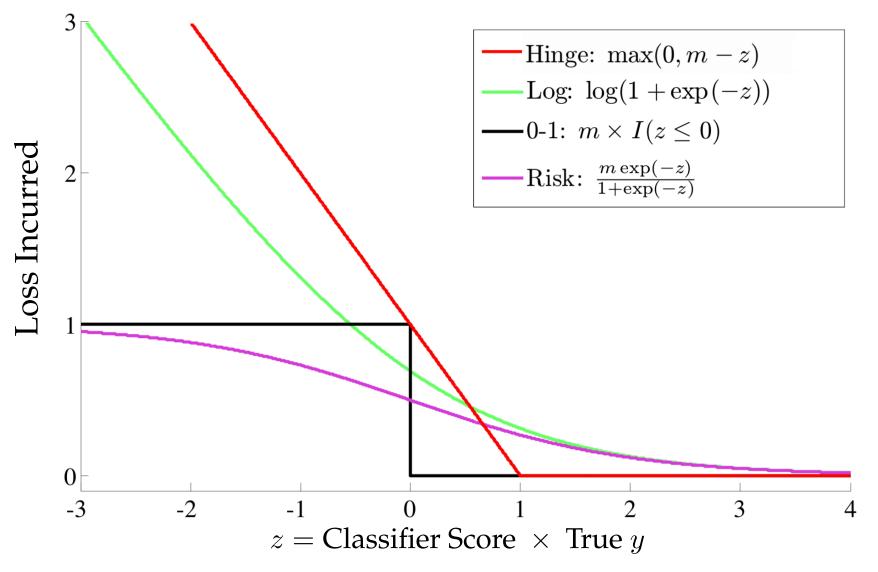
## Risk

- expectation under the model of the cost function
- has been used for speech & machine translation (Kaiser et al., 2000; Smith & Eisner, 2006)

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{y}'|\boldsymbol{x})}\left[\mathrm{cost}(\boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{y}')\right]$$

where model probability is produced using a softmax over structured outputs, just like with log loss:

$$p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{y} \mid \boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}$$



risk is non-convex and tracks 0-1 loss more closely than the convex losses

## Risk

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{y}'|\boldsymbol{x})}\left[\mathrm{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}')\right] = \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \mathrm{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}') \frac{\exp\{\mathrm{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta})\}}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}''} \exp\{\mathrm{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}'',\boldsymbol{\theta})\}}$$

- how can we compute gradients for optimizing this?
- · for log loss, we only needed a summing algorithm
- for risk, we need to compute expectations of products (intuitively: need to track pairs of parts)
- there are DP algorithms that can be used to efficiently compute gradients for risk (and related quantities)

Li & Eisner (2009): First- and second-order expectation semirings with applications to minimum-risk training on translation forests

Xiong et al. (2009): Minimum tag error for discriminative training of conditional random fields

### Minimum Risk Training for Machine Translation

- used for MT by Smith & Eisner (2006) and neural MT by Shen et al. (2016)
- found effective in large-scale comparison by Edunov et al. (2018)
- most use a cost function related to BLEU score
- approximate sums using n-best lists:

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{y}'|\boldsymbol{x})}\left[\mathrm{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}')\right] = \sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \mathrm{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}') \frac{\exp\{\mathrm{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta})\}}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}''} \exp\{\mathrm{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}'',\boldsymbol{\theta})\}}$$
 sums approximated

using *n*-best lists

# Lace Eurotians for Structured Dradiction

Loss Functions for Structured Prediction					
name	loss	where used			
cost ("0-1")	$\mathrm{cost}(oldsymbol{y}, \mathrm{predict}(oldsymbol{x}, oldsymbol{ heta}))$	MERT (Och, 2003)			
percep-	$-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{ heta}) + \max \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{ heta})$	structured perceptron			

 $-\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{ heta}) + \max_{oldsymbol{y}'} \left(\operatorname{score}(oldsymbol{x},oldsymbol{y}',oldsymbol{ heta}) + \operatorname{cost}(oldsymbol{y},oldsymbol{y}')
ight)$ 

 $-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum \ \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right\}$ 

 $-\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \sum \exp \left\{ \operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{y}') \right\}$ 

 $\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}'} \operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{y}') \frac{\exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}', \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{y}''} \exp\{\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}'', \boldsymbol{\theta})\}}$ 

(Collins, 2002)

structured SVMs

(Taskar et al.,

inter alia)

CRFs (Lafferty et

al., 2001)

Povey et al.

(2008), Gimpel &

Smith (2010)

Kaiser et al.,

(2000); Smith &

Eisner (2006)

tron

hinge

log

softmax

margin

risk

# Non-Convex Surrogate Losses

- risk
- ramp

### Ramp Loss

what is this loss doing?

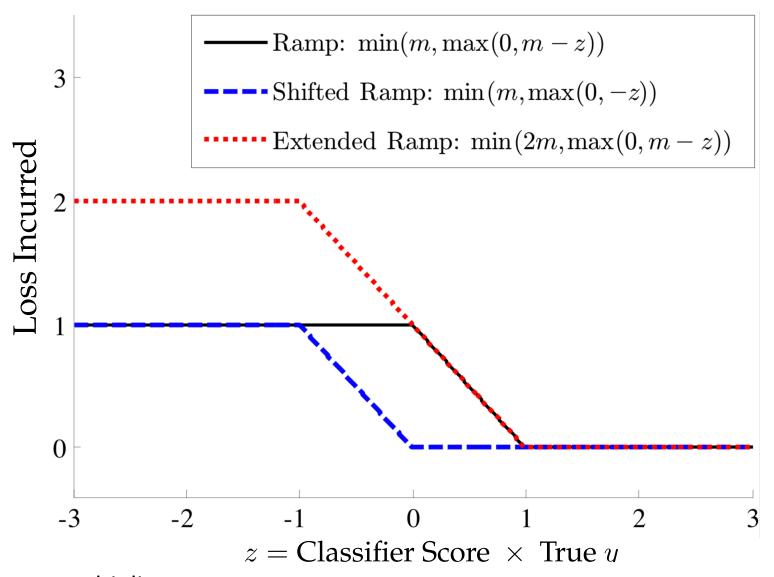
$$-\max_{\boldsymbol{y''}}\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y''},\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \max_{\boldsymbol{y'}}\left(\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y'},\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y'})\right)$$

Do et al. (2008): Tighter bounds for structured estimation

second form of ramp loss:

$$-\max_{\boldsymbol{y}''}\left(\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}'',\boldsymbol{\theta})-\operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}'')\right)+\max_{\boldsymbol{y}'}\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

### Ramp Losses for Binary Classification



m = cost multiplierthis is for binary classification, so true y is either -1 or 1the larger the classifier score is, the more confident the classifier is

#### New Inference Problem: Cost-Diminished Inference

$$-\max_{\boldsymbol{y}''}\left(\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}'',\boldsymbol{\theta})-\operatorname{cost}(\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{y}'')\right)+\max_{\boldsymbol{y}'}\operatorname{score}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y}',\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

can use same algorithms as cost-augmented inference

### Learning in Structured Prediction: Summary

- losses have same form as in multi-class classification
- two things change:
  - structured inference is required during learning,
     and it can take various forms
  - cost function usually defined to decompose across parts of structured output
    - in multi-class classification, cost is much simpler

### Learning in Structured Prediction: Summary

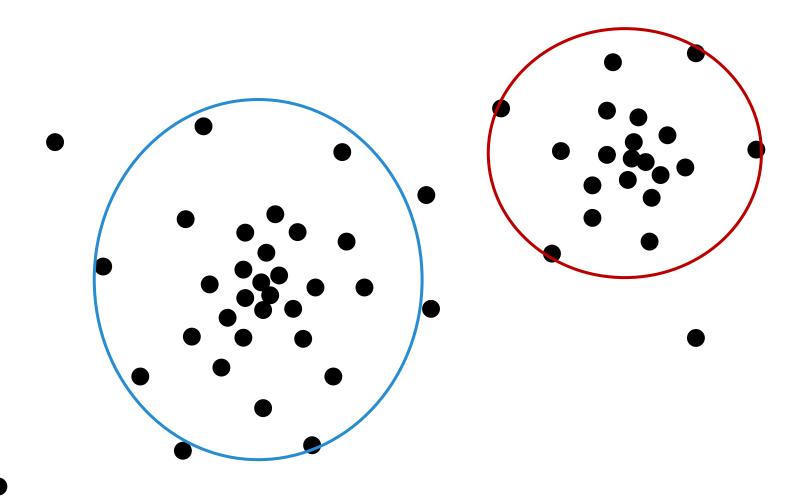
- computational bottleneck in learning is inference
- various forms of inference:
  - perceptron: argmax inference
  - hinge: cost-augmented inference
  - log: summation over structures
  - softmax-margin: cost-augmented summation
  - risk: expectations of products
  - ramp: cost-augmented/cost-diminished inference
- argmax inference is easier/faster than summing inference, so perceptron/hinge losses are commonly used in structured prediction

## Roadmap

- intro (1 lecture)
- deep learning for NLP (5 lectures)
- structured prediction (4.5 lectures)
- generative models, latent variables, unsupervised learning, variational autoencoders (1.5 lectures)
- Bayesian methods in NLP (2 lectures)
- Bayesian nonparametrics in NLP (2 lectures)
- review & other topics (1 lecture)

- NLP historically has had a lot of probabilistic modeling with latent variables
- sometimes supervised, sometimes unsupervised
- unsupervised learning in NLP often takes the form: "consider the unseen output as a latent variable"

### Prototypical Latent-Variable Model: Clustering



# Latent-Variable Modeling

- why would we want to introduce latent variables in our models?
- we may want to assume there is some unseen ("latent" or "hidden"), underlying structure in the data-generating process
- this latent structure can help us in defining the generative model of the data
- e.g., clustering

### "Brown Clustering"

# Class-Based *n*-gram Models of Natural Language

Peter F. Brown\*
Peter V. deSouza\*

Robert L. Mercer\*

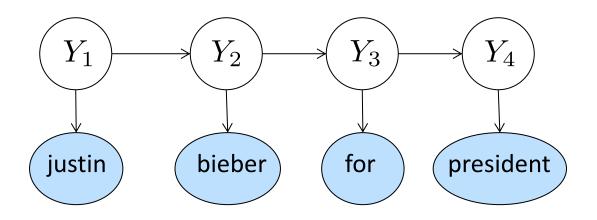
Vincent J. Della Pietra\* Jenifer C. Lai\*

Friday Monday Thursday Wednesday Tuesday Saturday Sunday weekends Sundays Saturdays
June March July April January December October November September August
people guys folks fellows CEOs chaps doubters commies unfortunates blokes
down backwards ashore sideways southward northward overboard aloft downwards adrift
water gas coal liquid acid sand carbon steam shale iron
great big vast sudden mere sheer gigantic lifelong scant colossal

Computational Linguistics, 1992

### **HMMs for Word Clustering**

(Brown et al., 1992)



each  $y_i \in \mathcal{L}$  is a cluster ID so, label space is  $\mathcal{L} = \{1, 2, ..., 100\}$ 

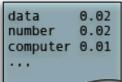
# Topic Modeling

#### **Topics**

#### gene 0.04 dna 0.02 genetic 0.01

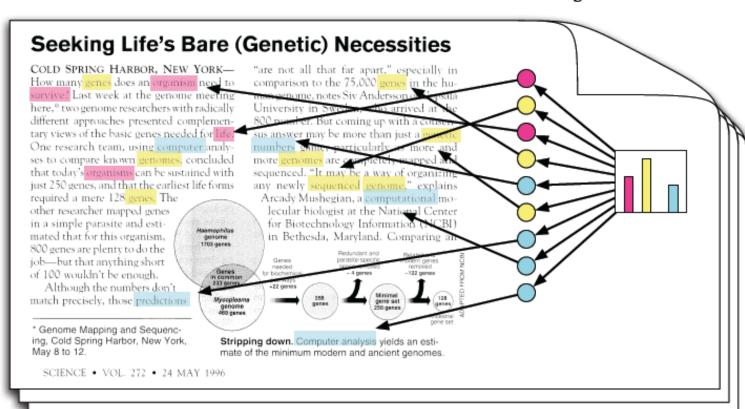
```
life 0.02
evolve 0.01
organism 0.01
```

```
brain 0.04
neuron 0.02
nerve 0.01
```



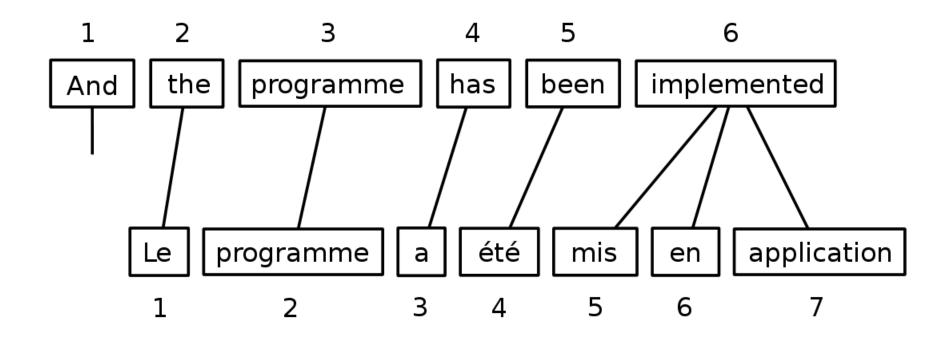
#### **Documents**

#### Topic proportions and assignments



## Word Alignment

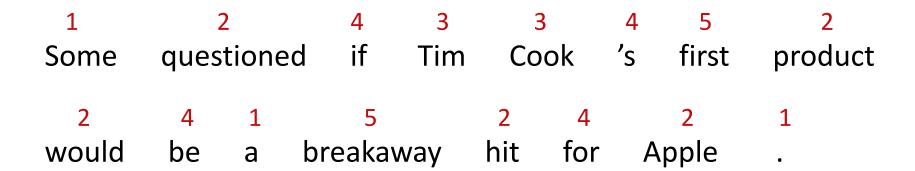
parallel sentences are observed, word alignments are latent variables:



#### Part-of-Speech Tagging

```
proper
                             proper
          verb (past)
determiner
                       prep.
                              noun
                                      noun
                                             poss.
                                                   adj.
                                                            noun
          questioned
                         if
                              Tim
                                     Cook
                                              'S
                                                   first
                                                          product
 Some
                                                 proper
                       adjective
 modal
          verb det.
                                   noun
                                         prep.
                                                 noun
                                                        punc.
                     breakaway
                                    hit
                                                Apple
 would
                                          for
           be
                 a
```

#### **Unsupervised** Part-of-Speech Tagging



sentences are observed, part-of-speech tags are treated as latent variables

#### **Unsupervised** Part-of-Speech Tagging

```
1 2 4 3 3 4 5 2
Some questioned if Tim Cook 's first product
2 4 1 5 2 4 2 1
would be a breakaway hit for Apple .
```

#### 1-to-1 accuracy:

- 1 → determiner
- 2 → verb
- 3 → noun

• • •

#### **Unsupervised** Part-of-Speech Tagging

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1 2 4 3 3 4 5 2
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would be a breakaway hit for Apple .
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### 1-to-1 accuracy:

- 1 → determiner
- 2 → verb
- 3 → noun

•••

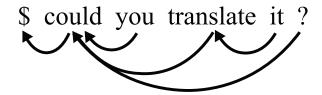
#### many-to-1 accuracy:

- 1 → determiner
- 2 → noun
- 3 → noun

• •

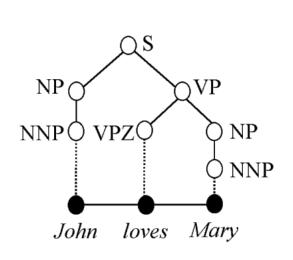
# **Unsupervised Dependency Parsing**

sentences are observed, dependency parse trees are treated as latent variables:



### Latent Syntactic Categories for Parsing

 split Penn Treebank syntactic categories into finer subcategories



11111						
NNP-0	Jr.	Goldman	INC.			
NNP-1	Bush	Noriega	Peters			
NNP-2	J.	E.	L.			
NNP-3	York	Francisco	Street			
NNP-4	Inc	Exchange	Co			
NNP-5	Inc.	Corp.	Co.			

NNP

$\mathbf{n}$						
RB-0	recently	previously	still			
RB-1	here	back	now			
RB-2	very	highly	relatively			
RB-3	so	too	as			
RB-4	also	now	$\operatorname{still}$			
RB-5	however	Now	However			

DD

# Morphological Segmentation

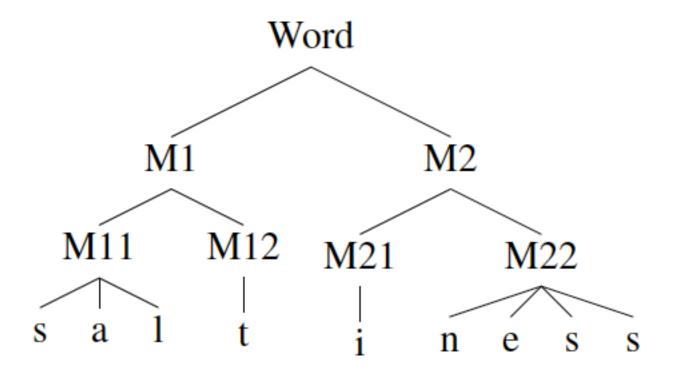
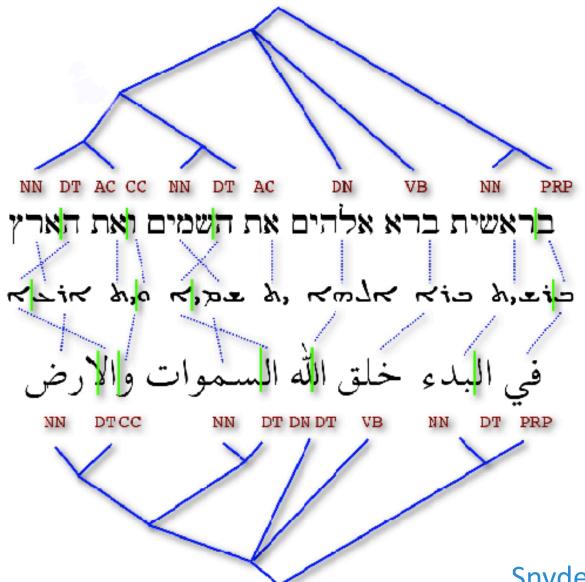


Figure 1: The parse tree generated by the metagrammar of depth 2 for the word *saltiness*.

### Morphological Segmentations, POS, and Syntactic Trees



Snyder & Barzilay

### **Generative Stories**

- we hypothesize latent variables through which data are generated
- define "generative story" that describes how latent variables are generated, then how data is generated using latent variables

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i} \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)$$

 EM is an algorithmic template that finds a local maximum of the marginal likelihood of the observed data

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i} \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)$$

working instead with the log-likelihood:

$$\sum_{i} \log \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)$$

$$= \sum_{i} \log \sum_{z} q_{i}(z) \frac{p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)}{q_{i}(z)}$$

• where  $q_i$  is some distribution over values for z

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i} \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)$$

working instead with the log-likelihood:

$$\begin{split} \sum_{i} \log \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta) \\ &= \sum_{i} \log \sum_{z} q_{i}(z) \frac{p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)}{q_{i}(z)} \\ \text{via Jensen's} &\geq \sum_{i} \sum_{z} q_{i}(z) \log \frac{p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)}{q_{i}(z)} \end{split}$$

$$\max_{\theta} \prod_{i} \sum_{z} p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)$$

maximize lower bound of the log-likelihood:

$$\sum_{i} \sum_{z} q_i(z) \log \frac{p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta)}{q_i(z)}$$

alternate between optimizing wrt q and theta

### **EM**

- "E" step:
  - compute posteriors over latent variables:

for each 
$$i$$
,  $q_i(z) = p(z \mid x^{(i)}, \theta)$ 

### **EM**

- "E" step:
  - compute posteriors over latent variables:

for each 
$$i$$
,  $q_i(z) = p(z \mid x^{(i)}, \theta)$ 

- "M" step:
  - update parameters given posteriors:

$$\theta = \underset{\theta'}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{i} \sum_{z} q_i(z) \log \frac{p(x^{(i)}, z \mid \theta')}{q_i(z)}$$

### **EM** for Structured Prediction

 to compute posteriors, we need to sum over all output structures

# **EM Today**

- today we don't always need to do the alternating steps of EM
- just like summing inference for structured prediction, we can implement the summing algorithm using computation graphs, then use autodifferentiation
- parameterize categorical distributions using a "softmax parameterization" (i.e., do optimization in the logits, not probabilities)