

# Hidden Markov Models

Ben Langmead



JOHNS HOPKINS

WHITING SCHOOL  
*of* ENGINEERING

Department of Computer Science

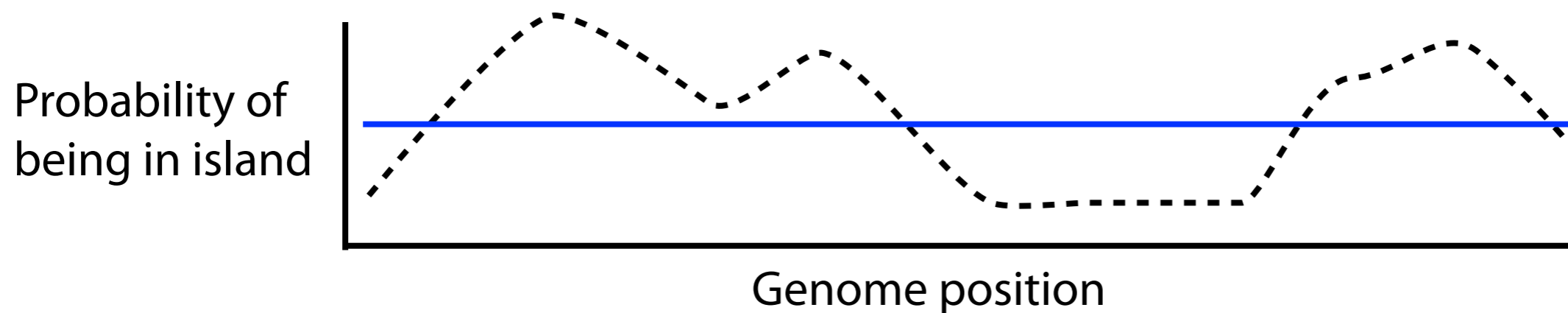


Please sign guestbook ([www.langmead-lab.org/teaching-materials](http://www.langmead-lab.org/teaching-materials)) to tell me briefly how you are using the slides. For original Keynote files, email me ([ben.langmead@gmail.com](mailto:ben.langmead@gmail.com)).

# Sequence models

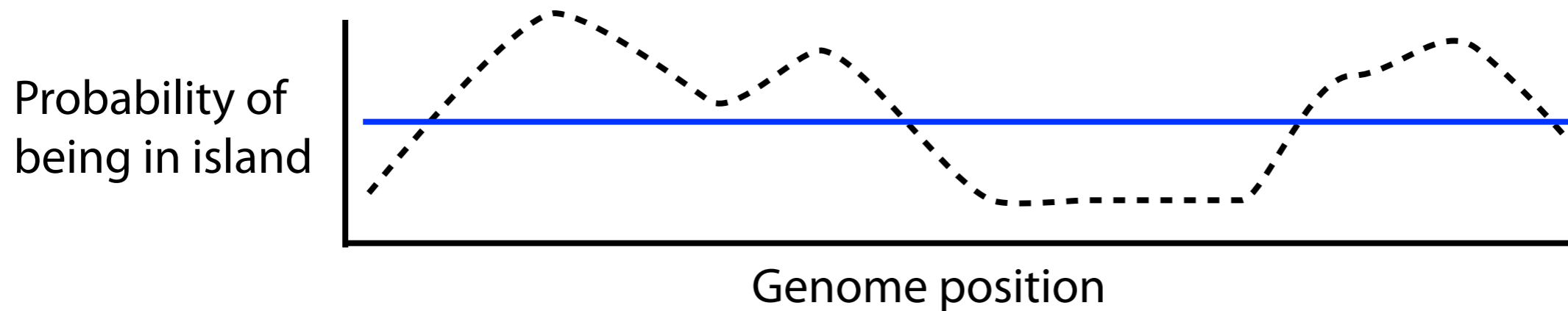
Can Markov chains find CpG islands in a “sea” of genome?

MC assigns a score to a string; doesn't naturally give a “running” score across a long sequence



But we can adapt it using a *sliding window*

# Sequence models



Choice of  $k$  requires assumption about island lengths

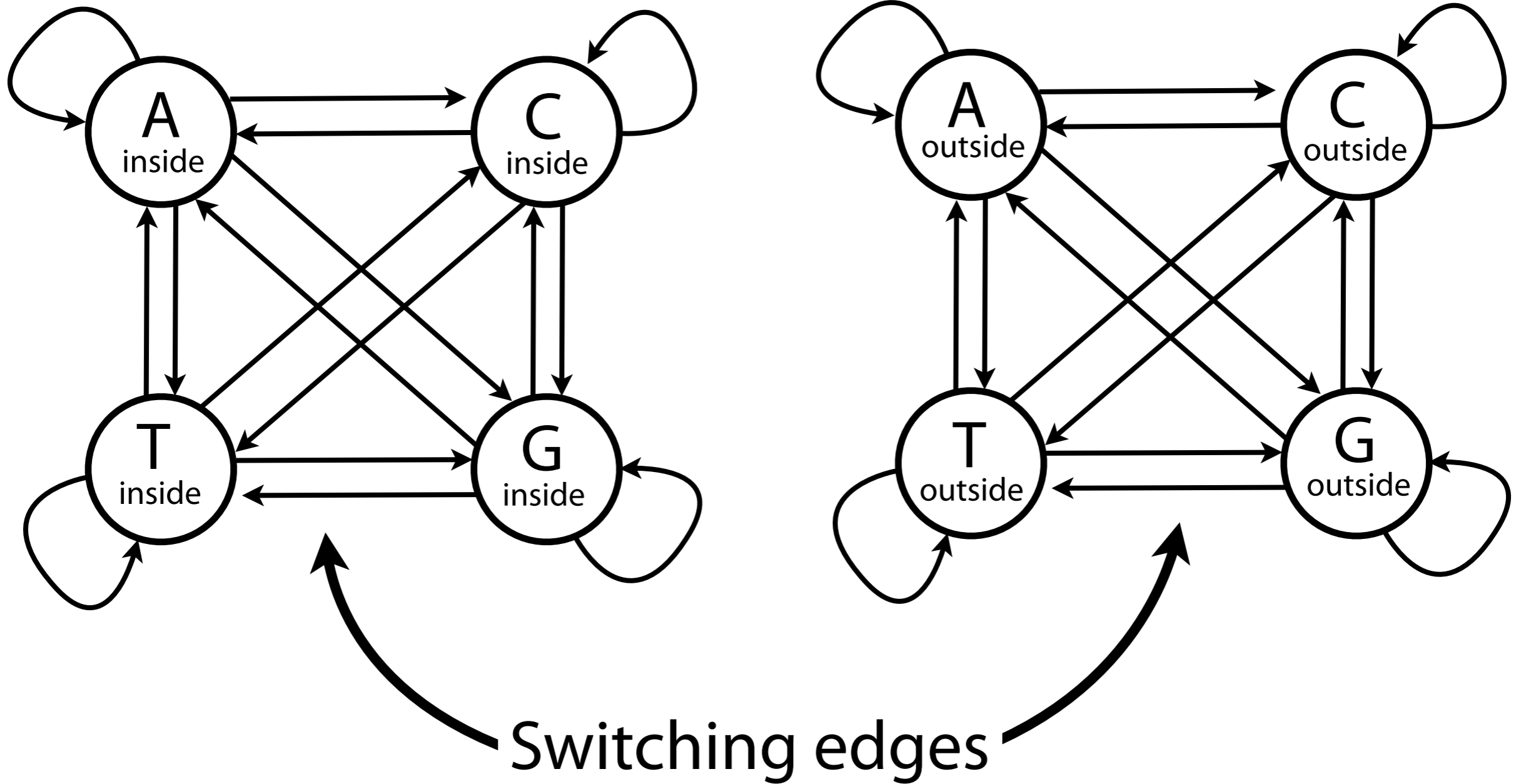
If  $k$  is too large, we miss small islands

If  $k$  is too small, we see many small islands

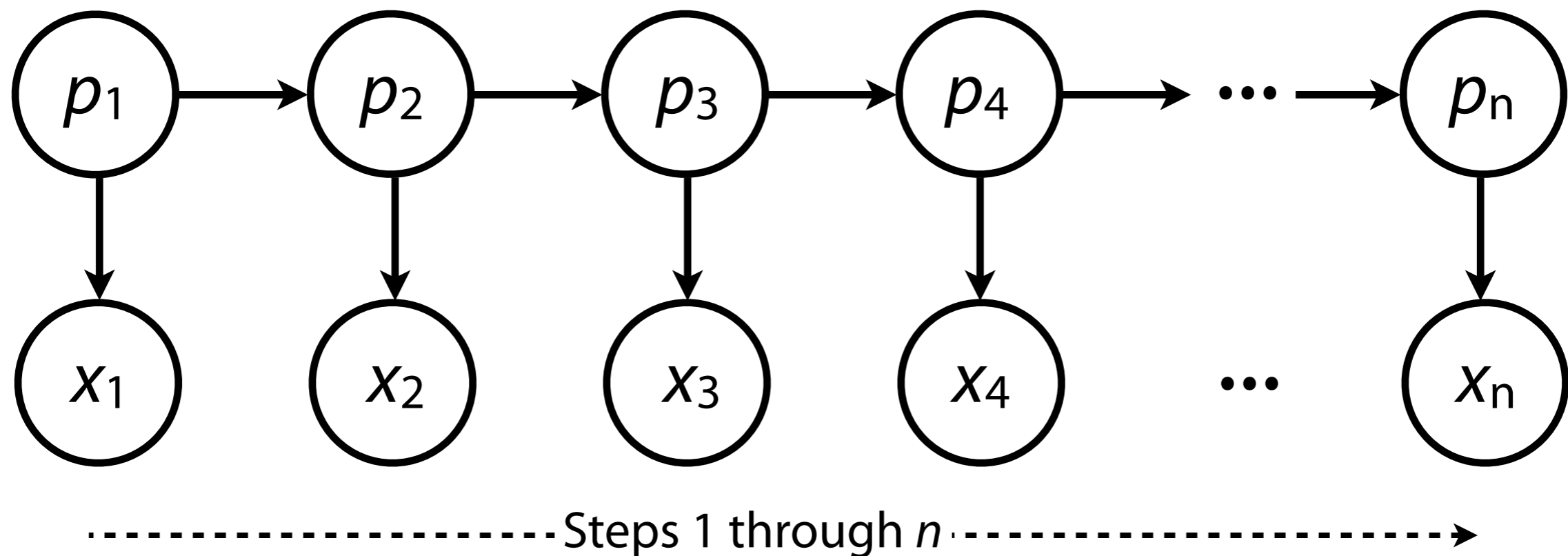
We'd like a method that *switches between Markov chains* when entering or exiting a CpG island

# Sequence models

Something like this:



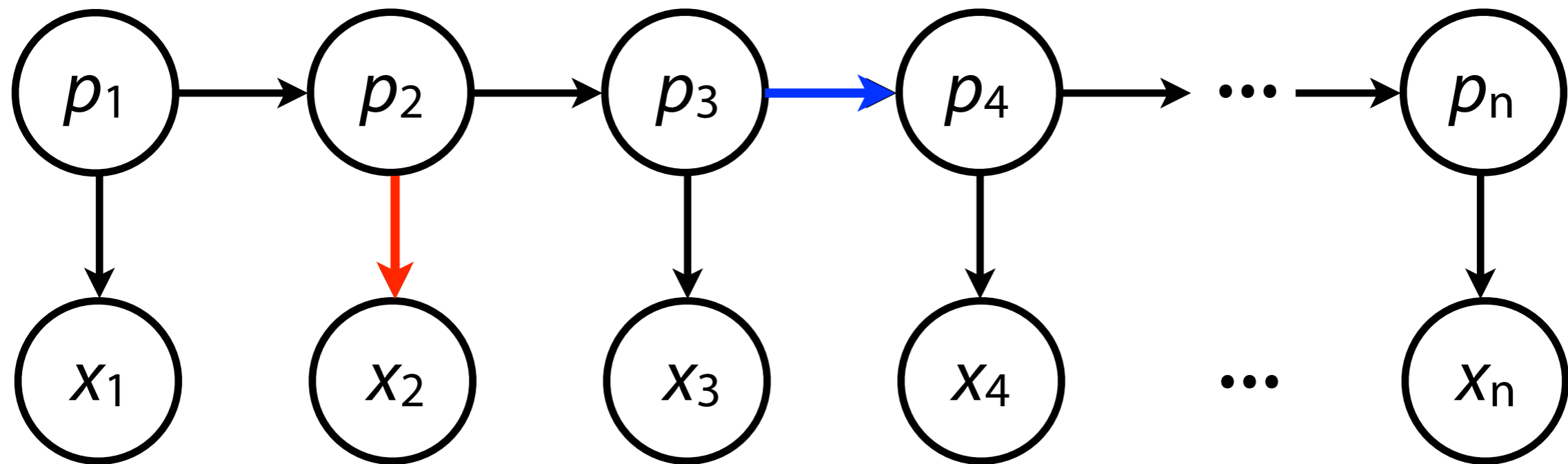
# Hidden Markov Model



$p = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  is a sequence of *states* (AKA a *path*). Each  $p_i$  takes a value from set  $Q$ . We **do not** observe  $p$ .

$x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  is a sequence of *emissions*. Each  $x_i$  takes a value from set  $\Sigma$ . We **do** observe  $x$ .

# Hidden Markov Model



Edges convey conditional independence

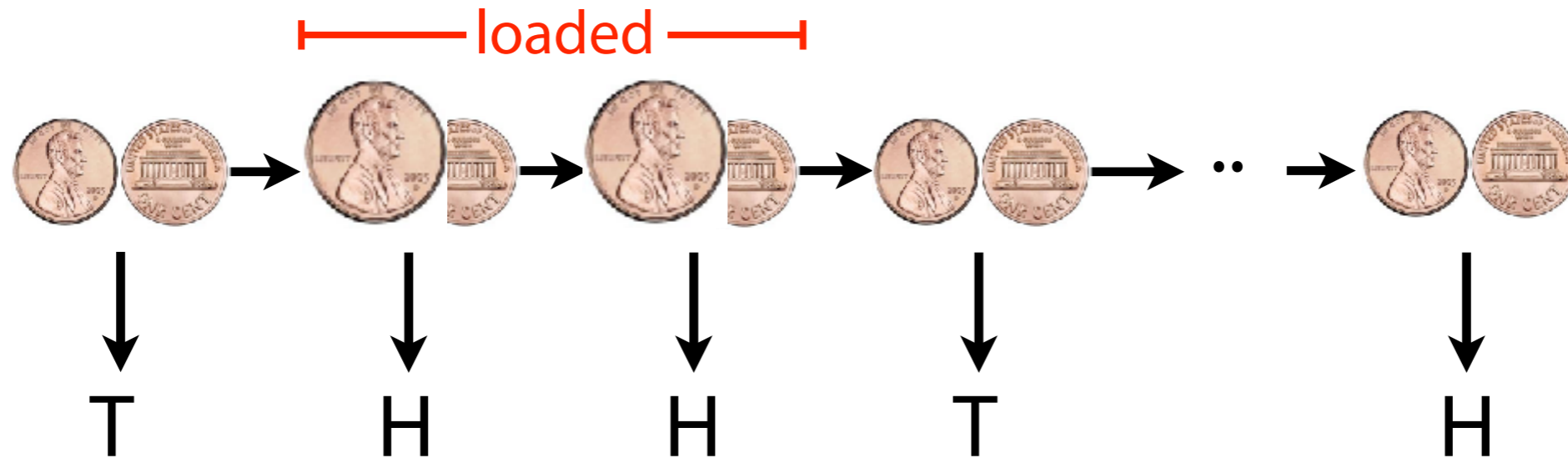
$x_2$  is **conditionally independent** of everything else given  $p_2$

$p_4$  is **conditionally independent** of everything else given  $p_3$

# Hidden Markov Model

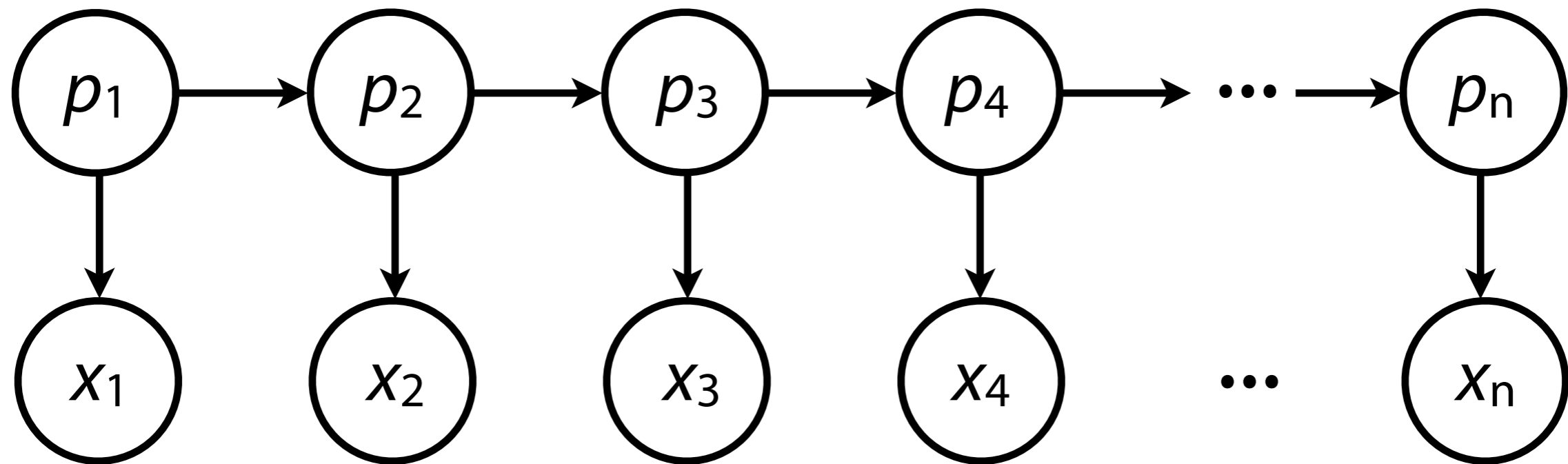
Example: occasionally dishonest casino

Dealer repeatedly flips a coin. Sometimes the coin is *fair*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.5$ , sometimes it's *loaded*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.8$ . Between each flip, dealer switches coins (invisibly) with prob. 0.4.



Emissions are heads/tails, states are loaded/fair

# Hidden Markov Model



Joint probability of a given  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}$  is easy to calculate

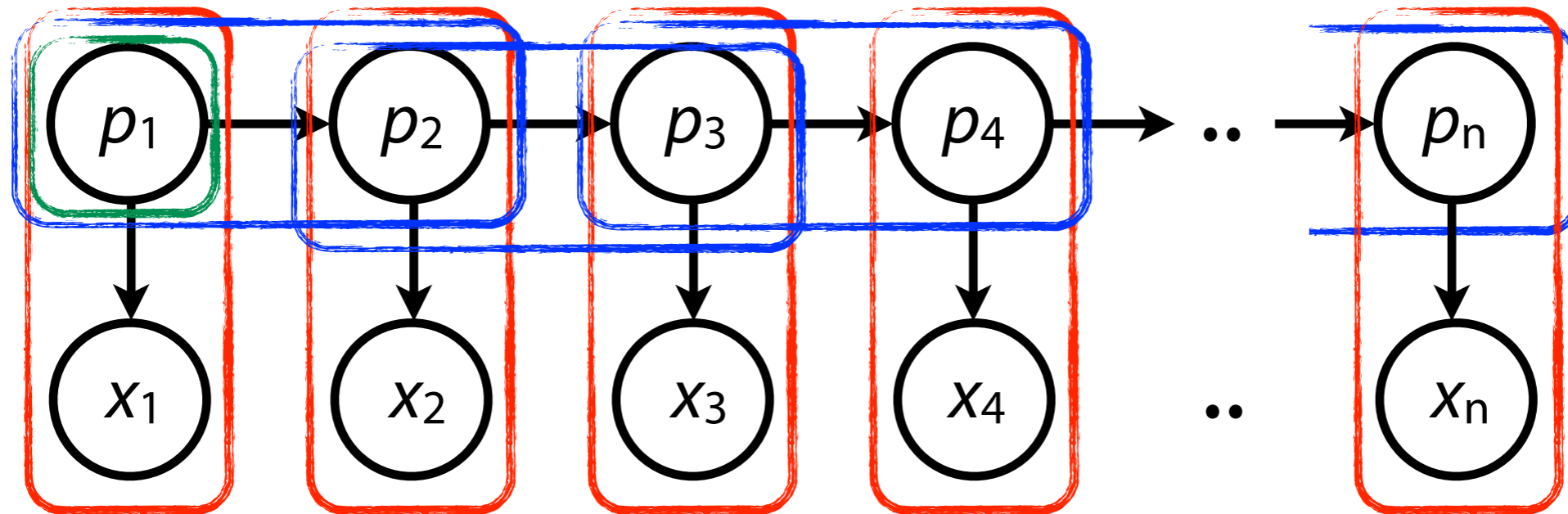
Repeated applications of multiplication rule

Simplification using [Markov assumptions](#) (implied by edges above)

Product of conditional probabilities (1 per edge), times marginal:  $P(p_1)$



# Hidden Markov Model



$$P(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{k=1}^n P(x_k | p_k) \prod_{k=2}^n P(p_k | p_{k-1}) P(p_1)$$

$|Q| \times |\Sigma|$  emission matrix  $E$  encodes  $P(x_i | p_i)$ s

$$E[p_i, x_i] = P(x_i | p_i)$$

$|Q| \times |Q|$  transition matrix  $A$  encodes  $P(p_i | p_{i-1})$ s

$$A[p_{i-1}, p_i] = P(p_i | p_{i-1})$$

$|Q|$  array  $I$  encodes initial probabilities of each state

$$I[p_i] = P(p_1)$$

# Hidden Markov Model

Dealer repeatedly flips a coin. Coin is sometimes *fair*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.5$ , sometimes *loaded*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.8$ .

Dealer occasionally switches coins, invisibly to you.

After each flip, dealer switches coins with probability 0.4

A:

	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

E:

	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

$|Q| \times |\Sigma|$  emission matrix  $E$  encodes  $P(x_i | p_i)$ s

$$E[p_i, x_i] = P(x_i | p_i)$$

$|Q| \times |Q|$  transition matrix  $A$  encodes  $P(p_i | p_{i-1})$ s

$$A[p_{i-1}, p_i] = P(p_i | p_{i-1})$$

# Hidden Markov Model

Given  $A$  &  $E$  (right), what is the joint probability of  $p$  &  $x$ ?

<b>A</b>	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

<b>E</b>	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

<b><math>p</math></b>	F	F	F	L	L	L	F	F	F	F	F
<b><math>x</math></b>	T	H	T	H	H	H	T	H	T	T	H
<b><math>P(x_i   p_i)</math></b>	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
<b><math>P(p_i   p_{i-1})</math></b>	-	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6

If  $P(p_1 = F) = 0.5$ , then joint probability =  $0.5^9 0.8^3 0.6^8 0.4^2 = 0.0000026874$

# Hidden Markov Model

Given flip outcomes (heads or tails) and the conditional & marginal probabilities, when was the dealer using the loaded coin?

There are many possible  $p$ s, but one of them is  $p^*$ , the *most likely* given the emissions.

$$p^* = \underset{p}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(p | x) = \underset{p}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(p, x)$$

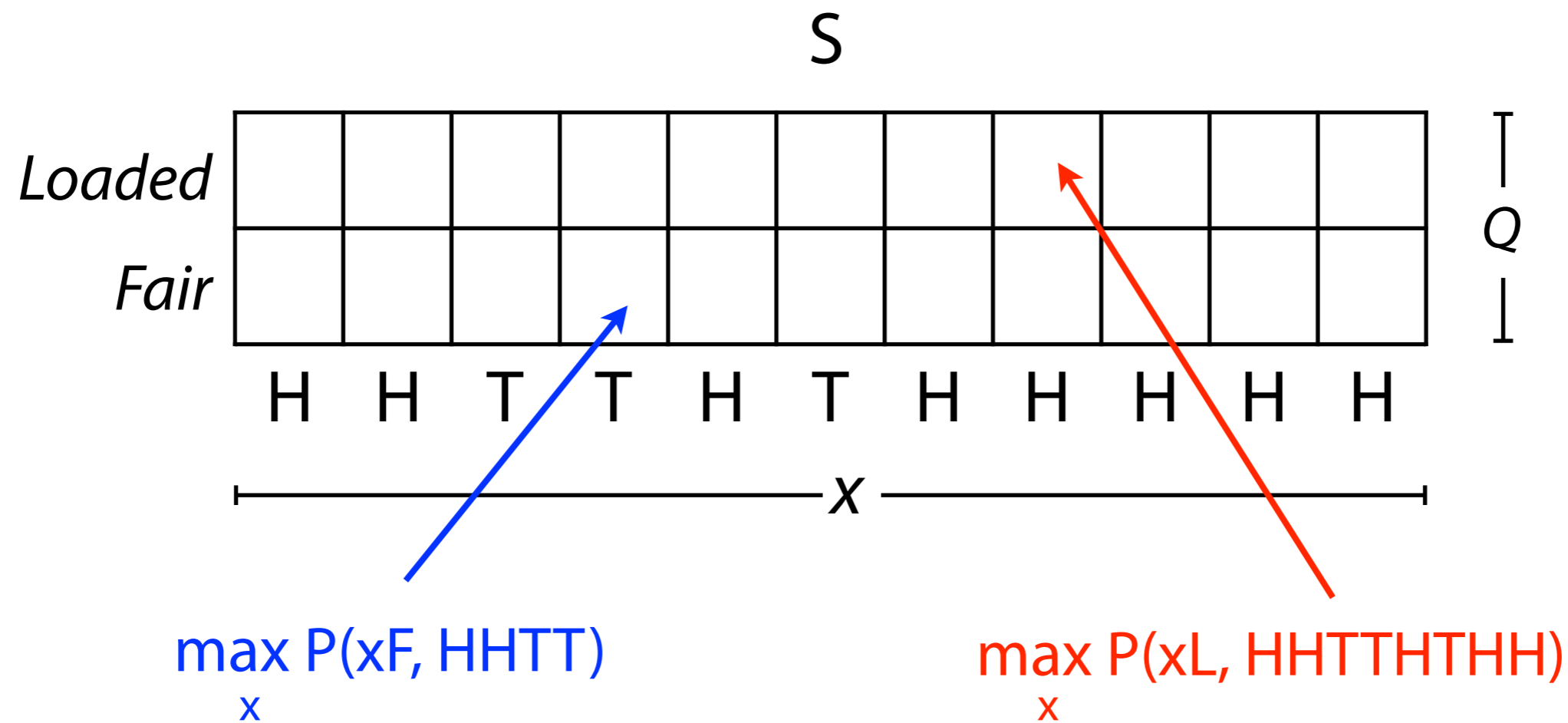
Finding  $p^*$  given  $x$  and using the Markov assumption is often called *decoding*. *Viterbi* is a common decoding algorithm.



Andrew Viterbi

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

Fill in a dynamic programming matrix  $S$ :



$S_{k,i}$  = greatest joint probability of observing the length- $i$  prefix of  $x$  and any sequence of states ending in state  $k$

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

Say  $x_i$  is Heads

$$s_{\text{Fair}, i} = P(\text{Heads} \mid \text{Fair}) \cdot \max_{k \in \{\text{Fair}, \text{Loaded}\}} \{ s_{k, i-1} \cdot P(\text{Fair} \mid k) \}$$

↑  
Emission prob

←  
Transition prob

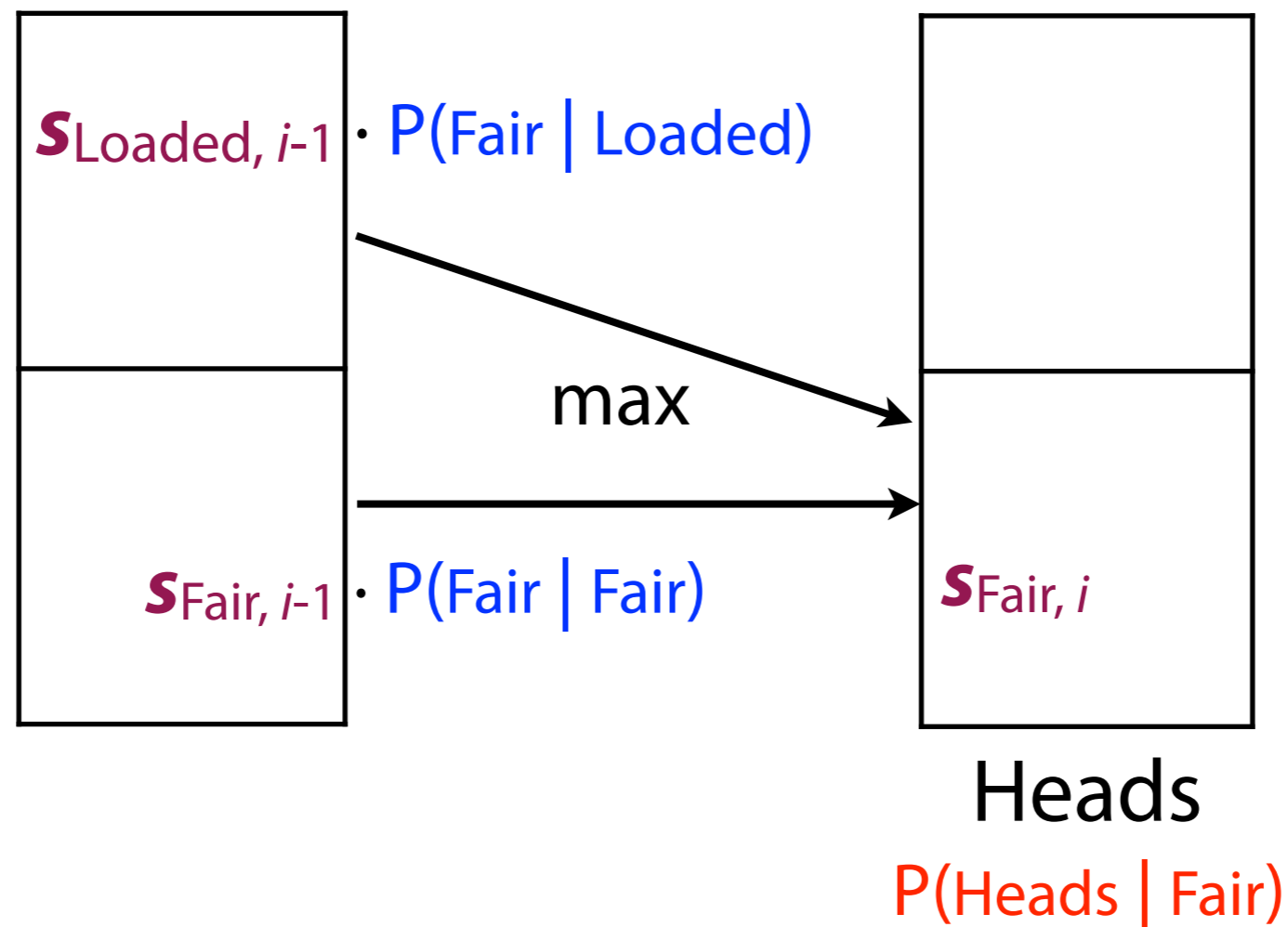
# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

Say  $x_i$  is Heads

$$\mathbf{s}_{\text{Fair}, i} = \text{P(Heads | Fair)} \cdot \max_{k \in \{\text{Fair, Loaded}\}} \{ \mathbf{s}_{k, i-1} \cdot \text{P(Fair | k)} \}$$

↑  
Emission prob

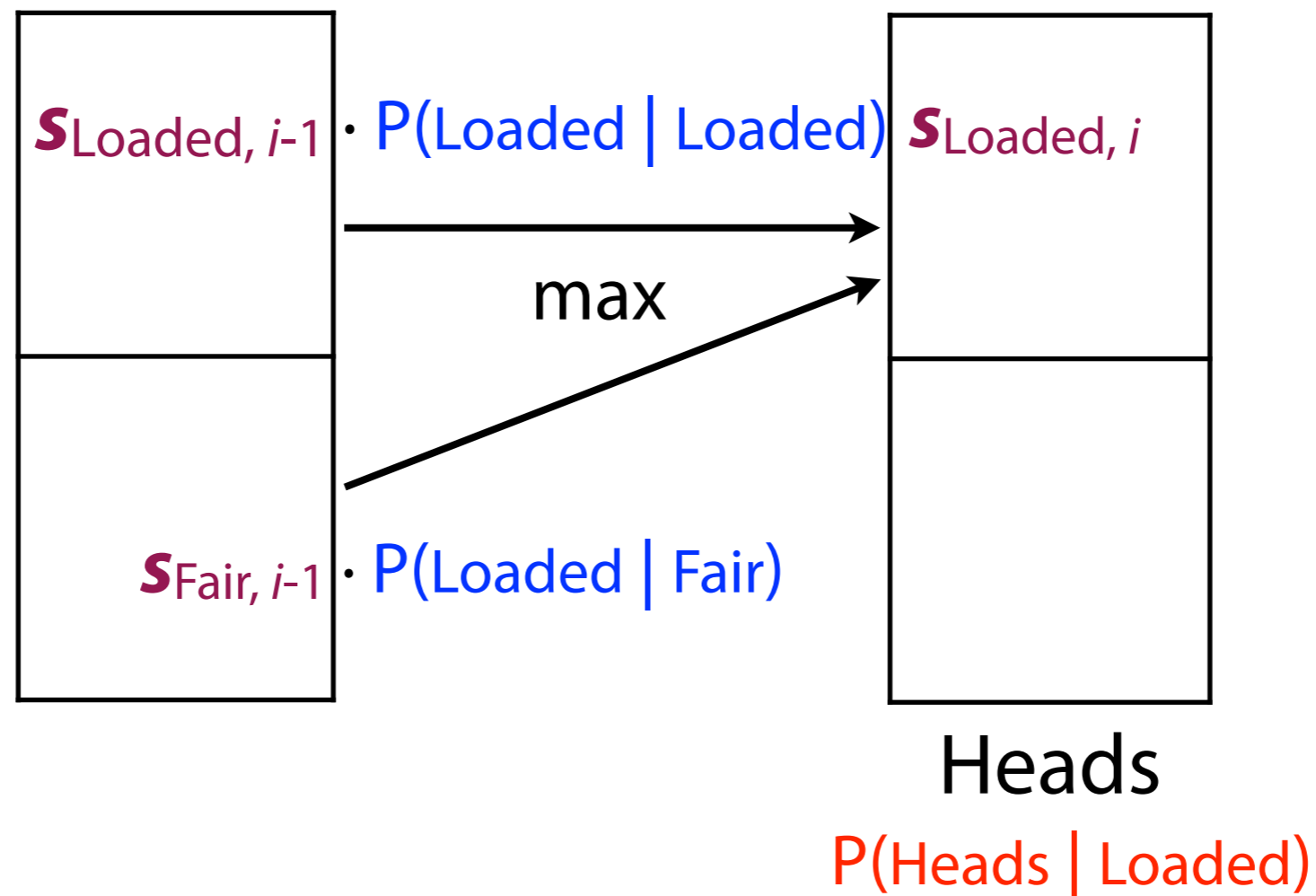
↑  
Transition prob



# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

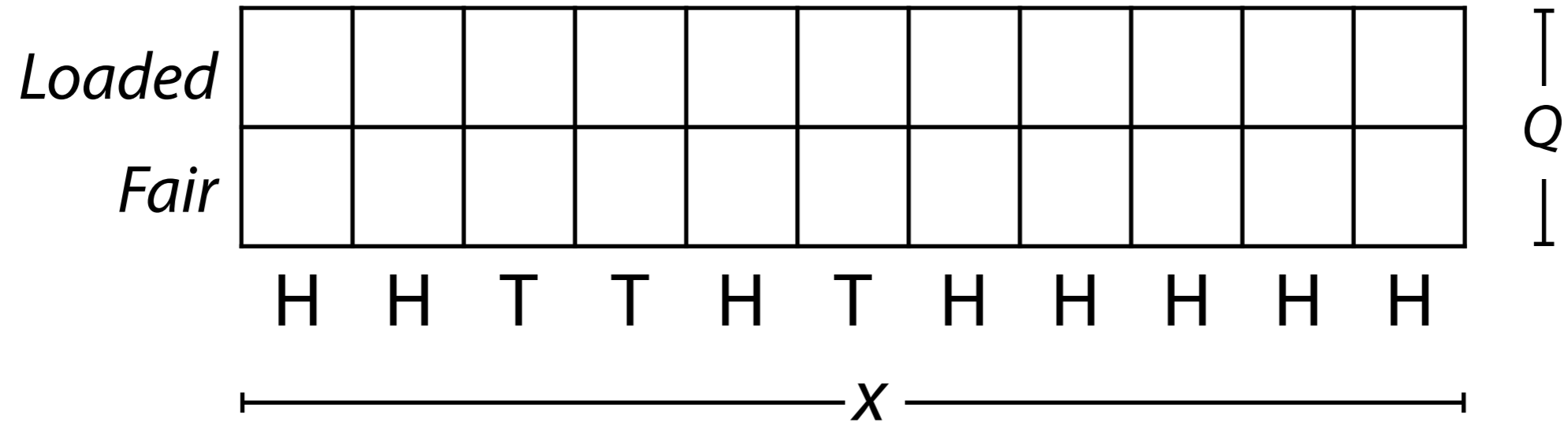
Say  $x_i$  is Heads

$$\mathbf{s}_{\text{Fair}, i} = \underbrace{P(\text{Heads} \mid \text{Loaded})}_{\text{Emission prob}} \cdot \max_{k \in \{\text{Fair}, \text{Loaded}\}} \{ \mathbf{s}_{k, i-1} \cdot \underbrace{P(\text{Loaded} \mid k)}_{\text{Transition prob}} \}$$

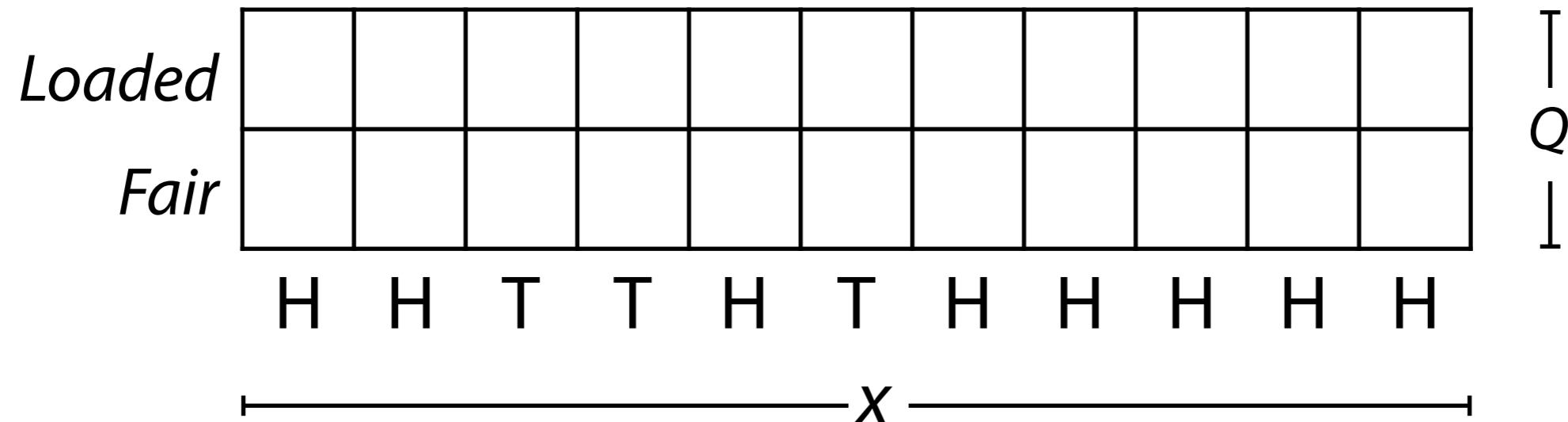




# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

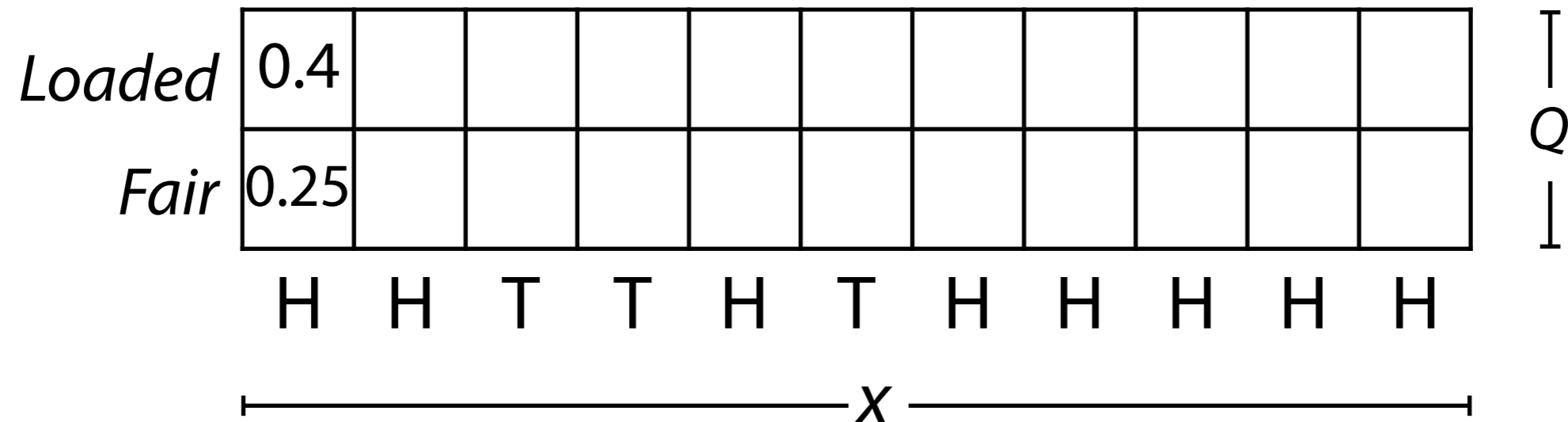


# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



Dealer repeatedly flips a coin. Sometimes the coin is *fair*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.5$ , sometimes it's *loaded*, with  $P(\text{heads}) = 0.8$ . Between each flip, dealer switches coins (invisibly) with prob. 0.4.

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

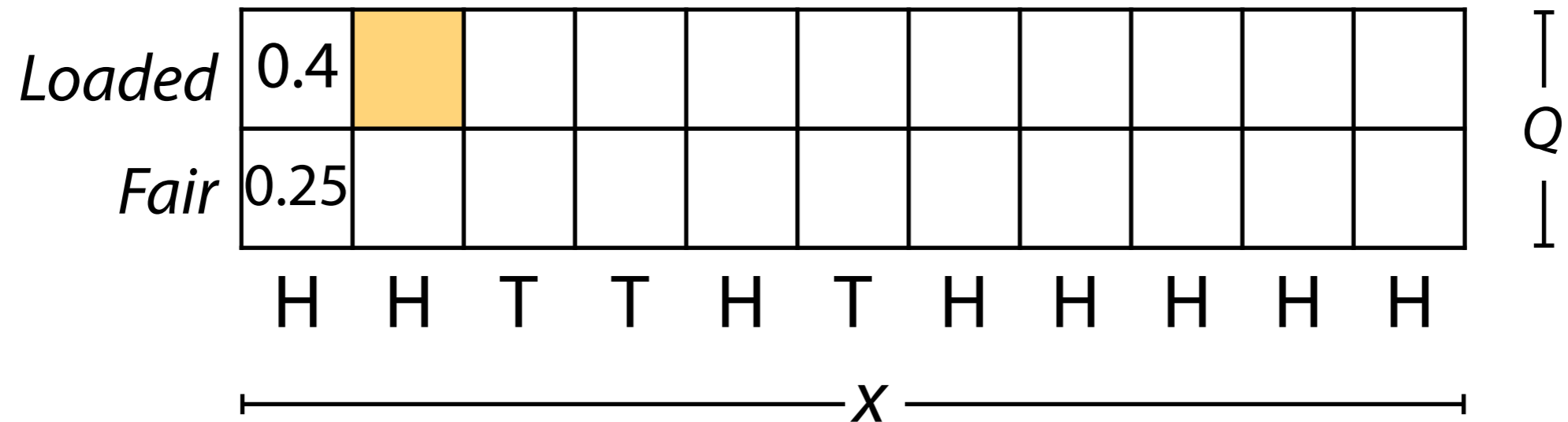


Assume we start with Fair/Loaded with equal probability

$$\begin{aligned} S_{L,0} &= P(H | L) \cdot 0.5 \\ &= 0.8 \cdot 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_{F,0} &= P(H | F) \cdot 0.5 \\ &= 0.5 \cdot 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

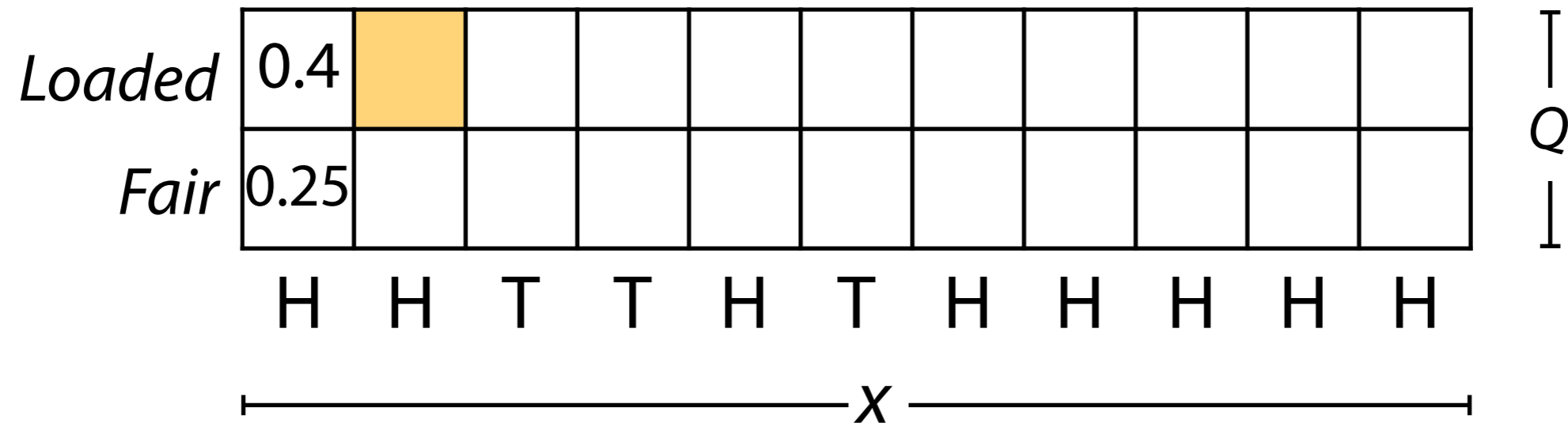


$S_{L,1} =$

<b>A</b>	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

<b>E</b>	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



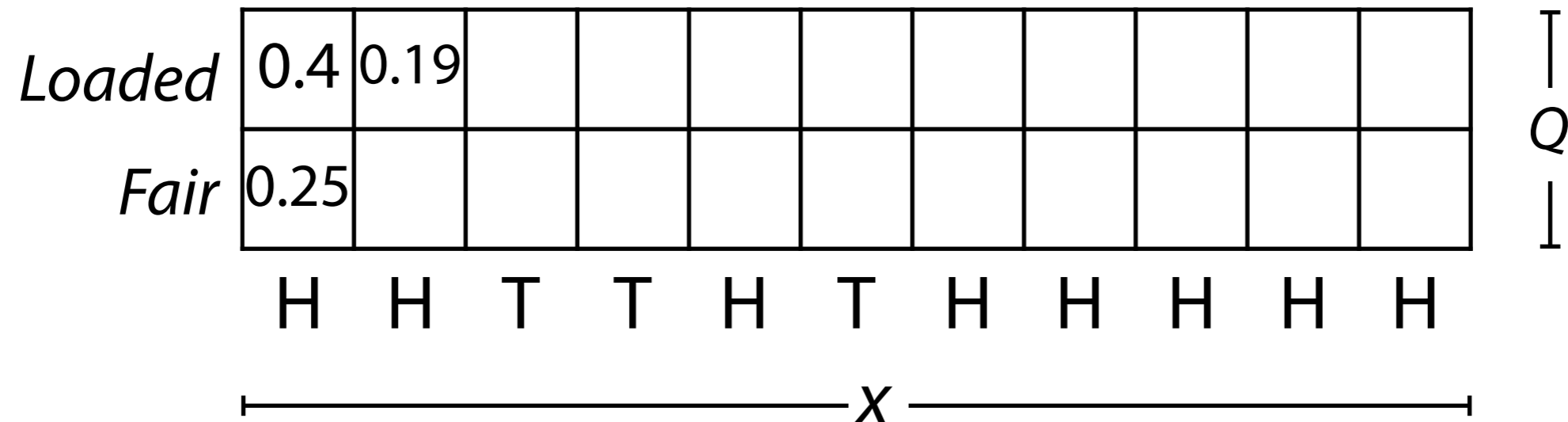
$$S_{L,1} = P(H | L) \cdot$$

$$\max \begin{cases} 0.4 \cdot P(L | L) \\ 0.25 \cdot P(L | F) \end{cases}$$

<b>A</b>	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

<b>E</b>	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



$$S_{L,1} = 0.8 \cdot$$

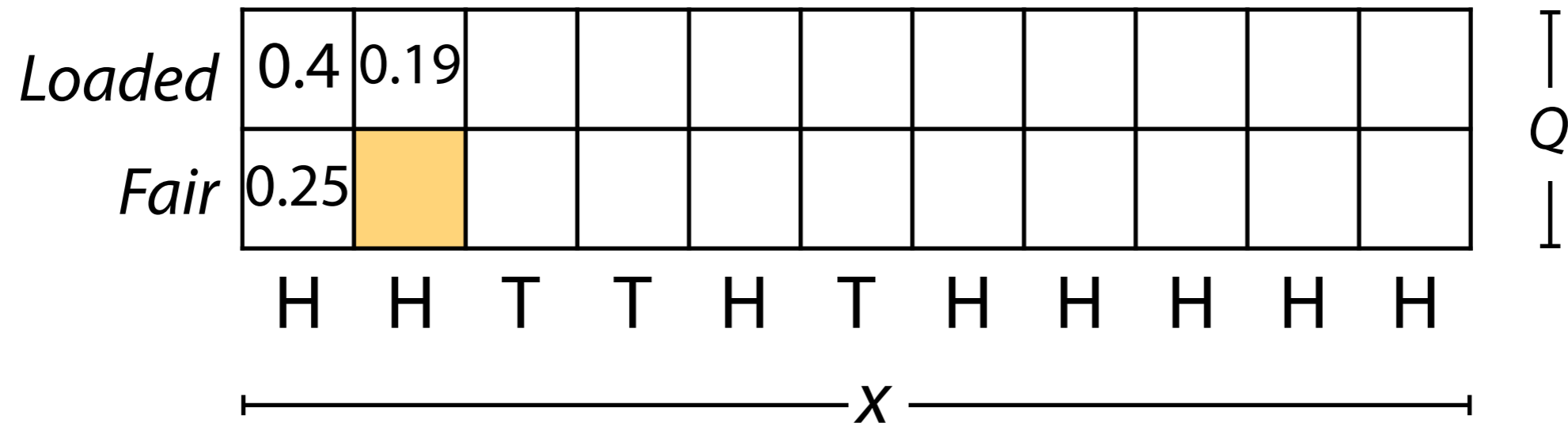
$$\max \begin{cases} 0.4 \cdot 0.6 \\ 0.25 \cdot 0.4 \end{cases}$$

$$= 0.8 \cdot 0.4 \cdot 0.6 \approx 0.19$$

<b>A</b>	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

<b>E</b>	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



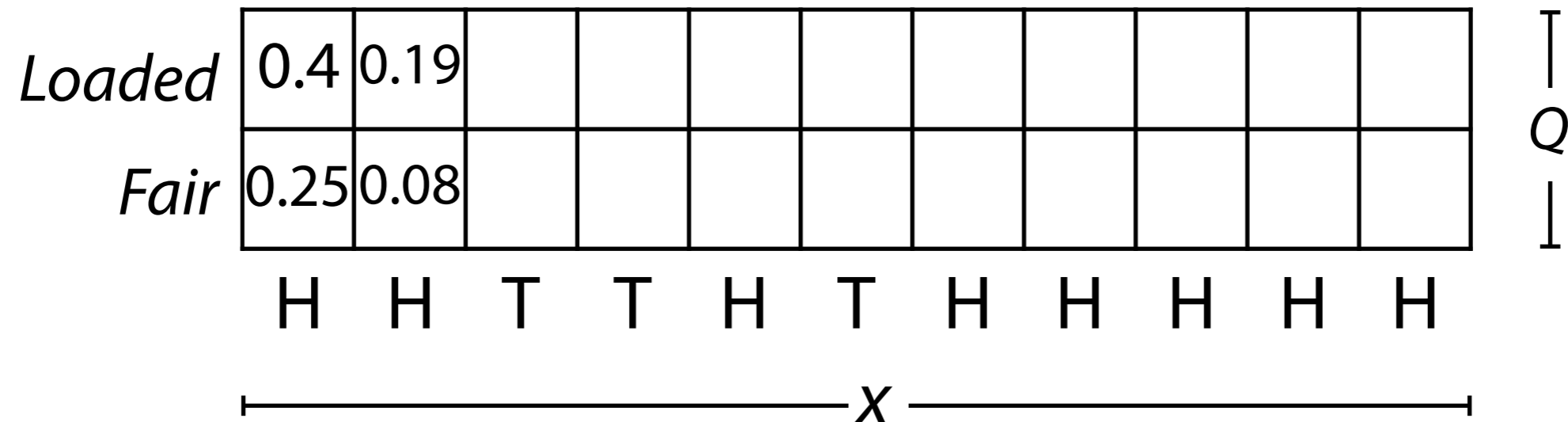
$$S_{F,1} = P(H | F) \cdot$$

$$\max \begin{cases} 0.4 \cdot P(F | L) \\ 0.25 \cdot P(F | F) \end{cases}$$

<b>A</b>	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

<b>E</b>	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



$$S_{F,1} = 0.5 \cdot$$

$$\max \begin{cases} 0.4 \cdot 0.4 \\ 0.25 \cdot 0.6 \end{cases}$$

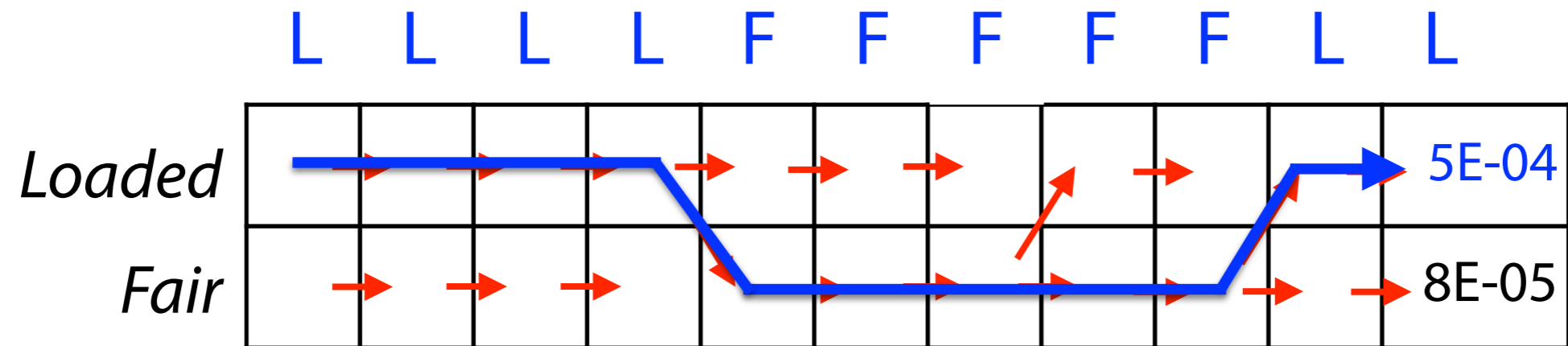
$$= 0.5 \cdot 0.4 \cdot 0.4 = 0.08$$

A	F	L
F	0.6	0.4
L	0.4	0.6

E	H	T
F	0.5	0.5
L	0.8	0.2



# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm



**Arrow** corresponds to term that "wins" the maximum

Traceback:

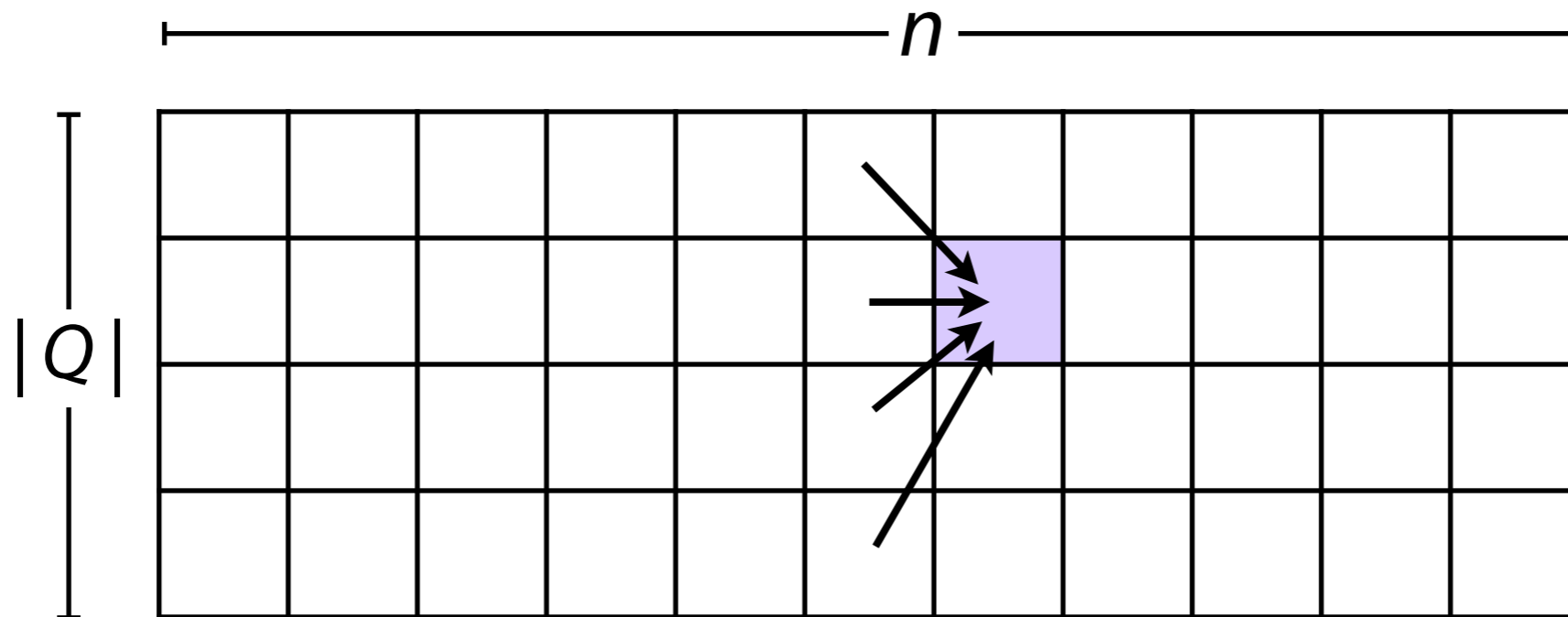
Start from **greatest** score in final column

Keep asking "how did I get here?" (which predecessor state "won" the maximum) until we reach 1st column

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

How much work is this?  $Q$  = set of states,  $n$  = length of emission string



#  $S_{k,i}$  values to calculate =  $n \cdot |Q|$ , each involves max over  $|Q|$  products

$$O(n \cdot |Q|^2)$$

Matrix  $A$  has  $|Q|^2$  elements,  $E$  has  $|Q| \cdot |\Sigma|$  elements,  $I$  has  $|Q|$  elements

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

```
>>> hmm = HMM({"FF":0.6, "FL":0.4, "LF":0.4, "LL":0.6},  
...          {"FH":0.5, "FT":0.5, "LH":0.8, "LT":0.2},  
...          {"F":0.5, "L":0.5})  
>>> prob, _ = hmm.viterbi("THTHHHTHTTH")  
>>> print prob  
2.86654464e-06  
>>> prob, _ = hmm.viterbi("THTHHHTHTTH" * 100)  
>>> print prob  
0.0
```

Occasionally  
dishonest  
casino setup

What happened? Underflow!

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)

# Hidden Markov Model: Viterbi algorithm

```
>>> hmm = HMM({"FF":0.6, "FL":0.4, "LF":0.4, "LL":0.6},
...           {"FH":0.5, "FT":0.5, "LH":0.8, "LT":0.2},
...           {"F":0.5, "L":0.5})
>>> prob, _ = hmm.viterbi("THTHHHTHTTH")
>>> print prob
2.86654464e-06
>>> prob, _ = hmm.viterbi("THTHHHTHTTH" * 100) Repeat string
>>> print prob                                     100 times
0.0
>>> logprob, _ = hmm.viterbiL("THTHHHTHTTH" * 100)
>>> print logprob                                log-space Viterbi
-1824.4030071946879
```

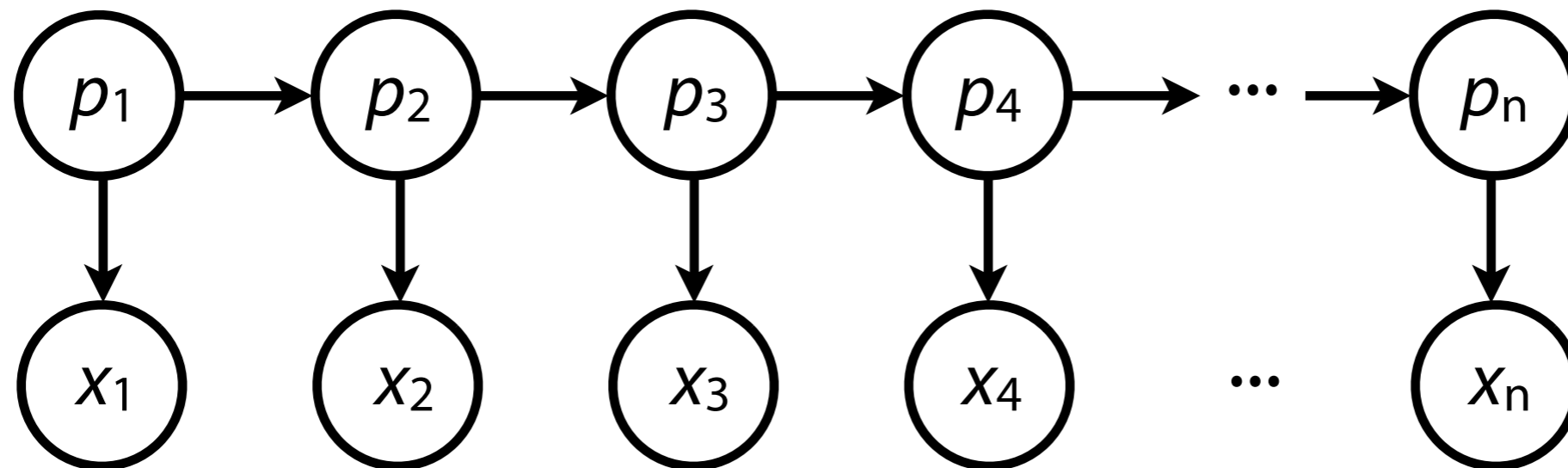
Solution: switch to *log probabilities*. Multiplies become adds.

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)

# Hidden Markov Model

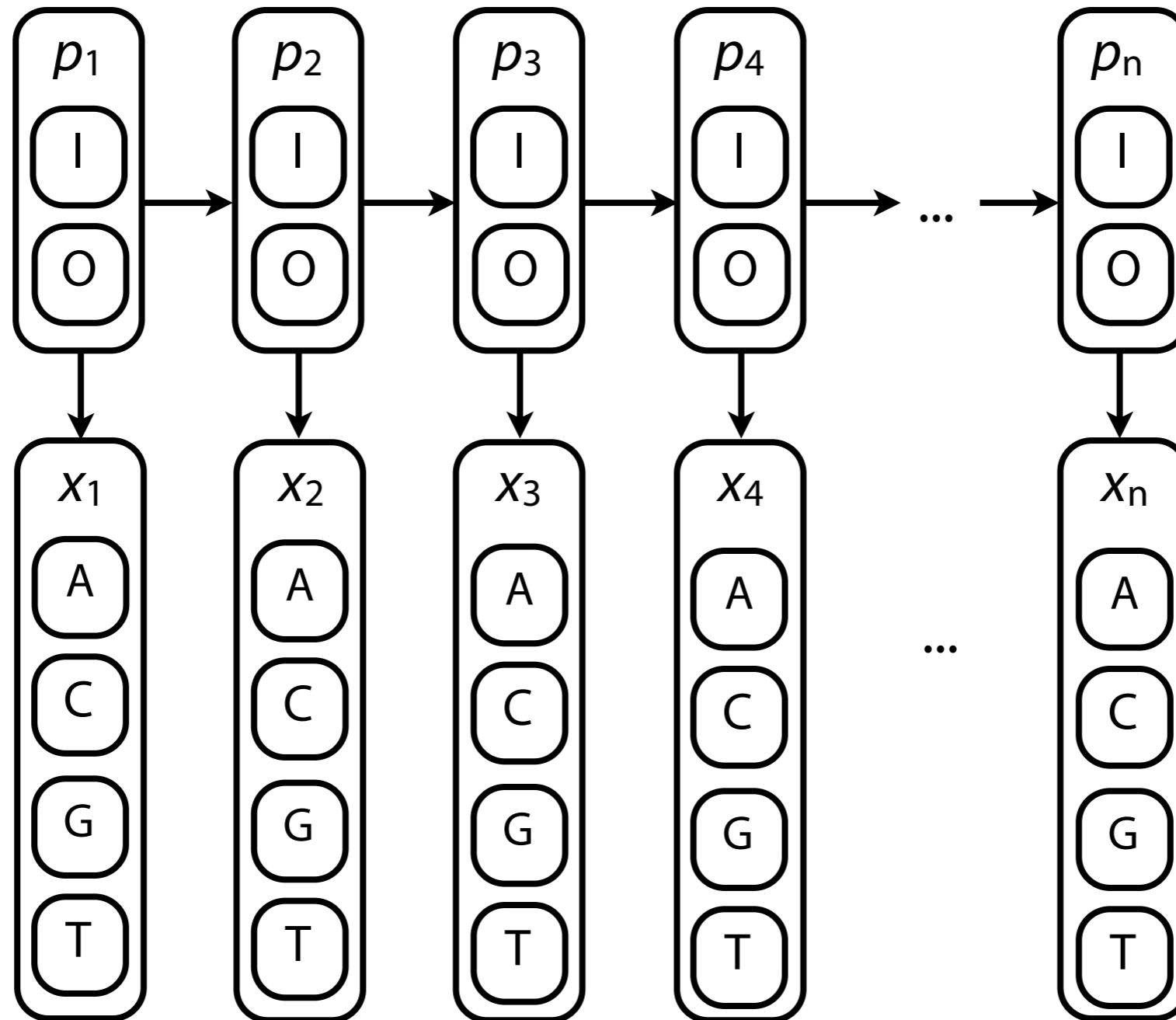
We know what an HMM is, how to calculate joint probability, and how to find the most likely path given an emission (Viterbi)

Can we design an HMM for finding CpG islands?



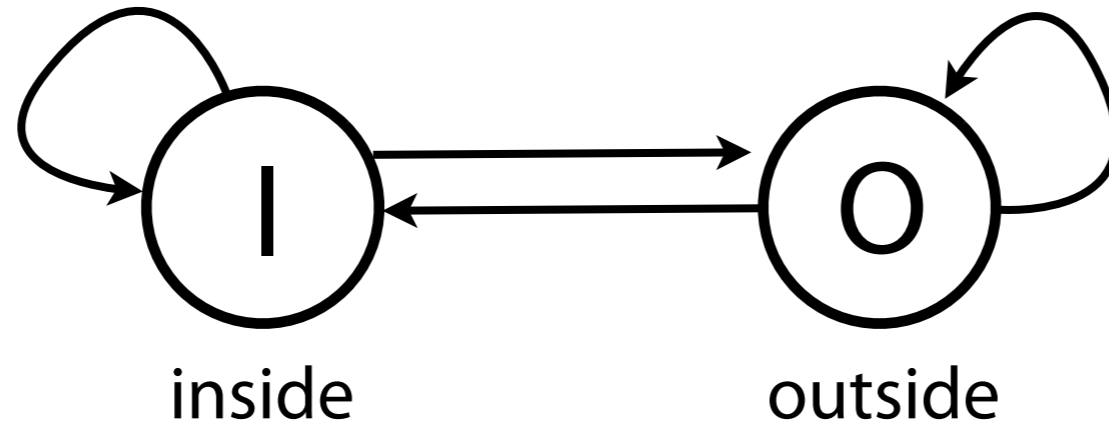
# Hidden Markov Model

Idea 1:  $Q = \{ \text{inside}, \text{outside} \}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{ A, C, G, T \}$



# Hidden Markov Model

Idea 1:  $Q = \{ \text{inside}, \text{outside} \}, \Sigma = \{ A, C, G, T \}$



	<b>A</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>O</b>
<b>I</b>			●
<b>O</b>			

Transition matrix

Fraction of Is followed by Os

<b>E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>I</b>		●		
<b>O</b>				

Emission matrix

Estimate as fraction of nucleotides inside islands that are C

# Hidden Markov Model

Example 1 using HMM idea 1:

<b>A</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>I</b>	0.8	0.2	<b>I</b>	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5
<b>O</b>	0.2	0.8	<b>O</b>	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.5

x: ATATATACGCGCGCGCGCGCGATATATATATATA

p: 00000000IIIIIIIIIIIIII0000000000000000

(from Viterbi)

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)



# Hidden Markov Model

Example 2 using HMM idea 1:

<b>A</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>I</b>	0.8	0.2	<b>I</b>	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5
<b>O</b>	0.2	0.8	<b>O</b>	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.5

x: ATAT**CGCGCGCG**GATATAT**CGCGCGCG**GATATATAT

p: 0000**IIIIIIII**0000000**IIIIIIII**00000000

(from Viterbi)

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)

# Hidden Markov Model

Example 3 using HMM idea 1:

<b>A</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>I</b>	0.8	0.2	<b>I</b>	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5
<b>O</b>	0.2	0.8	<b>O</b>	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.5

x: ATATATACCCCCCCCCCCCCCATATATATATA

p: 00000000IIIIIIIIIIIIII0000000000000000

(from Viterbi)

Oops - clearly not a CpG island

[http://bit.ly/CG\\_HMM](http://bit.ly/CG_HMM)

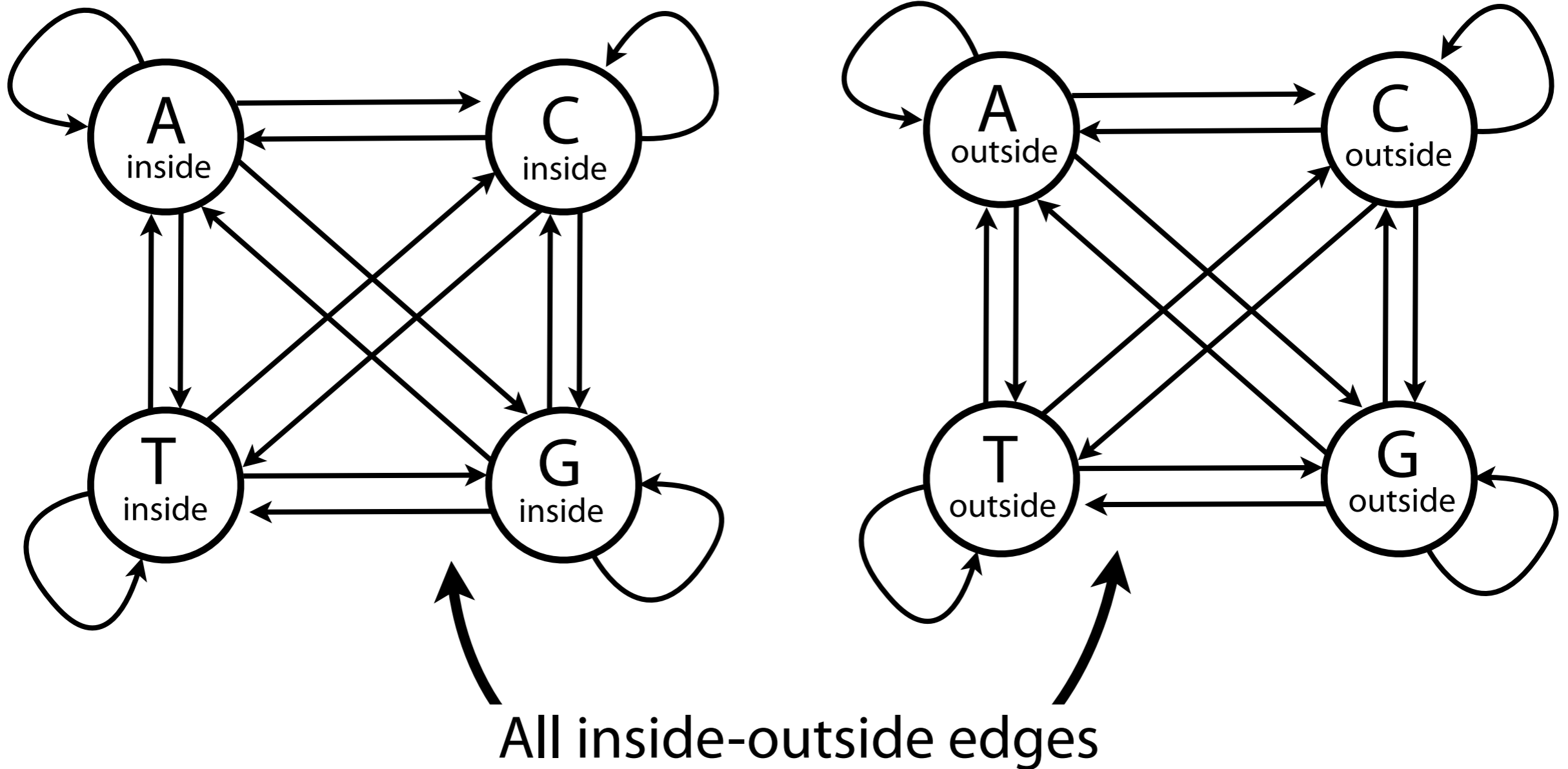
# Hidden Markov Model

Idea 2:  $Q = \{ A_i, C_i, G_i, T_i, A_o, C_o, G_o, T_o \}, \Sigma = \{ A, C, G, T \}$



# Hidden Markov Model

Idea 2:  $Q = \{ A_i, C_i, G_i, T_i, A_o, C_o, G_o, T_o \}, \Sigma = \{ A, C, G, T \}$



# Hidden Markov Model

Idea 2:  $Q = \{ A_i, C_i, G_i, T_i, A_o, C_o, G_o, T_o \}, \Sigma = \{ A, C, G, T \}$

<b>A</b>	$A_i$	$C_i$	$G_i$	$T_i$	$A_o$	$C_o$	$G_o$	$T_o$
$A_i$								
$C_i$								
$G_i$								
$T_i$								
$A_o$								
$C_o$								
$G_o$								
$T_o$								

Estimate  $P(C_i | T_i)$  as  
#  $T_i C_i$ s divided by #  $T_i$ s

Transition matrix

<b>E</b>	A	C	G	T
$A_i$	1	0	0	0
$C_i$	0	1	0	0
$G_i$	0	0	1	0
$T_i$	0	0	0	1
$A_o$	1	0	0	0
$C_o$	0	1	0	0
$G_o$	0	0	1	0
$T_o$	0	0	0	1

Emission matrix

# Hidden Markov Model

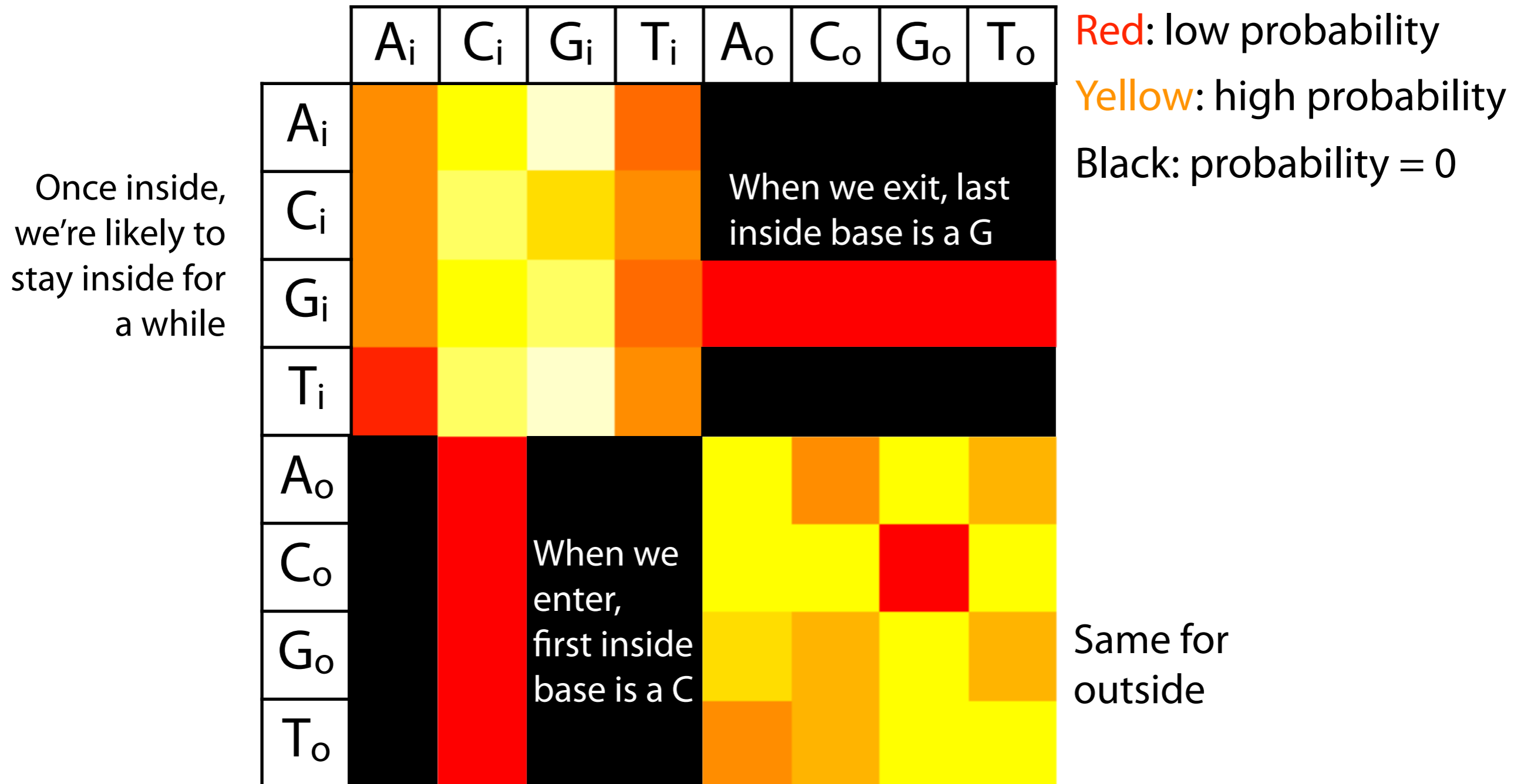
Trained transition matrix:

```
      A      C      G      T      a      c      g      t
A: 0.185441,0.276405,0.400914,0.137241,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000
C: 0.189582,0.359051,0.253240,0.198127,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000
G: 0.171904,0.328635,0.354250,0.139893,0.000785,0.001479,0.001857,0.001198
T: 0.094102,0.341636,0.376867,0.187395,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000,0.000000
a: 0.000000,0.000038,0.000000,0.000000,0.294811,0.194641,0.286965,0.223544
c: 0.000000,0.000076,0.000000,0.000000,0.326810,0.294085,0.061724,0.317305
g: 0.000000,0.000057,0.000000,0.000000,0.257128,0.233486,0.294244,0.215085
t: 0.000000,0.000031,0.000000,0.000000,0.179562,0.232469,0.294630,0.293308
```

Uppercase = inside, lowercase = outside

# Hidden Markov Model

Trained transition matrix A:





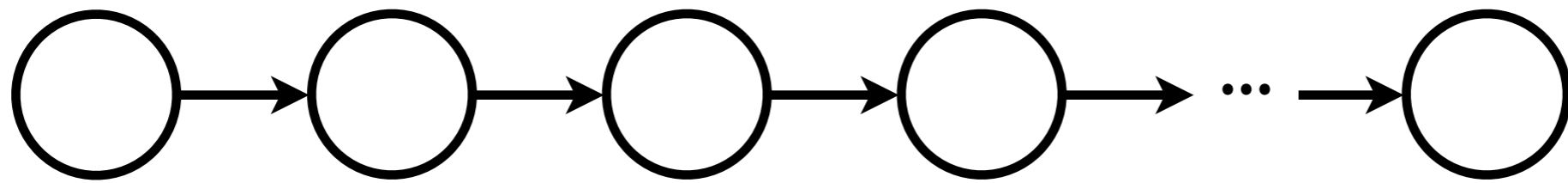




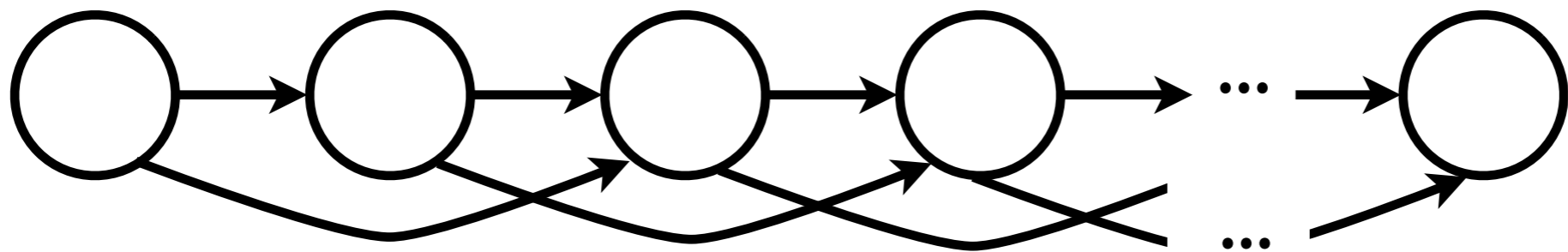
# Hidden Markov Model

Many of the Markov chains and HMMs we've discussed are *first order*, but we can also design models of higher orders

First-order Markov chain:

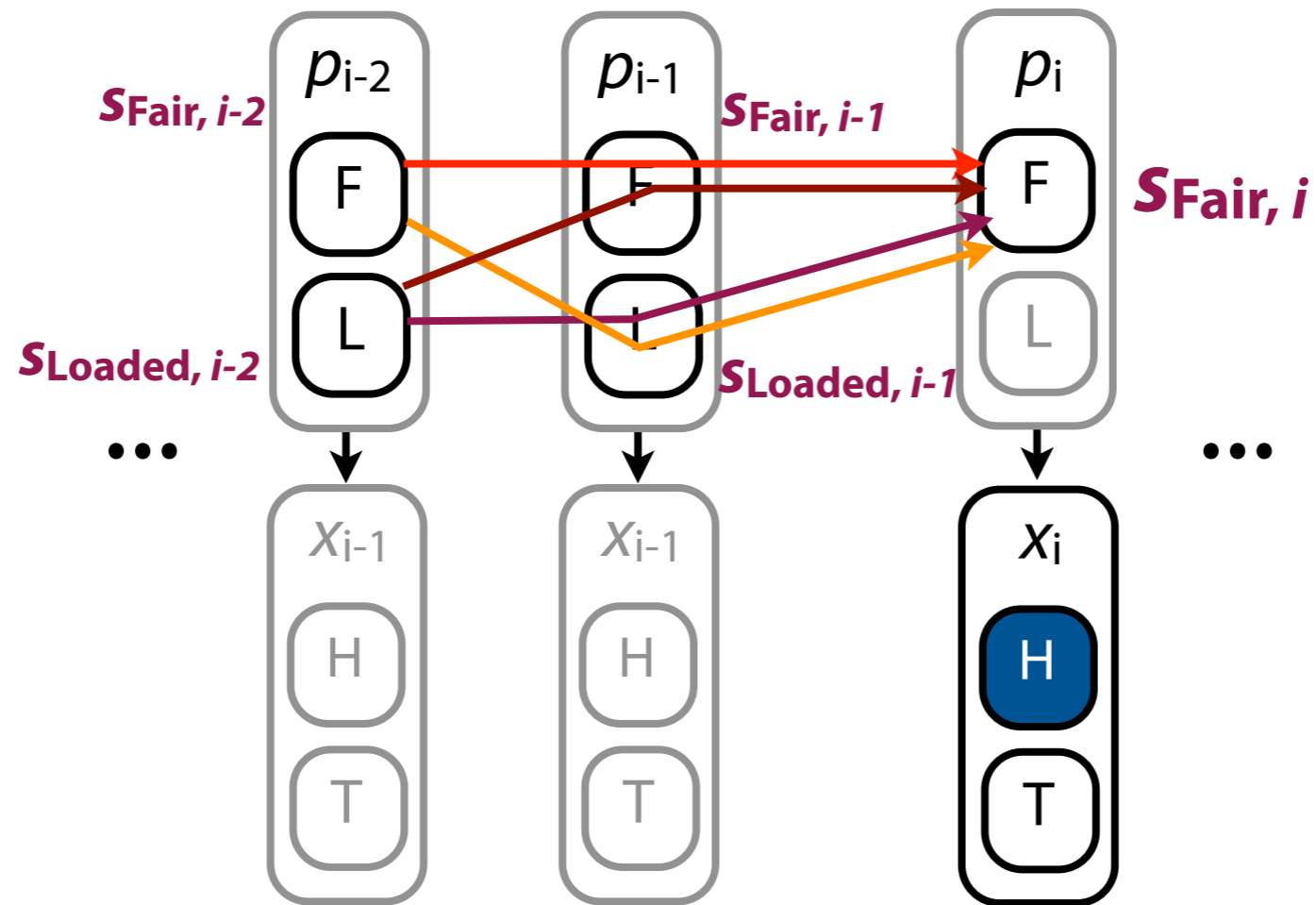


Second-order Markov chain:



# Hidden Markov Model

For higher-order HMMs, Viterbi  $S_{k,i}$  no longer depends on just the previous state assignment



Equivalently, we can expand the state space, as we did for CpG islands.