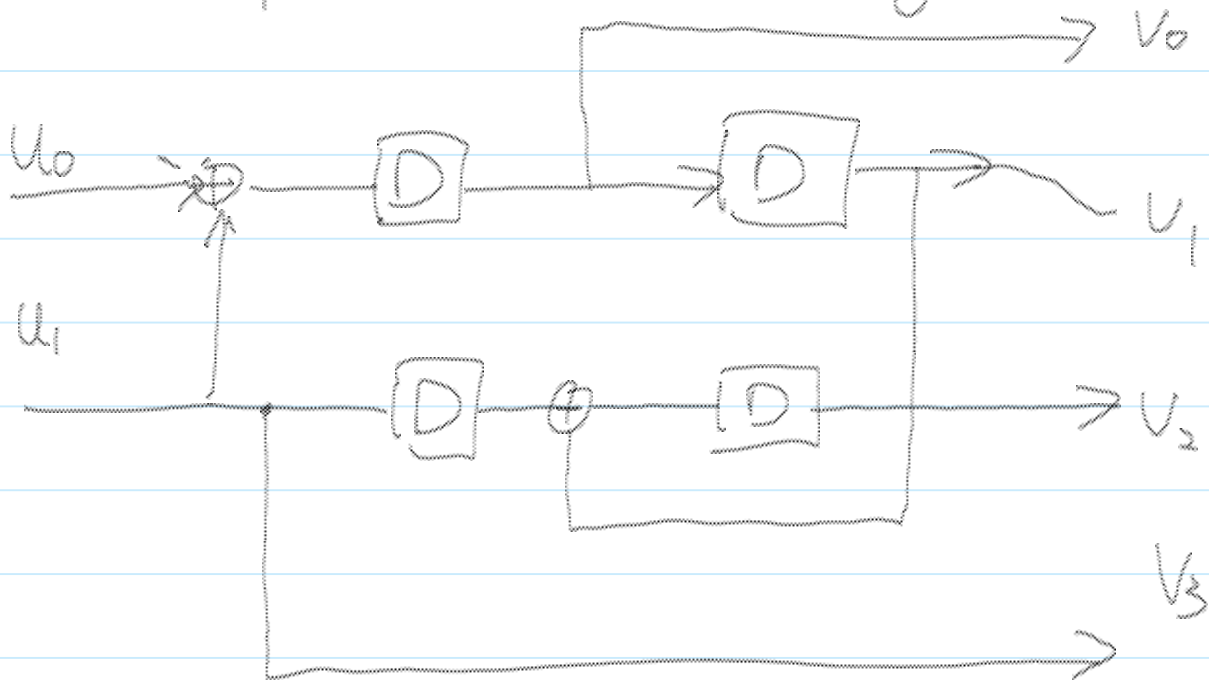


* Binary Convolutional Codes by Elias 1955

A special class of binary linear codes



Features of convolutional codes

- Serial input (single bit or multiple bits).

$[u_0 u_1] [u_2 u_3] [u_4 u_5] \dots$

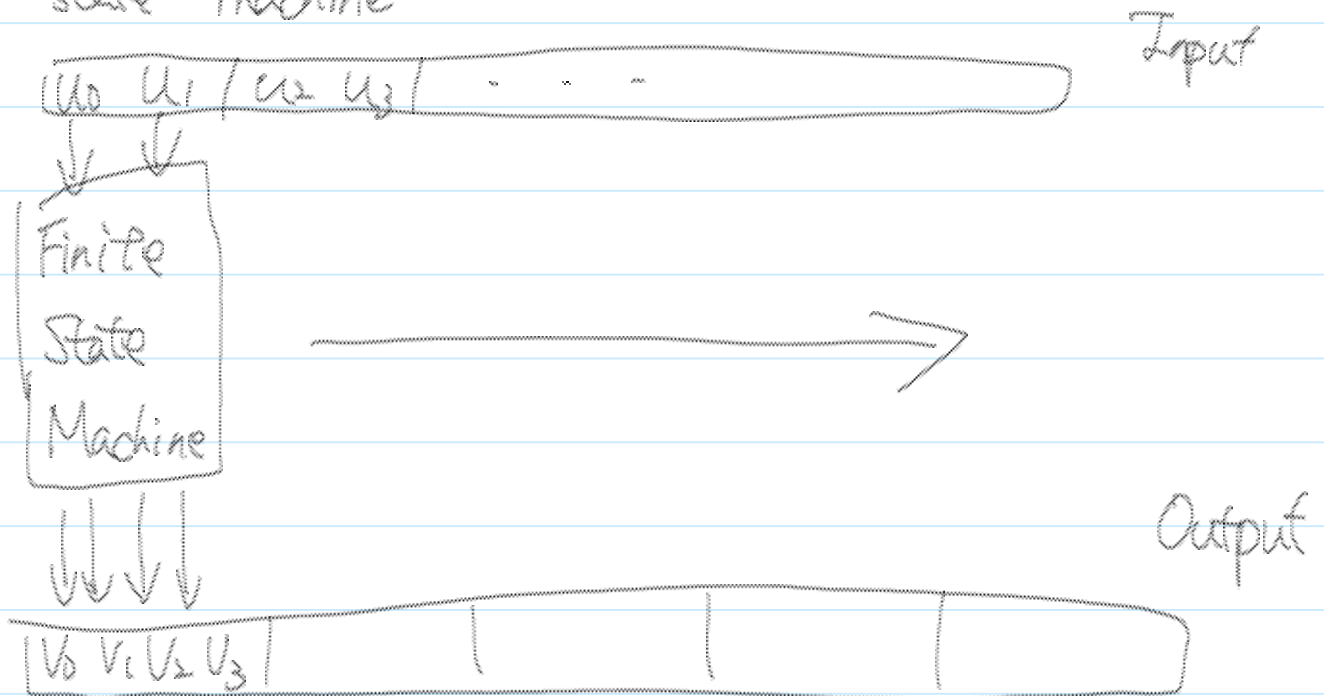
- Serial output

$[v_0 v_1 v_2 v_3] [v_4 v_5 v_6 v_7] \dots$

③ Arbitrary connection among a finite # of delay units & binary \oplus operations.

④ All memory or delay units are initialized to zero.

A more general form, sometimes called the trellis code is based on the finite state machine



Properties of the convolutional code

Properties of the convolutional code

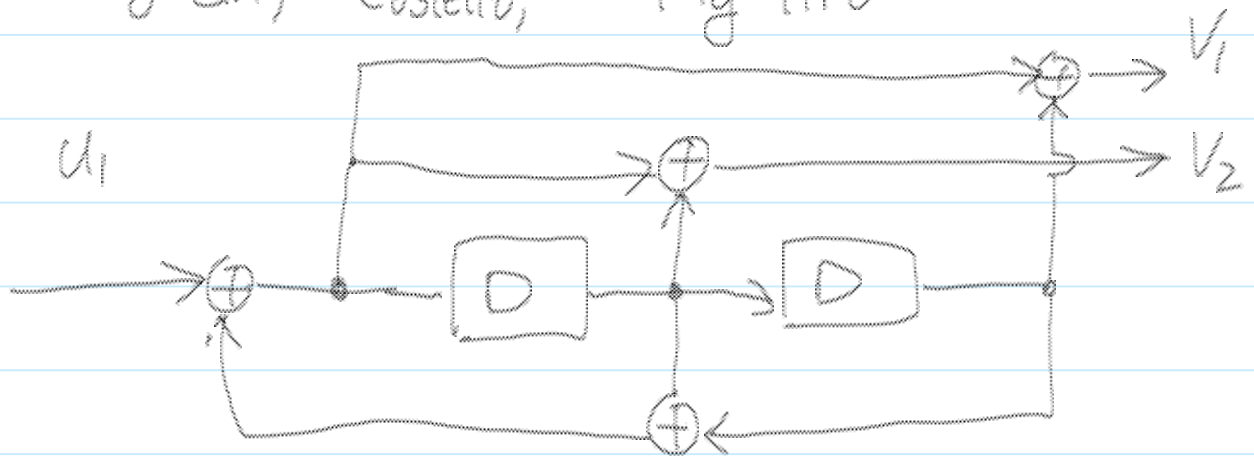
① Still a binary linear code. (Since the delay, \oplus used

Since the input/output can be viewed as a discrete-time linear time-invariant system } for the FSM are linear.



$\Rightarrow P_x$ is uniform.

A running example Lin, Costello, Fig 11.6



② The code rate is $\frac{\# \text{ of } u \text{ bits}}{\# \text{ of } v \text{ bits}}$

$= \frac{1}{2}$ in our example

③ Encoding complexity: $O(n(\text{complexity of FSM}))$

* ④ Complexity of "optimal decoding"

We will discuss it later.

$$O(|\# \text{ states}| \times n)$$

③ + ④ \Rightarrow scalable for large n , Long codewords have better performance. (PRNG)

⑤ Early pseudo-random number generators are based on shift registers with feedback.

\Rightarrow the \vec{X} codeword distribution looks random.

Recall random codes achieve the capacity. We expect good performance of the convolutional codes.

Unfortunately, the seq generated by shift registers is not random enough.

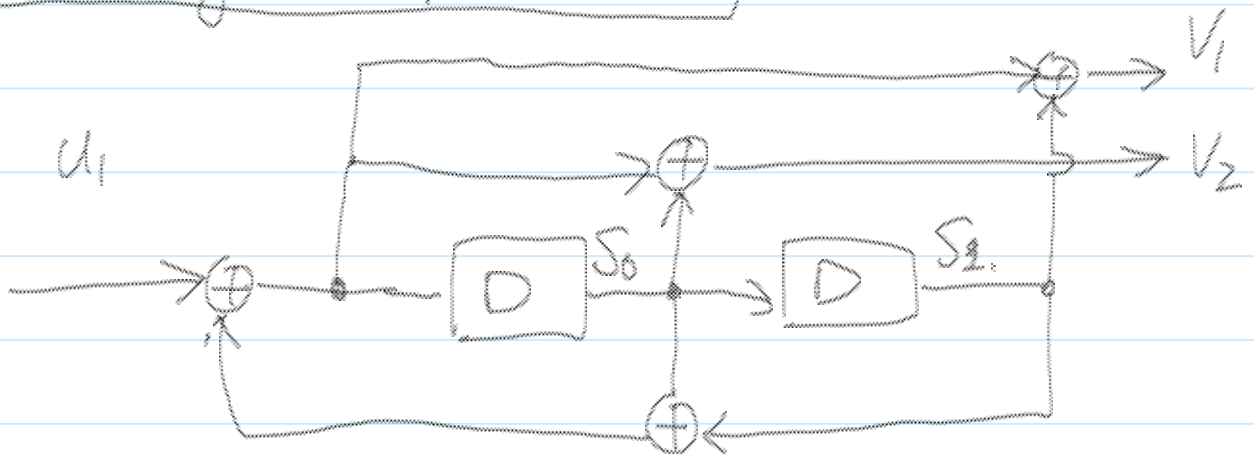
\Rightarrow ① Not the best PRNG.

② The performance is still away from capacity.

* Optimal decoding (the Viterbi algorithm)

* A detour to the trellis representation

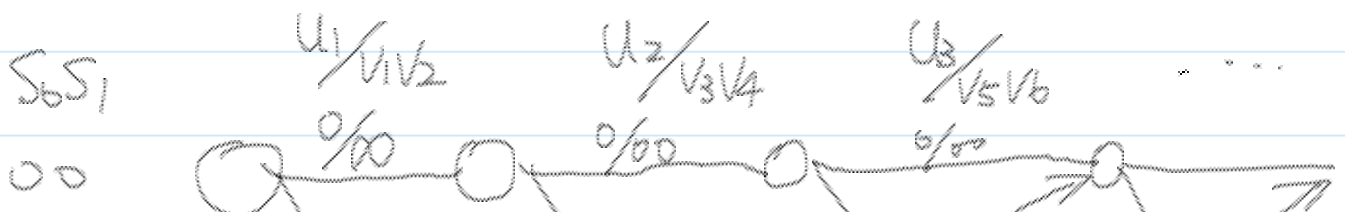
Shift register representation

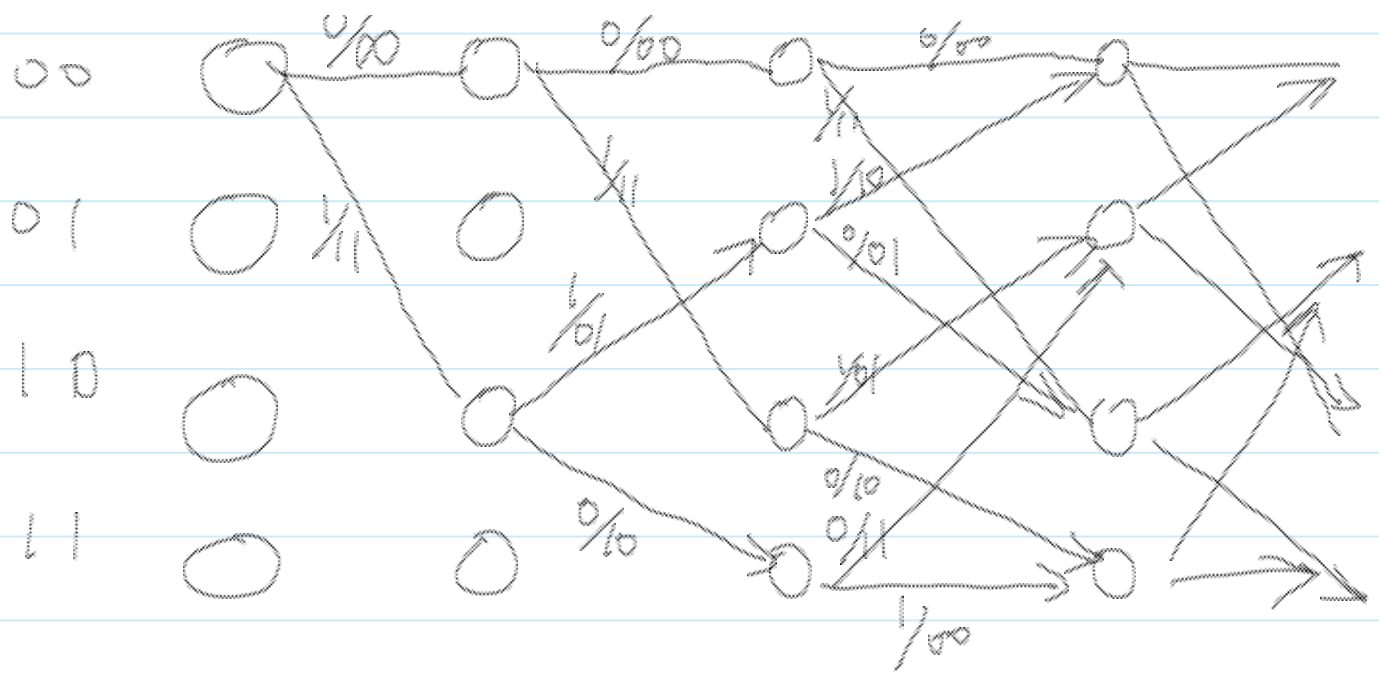


of possible "states" = $2^{\# \text{ delay units}}$

The state is thus described by $S_0 S_1$, the bit values of the delay units.

Trellis representation





$u_1 u_2 u_3 \dots$: the input message bits that "steer" the path

$v_1 v_2 v_3 v_4 v_5 v_6$ the positions of the output bit string that correspond to the selected segment of the path.

* The information bits steer the path along the trellis structure

* Each path corresponds to a codeword

Codeword

* code rate = $\frac{\# \text{ of } u \text{ bits}}{\# \text{ of } v \text{ bits}}$

Our example is a rate $\frac{1}{2}$ convolutional code

Optimal MAP decoder for the convolutional code

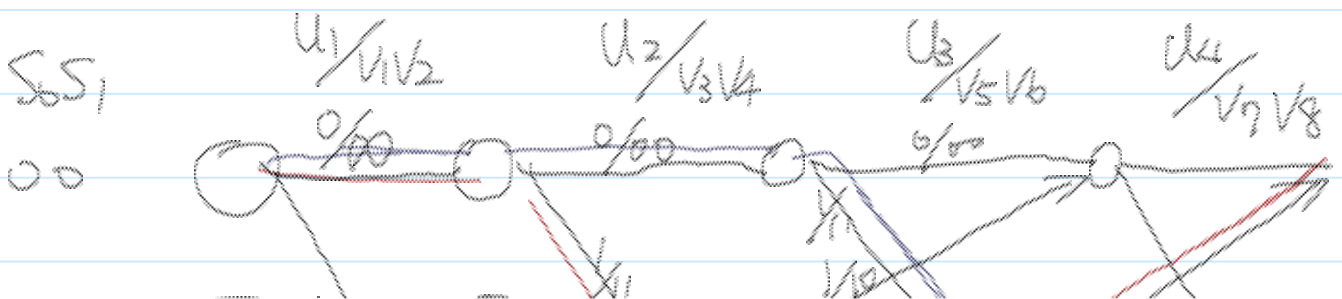
Example: we run the encoder for $N=4$ time slots.

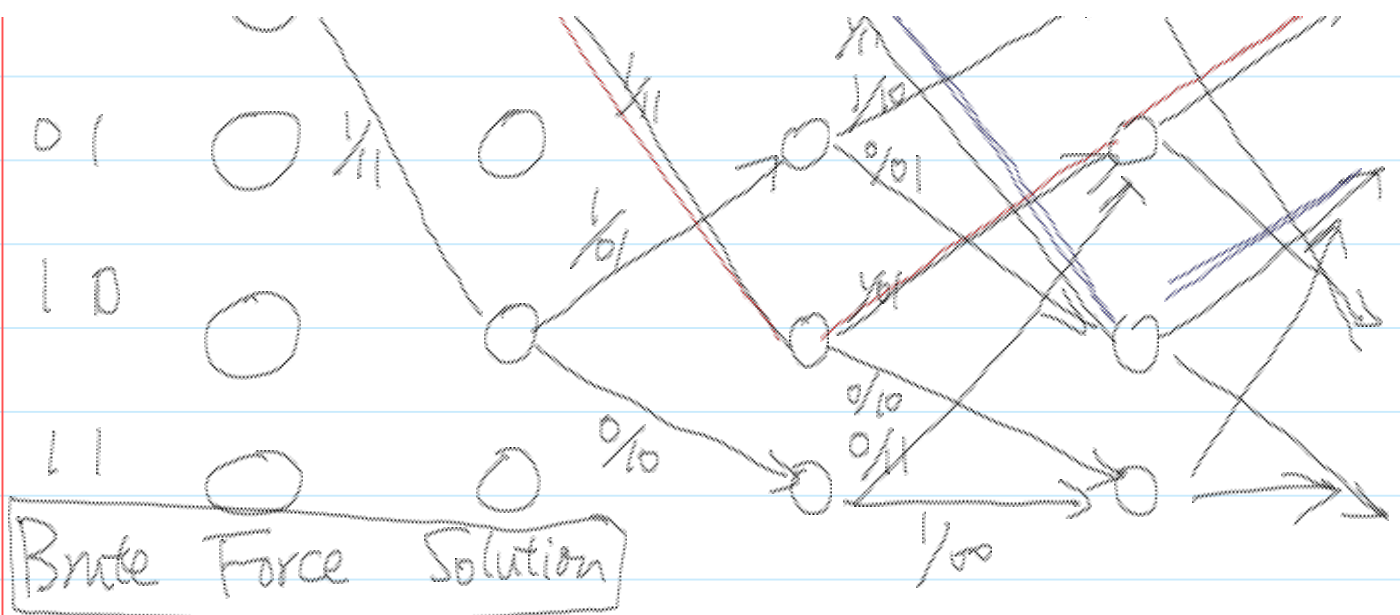
\Rightarrow info bits = $u_1 u_2 u_3 u_4$

coded bits $v_1 v_2 v_3 v_4 \dots v_7 v_8$

$\vec{x}_{0111} = \underline{00} \underline{11} \underline{01} \underline{10}$

$\vec{x}_{0011} = \underline{00} \underline{00} \underline{11} \underline{01}$





Repeat the 16 - Hypotheses testing

Find $\underset{\vec{x}_m}{\text{argmax}} P_{\vec{Y}|\vec{X}}(\vec{y}|\vec{x}_m)$ the ML decoder

The Viterbi Algorithm

1967

An efficient ML decoder for convolutional codes

Assume an i.i.d. channel.

Given any \vec{y}_obs , for any codeword \vec{x}_m or for any given path p in the trellis,

the likelihood value is

$$P_{y_1 y_2 | v_1 v_2} \cdot P_{y_3 y_4 | v_3 v_4} \cdot P_{y_5 y_6 | v_5 v_6} \cdot P_{y_7 y_8 | v_7 v_8}$$

if we let $\overline{p[1]}$ denote the output $v_1 v_2$ of the first segment. $\overline{p[i]}$ denote $v_{2i-1} v_{2i}$

$$= f_1(\overline{p[1]}) f_2(\overline{p[2]}) f_3(\overline{p[3]}) f_4(\overline{p[4]})$$

where $f_i(\cdot)$ is a $\{0,1\}^2 \rightarrow [0,1]$ function that is constructed by the observation $y_{2i-1} y_{2i}$

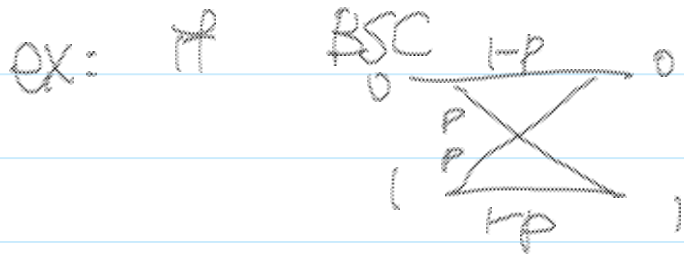
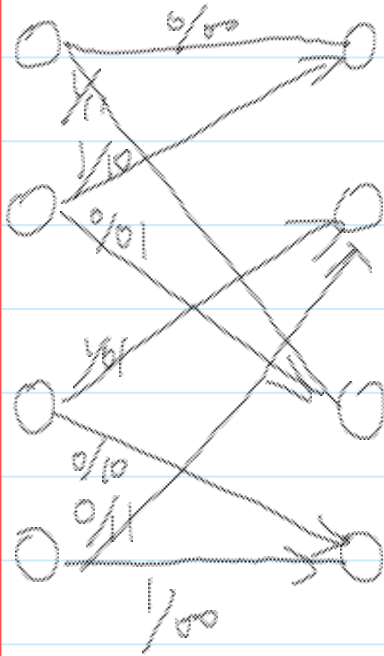
That is, given the observation $y_1 \dots y_8$ the functions $f_1(\cdot)$ to $f_4(\cdot)$ are decided by the likelihood $P(y_{2i-1} y_{2i} | \cdot, \cdot)$

The goal is to find a path

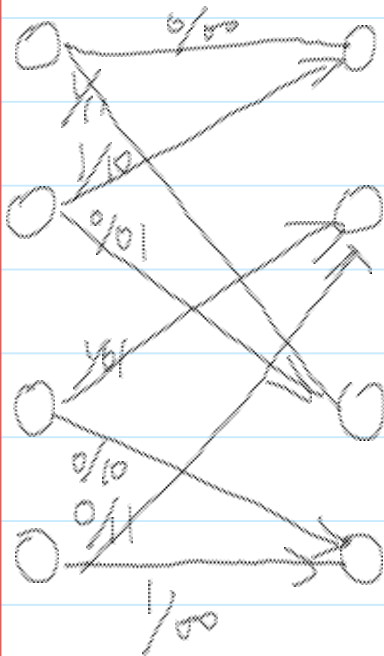
$\overline{p^*} = (\overline{p[1]}, \overline{p[2]}, \overline{p[3]}, \overline{p[4]})$ that

maximizes

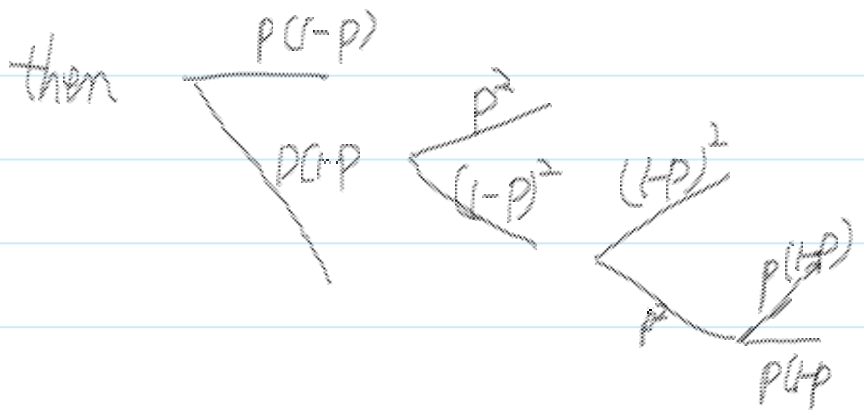
$$f_1(\overline{p[1]}) f_2(\overline{p[2]}) f_3(\overline{p[3]}) f_4(\overline{p[4]})$$



then

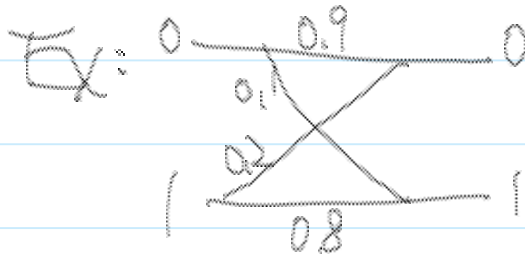


if $y_{j+1}, y_j = 0, 1$

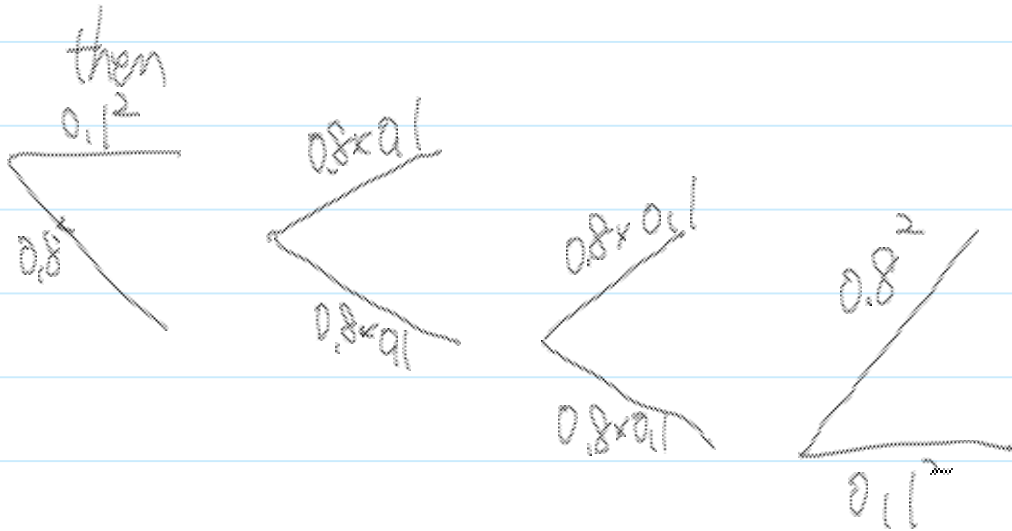


For different channel models & different observations, the partial objective function is different.

partial objective function is different.



$$y_{2t-1}, y_{2t} = 1, 1$$



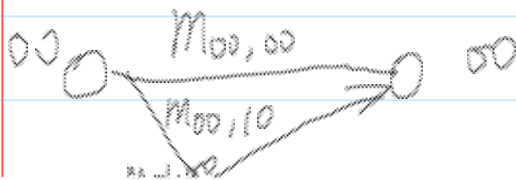
Ex: $P_{Y|X}(\cdot|x) \sim \text{Gsn}((-1)^x, \sigma^2)$

$$y_{2t-1}, y_{2t} = (0.7, -\sqrt{2})$$

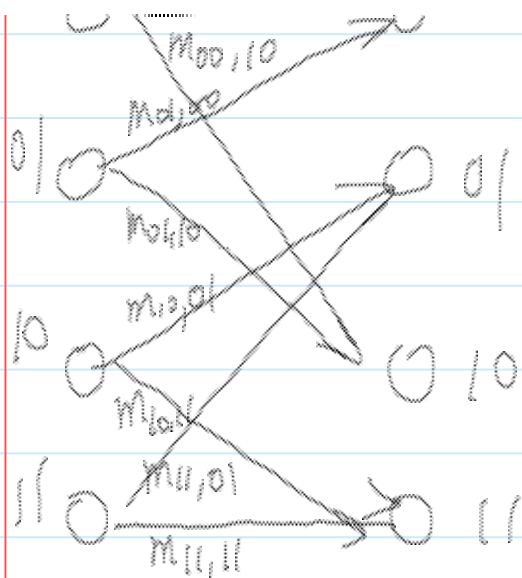
Then

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(0.7-1)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(-\sqrt{2}-1)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(0.7-(-1))^2}{2\sigma^2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{(-\sqrt{2}-(-1))^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$



In the end, each



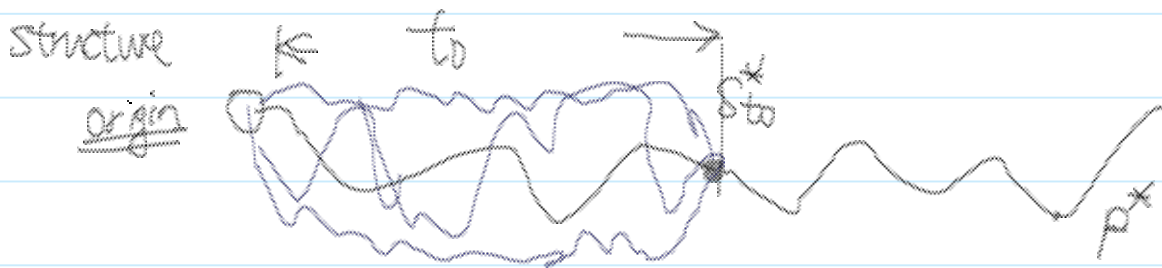
In the end, each segment has a metric $M_{S_t, S_{t+1}}$

* The VA algorithm

Observation: If a path p^* maximizes

$$\prod_{t=1}^n f_t(p[t]) \text{ among all paths. let}$$

$S_{t_0}^*$ denote the state that p^* is using at the t_0 -th stage of the trellis



then the partial path $0 \xrightarrow{p^*} S_{t_0}^*$ is

also the partial path maximizing

$$\prod_{t=1}^{t_0} f_t(\overline{R[t]})$$

among all partial paths from 0 to $S_{t_0}^*$

(This observation is also the basis of the Dijkstra shortest path algorithm & the dynamic programming.)