

Chapter 1 - Definitions & Examples Lec. 1

①

• Definition: Stochastic process

A family of random variables $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ where i is an index set, usually denoting time (so $I = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, or \mathbb{R}_+)

FIRST PART OF THE COURSE - Discrete time

• A s.p. is now $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

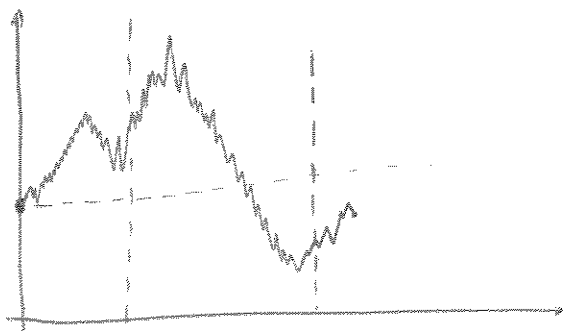
• each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, X_n is a random variable, i.e. a function from probability space Ω into a state space S

S can be: Finite / Infinite $\begin{cases} \text{Countable} \\ \text{Uncountable} \end{cases}$

Examples of Stochastic Process

• ??? Random Walk, ~~Sum~~ of i.i.d.s.

Example (Closing Value of Stock).



• Stock Awesome.COM.CY has a value after the end of each day, when the market closes.

• What are the questions of interest?

time \rightarrow (in days)

• Long term behavior?

• Is day-to-day information enough?

• Does information we possess matters?

Answer to last question? YES! History changes probabilities!

Conditional probability \rightarrow We use information we already have (2)

- Event B , $P\{B\} > 0$ (necessary)
- We have knowledge of event B - we know it happened.
- Q: What is the prob. of something else happening?

Then

$$P\{A|B\} = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} := \frac{P\{A \cap B\}}{P\{B\}} = \frac{P\{A, B\}}{P\{B\}}$$

Note: $P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A|B)$

Disjoint events: (= Mutually exclusive)

(i.e. Sunny vs Rainy) $P\{A \cap B\} = 0 \Rightarrow P\{A|B\} = 0$

Independent events: $P\{A \cap B\} = P\{A\}P\{B\}$

(information about ~~the~~ B is useless in terms of info about A)

$$\Rightarrow P\{A|B\} = P\{A\}$$

Lecture 23/08 End

The three tools of conditioning

1. Multiplication Rule:

$$P(A_1, \dots, A_n) = P(A_1) \cdot P(A_2|A_1) \cdot P(A_3|A_2, A_1) \dots P(A_n|A_{n-1}, \dots, A_1)$$

(This is part of the first hw)

Example:

There are N keys in a basket and only one opens a door.
What is the probability that the door will open at the n -th trial? ($1 \leq n \leq N$)

Define $A_i = \{i\text{-th key did not open door}\}$.

We want $P\{A_1 \dots A_{n-1} A_n^c\} =$ (why?) (+)

Then, by the multiplication rule:

$$(+)= \frac{N-1}{N} \cdot \frac{N-2}{N-1} \cdot \frac{N-3}{N-2} \dots \frac{N-n+1}{N-n+2} \cdot \frac{1}{N-n+1} = \frac{1}{N} \quad (\text{Wow!})$$

Why? Use permutations of the N keys!

∃ (N-1)! that place the correct key at the n-th position

N! all perms.

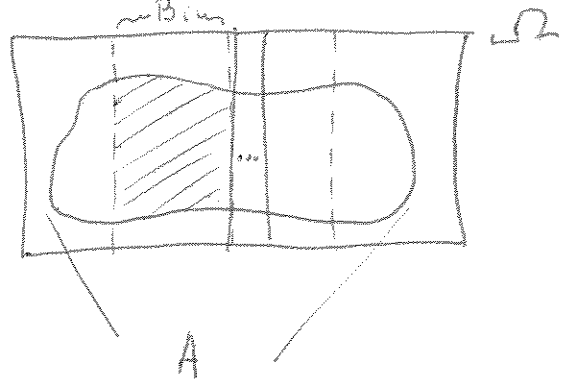
⇒ P{A1... An-1 An} = (N-1)! / N! = 1/N

3). Law of total probability.

ℳ {Bi} i∈N, P{Bi} > 0 ∀i (finite or countably many)

and so that P{Bi ∩ Bj} = 0 if i ≠ j and ∑ P{Bi} = 1

They partition Ω



P{A} = ∑ P{A ∩ Bi} = ∑ P{A | Bi} P{Bi}

c) Bayes Formula (a posteriori probability)

We know an event happened. What is the prob. that something else happened before it??

Baby version! P{A | B} = P{A ∩ B} / P{B} = P{A ∩ B} / P{A} * P{A} / P{B} = P{B | A} * P{A} / P{B}

hardcore version P{A | B} = P{B | A} * P{A} / ∑ P{B | Aj} * P{Aj}

Ex. Two coins. P(coin 1) = 2/3. coin 1: P(H) = 1/3, coin 2: P(H) = 3/4 P(coin 2 | H) = ?

What is this? What properties satisfy Ai?

Definitions & Examples.

- Discrete time stochastic process, $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ Index "n" denotes time, (or time step)
- State space S is finite for this chapter!

The most natural thing to evaluate is the probabilities of the process:

$$(\dagger) \quad \mathbb{P}\{X_0 = i_0, X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_n = i_n\}$$

$$n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \forall (i_0, \dots, i_n) \in S^{n+1}$$

Probability (\dagger) is an intersection of events, so, by the multiplication rule

$$(\dagger) = \underbrace{\mathbb{P}\{X_0 = i_0\}}_{\text{Initial distribution}} \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}\{X_1 = i_1 | X_0 = i_0\} \dots \mathbb{P}\{X_n = i_n | X_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, X_0 = i_0\}}_{\text{Transition probabilities}} \quad (**)$$

Can we simplify $(**)$? NOT ALWAYS

the process is MARKOV then it simplifies greatly:

• Markov Property: (Restarting!)

• In normal words: In order to make predictions for the future of the system, all you need to know is its present state (not its past history).

• In mathy words: Conditional on the present, past and future are independent.

• In mathy symbols:

$$\mathbb{P}\{X_n = i_n | X_0 = i_0, \dots, X_{n-1} = i_{n-1}\} = \mathbb{P}\{X_n = i_n | X_{n-1} = i_{n-1}\}$$

Definitions.

A markov chain (MC) is a stochastic process that satisfy the Markov Property.

A time-homogeneous MC satisfies $P\{X_n = i_n \mid X_0 = i_0, \dots, X_{n-1} = i_{n-1}\} = P(i_{n-1}, i_n)$
 for some function $P: S \times S \rightarrow [0, 1]$ that does not depend on n .

This implies:

$$P\{X_{n+1} = i \mid X_n = j\} = P(i, j)$$

~~$\forall n \geq 0$~~
 $\forall n \geq 0$.

The initial distribution ϕ gives the starting positions:

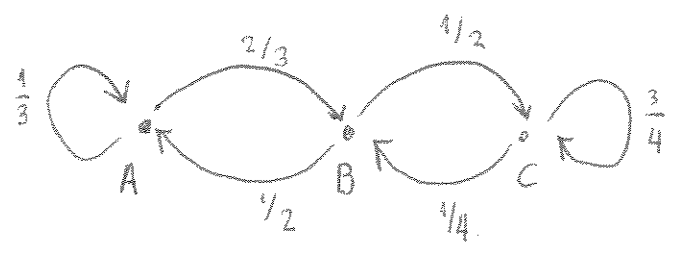
$$P\{X_0 = i\} = \phi(i)$$

w (4) can be simplified as:

$$P\{X_0 = i_0, X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_n = i_n\} = \phi(i_0) \cdot P(i_0, i_1) \cdot P(i_1, i_2) \dots P(i_{n-1}, i_n)$$

Realization

Three state MC:



- Directed graph
- Is it a MC (Yes, why?)
- $P(B, C) = \frac{1}{2}$.

How to organise? From each state you go to a different state.

⇒ Two coordinates!

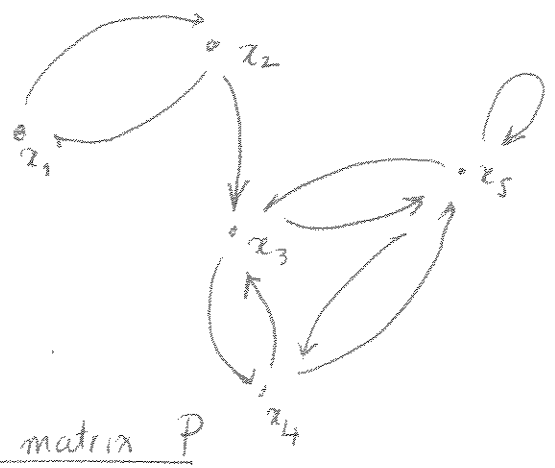
$$\begin{matrix}
 & \begin{matrix} A & B & C \end{matrix} \\
 \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 2/3 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/4 & 3/4 \end{bmatrix} = P
 \end{matrix}$$

This is called a transition matrix
 (i.e. matrix of transition probabilities)

• It's a Stochastic Matrix. The rows sum up to 1 (why?).

In general, any directed graph, where the sum of outbounds probabilities sum to 1, can be turned into a MC. (6)

(Why?) Because an MC is uniquely / completely defined by the transition probabilities, which in turn can be defined by the transition matrix.



$$P = \begin{bmatrix} P(x_1, x_1) & \dots & P(x_1, x_5) \\ \vdots & P(x_i, x_j) & \vdots \\ P(x_5, x_1) & & P(x_5, x_5) \end{bmatrix}$$

Stochastic matrix P

Entries $P_{ij} = P(i, j)$, $0 \leq P_{ij} \leq 1$ (why?)

Stochastic Matrix $\sum_{j=1}^N P_{ij} = 1$ (row sum) (why?)

Anything satisfying 1&2 is a transition matrix for an MC. (why?)

samples

1) Two-state MC - A (highly unrealistic) weather model.

let $X_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{rainy} \\ 1 & \text{not rainy} \end{cases}$ during the n-th day of the measurement.

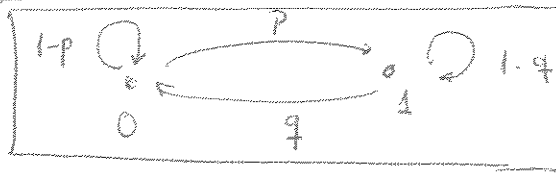
suppose that at the end of each day, \exists prob. p to switch from rainy to not rainy, and a prob. q to switch from not rainy to rainy.

on the stoch. matrix P

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & q \\ q & 1-q \end{bmatrix}$$

(7)

The chain can be represented by



Finite Capacity queueing system

we are in a bank, where the teller serves at ^{most one} person in a given time interval with prob. p . If the queue length in front of a teller is two, no more people may enter the queue. If there is room, at most one client attempts to join the queue with prob. q during each time interval.

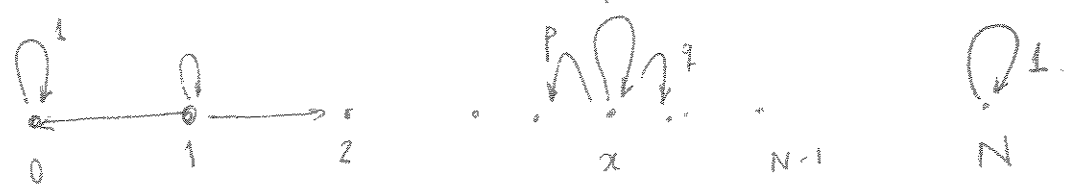
- Is this a MC?
- Find the stochastic matrix. (the transition matrix).

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1-p & 0 \\ q & 1-q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ q & 0 \\ 1-(1-p)q & -(1-q)p \\ (1-p)q & 1-p \end{bmatrix}$$

$\rightarrow pq + (1-p)(1-q)$
 served + entered not served not entered.

Gambler's Ruin Problem (Random walk with absorbing boundaries)



$r + p + q = 1$. For $1 < x < N$, $p(x,x) = r$, $p(x,x-1) = p$, $p(x,x+1) = q$.

Why are the transition matrices useful?

(8)

We need to find $\mathbb{P}\{X_n = j \mid X_0 = i\}$ (††) (Look deep into the future!)

The only information we have are ϕ_0 (initial distribution) and P (the tr. m.).

(††) is called the n-step transition.

$$P_n(i, j) = \mathbb{P}\{X_n = j \mid X_0 = i\} = \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+k} = j \mid X_k = i\}$$

ssum $\bar{\phi}_0 = (\phi_0(0), \dots, \phi_0(N))$ i.d.

then, by law of total probability

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{P}_\phi\{X_n = j\}}_{\text{call this } \phi_n(j)} = \sum_{i \in S} \phi_0(i) \underbrace{\mathbb{P}\{X_n = j \mid X_0 = i\}}_{\text{Need to know this!}}$$

claim : $P_n(i, j) = (P^n)_{i, j}$ = the (i, j) entry of matrix P^n .

roof : We use induction.

For $n=1$ true!

Assume $P_n(i, j) = (P^n)_{i, j} \quad \forall (i, j)$. We'll show it for $n+1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1} = j \mid X_0 = i\} &\stackrel{\text{why?}}{=} \sum_{k \in S} \mathbb{P}\{X_n = k \mid X_0 = i\} \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1} = j \mid X_n = k\} \\ &= \sum_{k \in S} P_n(i, k) \cdot P(k, j) \end{aligned}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{why?}}{=} (P^n \cdot P)_{i, j} \quad \square$$

on, if $\bar{\phi}_n = (\phi_n(1), \dots, \phi_n(N)) \Rightarrow \bar{\phi}_n = \bar{\phi}_0 P^n$.

Lec. 3

(9)

> recap.

The n -th step transition $P\{X_n = j \mid X_0 = i\} = P^n(i, j)$ is the ij th coordinate of the matrix P^n , P is transition matrix.

$$P\{X_n = j\} = \sum_{k=1}^N \underbrace{P\{X_n = j \mid X_0 = k\}}_{P^n(k, j)} \cdot \underbrace{P\{X_0 = k\}}_{\phi_0(k)} \quad (*)$$

Let $\bar{\phi}_0$ be the vector $[\phi_0(1), \dots, \phi_0(N)]$ that gives the initial distribution of the chain.

Then (*) becomes (assuming $\bar{\phi}_n = [P\{X_n=1\}, P\{X_n=2\}, \dots, P\{X_n=N\}]$)

$$\boxed{\bar{\phi}_n = \bar{\phi}_0 \cdot P^n} \quad \text{vector-matrix form!}$$

sample. (Two-state MC)

Let $P = \begin{bmatrix} \overset{S}{3/4} & \overset{R}{1/4} \\ 1/6 & 5/6 \end{bmatrix}$

Let $\phi_0 = [1, 0]$ (\Rightarrow Meaning?)

What is the probability that during the 6-th day is sunny?

Answer

$$P^6 = \begin{bmatrix} 3/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/6 & 5/6 \end{bmatrix}^6 = \begin{bmatrix} .424 & .576 \\ .384 & .616 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Then } \bar{\phi}_6 = \bar{\phi}_0 P^6 = [1, 0] \begin{bmatrix} .424 & .576 \\ .384 & .616 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{.424}, .576$$

Now, assume you want to settle a city. You are the first settler and you observe this weather pattern! What is the probability that it will be sunny or rainy in two years time?

large time behavior and invariant probability

- Two ways to do it.
 - 1) Using Linear algebra
 - 2) Using probabilistic methods + finite sums!

Method 2. (Becomes really difficult when state space becomes bigger)

$$\begin{matrix}
 & 0 & & 1 \\
 0 & \begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix} & & \\
 1 & & &
 \end{matrix}$$

We are interested in finding $\underline{IP\{X_{n+1}=0\}}$

law of total probability:

$$\begin{aligned}
 IP\{X_{n+1}=0\} &= IP\{X_{n+1}=0, X_n=0\} + IP\{X_{n+1}=0, X_n=1\} \\
 &= \underbrace{IP\{X_{n+1}=0 | X_n=0\}}_{(1-a)} \cdot IP\{X_n=0\} + \underbrace{IP\{X_{n+1}=0 | X_n=1\}}_b \cdot IP\{X_n=1\} \\
 &= (1-a) \cdot IP\{X_n=0\} + b \cdot (1 - IP\{X_n=0\}) \\
 \boxed{IP\{X_{n+1}=0\} &= b + (1-a-b) \cdot IP\{X_n=0\}}
 \end{aligned}$$

index lowered by 1 \Rightarrow Re-iterate!

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= b + (1-a-b) [b + (1-a-b) IP\{X_{n-1}=0\}] \\
 &= b + b(1-a-b) + (1-a-b)^2 IP\{X_{n-1}=0\} \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= b + b(1-a-b) + \dots + b(1-a-b)^n + (1-a-b)^{n+1} IP\{X_0=0\} \\
 &= b \left[\frac{1 - (1-a-b)^{n+1}}{1 - (1-a-b)} \right] + (1-a-b)^{n+1} IP\{X_0=0\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{IP\{X_{n+1}=0\} = \frac{b}{a+b} + (1-a-b)^{n+1} \left[IP\{X_0=0\} - \frac{b}{a+b} \right]}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1}=0\} = \frac{b}{a+b} \quad (\text{no info about } \phi_0 \text{ required!})$$

Repeat for $\mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1}=1\} = 1 - \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1}=0\} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\{X_{n+1}=1\} = \frac{a}{a+b}$
 if $0 < a+b < 2$

method 1. Works in general and is computationally easy!

• Reminder. An eigenvalue of a Real matrix A is a complex number λ s.t.
 \exists real vectors \bar{v}, \bar{u} so that $\bar{v} \underline{A} = \lambda \bar{v}$ or $\underline{A} \bar{u} = \lambda \bar{u}$
 (~~left~~ \bar{v} is called left (~~right~~ right) eigenvector).

• Eigenvalues are roots of the polynomial
 (called the characteristic polynomial).

$$\det |A - xI| = 0$$

Note: P^n is easy to calculate if P is diagonal!

Any stochastic matrix has a real eigenvalue $\lambda=1$.
 Why?

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{j=1}^n a_{nj} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is a right eigenvector.

let's find a Left 1-eigenvector for $\begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix}$:

assume the eigenvector is (x, y) . Then:

$$(x, y) \begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix} = (x, y) \iff \begin{cases} (1-a)x + by = x \\ ax + (1-b)y = y \end{cases}$$

$$\iff \begin{cases} -ax + by = 0 \\ ax - by = 0 \end{cases} \iff \{ax = by\} \iff \left\{y = \frac{a}{b} x\right\}$$

$\Rightarrow \left\{ (x, y) = x \left(1, \frac{a}{b} \right) \right\}_{x \in \mathbb{R}}$ Which eigenvector to choose?

Assume further that $x+y=1 \iff x + \frac{a}{b}x = 1 \iff x = \frac{b}{a+b}$
 $y = \frac{a}{a+b}$

So now, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$, $x+y=1$ and $(x,y) = \left[\frac{b}{a+b}, \frac{a}{a+b} \right]$

Moreover $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \end{bmatrix} \cdot P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{x+b} & \frac{a}{x+b} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{x+b} & \frac{a}{x+b} \end{bmatrix} \cdot P^n = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{x+b} & \frac{a}{x+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

What happens if $\bar{\phi}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{x+b} & \frac{a}{x+b} \end{bmatrix}$? Nothing! That's why it's called invariant distribution.

Lec. 4

Natural questions

Do we always have an invariant distribution? NO, what if 1-eigenvector has negative entries?

If we have one, is it unique? Not necessarily, what if 1 is not a simple eigenvalue?

Do we care about other eigenvalues? Yes! Here is why...

Large time behavior for stochastic matrix.

$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix}$. Can we say something about $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n$?

Characteristic polynomial $f(\lambda) = \det(P - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-a-\lambda & a \\ b & 1-b-\lambda \end{vmatrix}$
 $= (1-a-\lambda)(1-b-\lambda) - ab$
 $= \lambda^2 - (1-a+1-b)\lambda - ab + (1-a)(1-b)$
 $= \lambda^2 - (2-a-b)\lambda + 1-a-b = (\lambda-1)(\lambda - (1-a-b))$

eigenvalues $\lambda = 1$ (yay!) $\lambda = 1 - a - b$. Note that $|1 - a - b| < 1$.

raise P to powers, first diagonalize.

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - a - b \end{bmatrix} = Q^{-1} P Q, \text{ where } Q \text{ needs to be specified}$$

The columns of the matrix Q are right-eigenvectors, corresponding to the ordering of the eigenvalues:

An eigenvector for $\lambda = 1 - a - b$ is $[-a, b]$ (Check!)

$$\text{So } Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{(Why?)}} Q^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \\ -\frac{1}{a+b} & \frac{1}{a+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } P^n &= (Q D Q^{-1})^n = Q D^n Q^{-1} = Q \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & (1-a-b)^n \end{bmatrix} Q^{-1} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a - a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} \\ \frac{b - b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a + b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\pi} \\ \bar{\pi} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

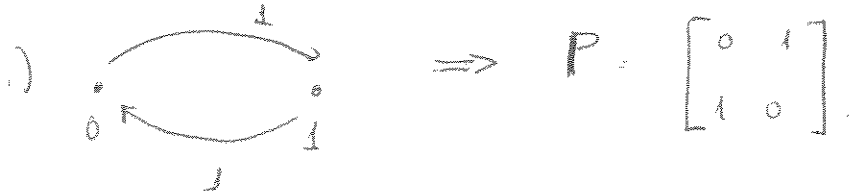
Here $\bar{\pi}$ is invariant distribution!

Question.

Do all stochastic matrices satisfy $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\pi} \\ \bar{\pi} \end{bmatrix}$?

Answer: No.

What can fail? Three possible problems!



$$P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = I, \quad P^3 = P^2 P = P, \quad P^4 = (P^2)^2 = I \dots \quad \begin{cases} P^{2n+1} = P \\ P^{2n} = I \end{cases}$$

What makes the "theorem" fail?

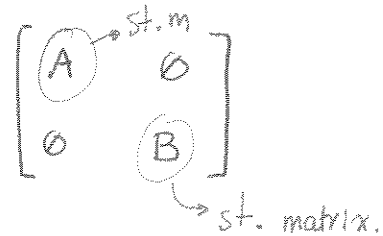
We can predict the position accurately according # steps.

• Periodicity

~~... plenty of zeros in high P^n~~
 $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, P^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, P^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : \text{no limit!!}$

1) $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{P \cdot P \cdot P} P^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} \pi & \pi \\ \pi & \pi \\ \pi & \pi \\ \pi & \pi \end{bmatrix}$

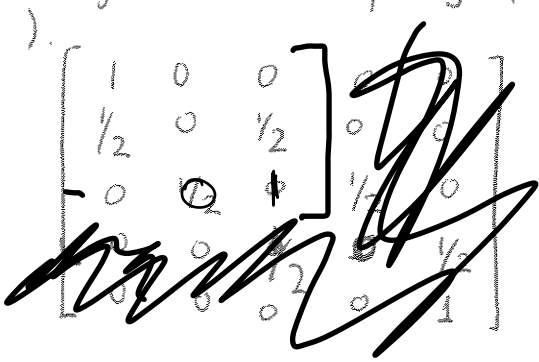
What makes the "theorem" fail?



Chain:



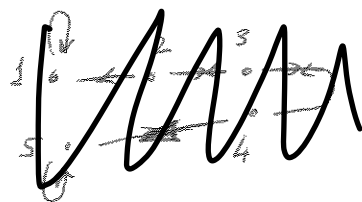
Chain can be broken down to ~~more~~ smaller chains! (⇒ Reducibility)
 Again, there are plenty of zeroes!



Random walk with absorbing boundaries!



$P^n \approx \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$



the random walk ever hits 0 or 2 it will be stuck!

there are useless states in the limit (⇒ Transience). ~~Again, look~~

Note: if P has no zero entries, then none of those issues happens!

END OF LECTURE

Fact: If P is a stochastic matrix, such that for some n P^n has all positive entries then the left-eigenvector can be chosen with non-negative entries and the eigenvalue 1 is simple and all other eigenvalues are in absolute value less than 1.

Section 13 - Classification of States:

Lec. 5
Math of Google
then this.

Irreducible - Frobenius Thm.

Suppose P is a stochastic matrix with all entries strictly positive
Then 1 is a simple eigenvalue, there exists an invariant distribution π (hence unique) and all other eigenvalues has absolute value strictly less than 1 .

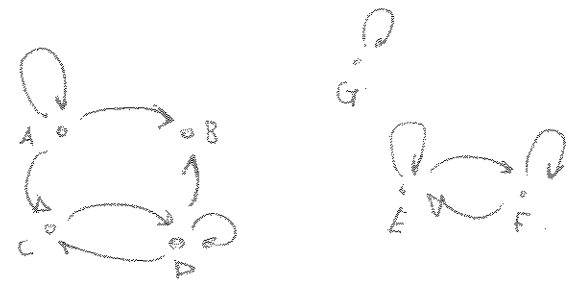
\Rightarrow Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n = \begin{bmatrix} \pi \\ \vdots \\ \pi \end{bmatrix}$

What conditions are sufficient so that P^n has all positive entries or n sufficiently large?

- Anything that overcomes
 - (A) Reducibility
 - (B) Periodicity
 - (C) Transience.

Reducibility:

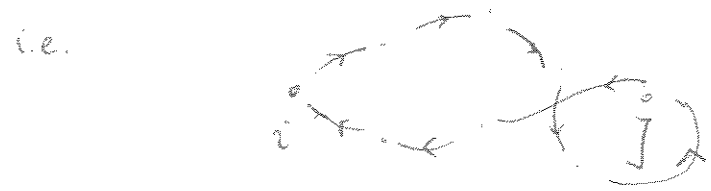
Problem. The chain could split into several pieces



The states don't "communicate".

Definition

Two states i and j communicate with each other (written $i \leftrightarrow j$) if there exists $m, n \geq 0$ such that $P_m(i, j) > 0$ and $P_n(j, i) > 0$



\exists closed circuit that contains i and j and can travel from i to j

The relation \leftrightarrow is

- i) reflexive: $i \leftrightarrow i$ ($P_0(i, i) = 1 > 0$)
- ii) symmetric $i \leftrightarrow j \implies j \leftrightarrow i$
- iii) transitive $i \leftrightarrow k, k \leftrightarrow j \implies i \leftrightarrow j$

Proof of transitivity:

Assume $P_{m_1}(i,j) > 0$, $P_{m_2}(j,k) > 0$. Then

$$P_{m_1+m_2}(i,k) = P\{X_{m_1+m_2} = k \mid X_0 = i\}$$

$$\geq P\{X_{m_1+m_2} = k, X_{m_1} = j \mid X_0 = i\} \text{ (why?)}$$

L.T.P
 $\stackrel{=}{=} P\{X_{m_1+m_2} = k \mid X_{m_1} = j, X_0 = i\} \cdot P\{X_{m_1} = j \mid X_0 = i\}$

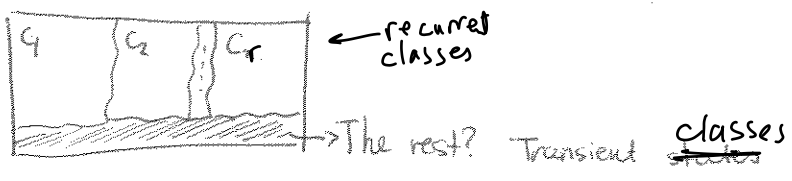
M.P.
 $\stackrel{=}{=} P\{X_{m_1+m_2} = k \mid X_{m_1} = j\} \cdot P\{X_{m_1} = j \mid X_0 = i\}$

T.H.
 $\stackrel{=}{=} P\{X_{m_2} = k \mid X_0 = j\} \cdot P\{X_{m_1} = j \mid X_0 = i\}$

$= P_{m_1}(i,j) P_{m_2}(j,k) > 0.$

The relation " \leftrightarrow " is an equivalence relation =

partitions the state space into communication classes: $S \xrightarrow{\leftrightarrow}$

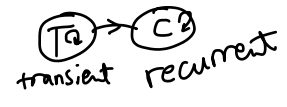


$$P = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P_r & 0 \\ S & Q & \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^n = \begin{bmatrix} P_1^n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P_r^n & 0 \\ S_n & Q^n & \end{bmatrix} \text{ Later}$$

Any matrix satisfying the Perron-Frobenius thm must have only 1 communication class ^{with all states in it.} Such a matrix is called irreducible. (i.e. $\forall (i,j) \exists n \in \mathbb{N} P_n(i,j) > 0, P_m(j,i) > 0$.)

The communication classes are called

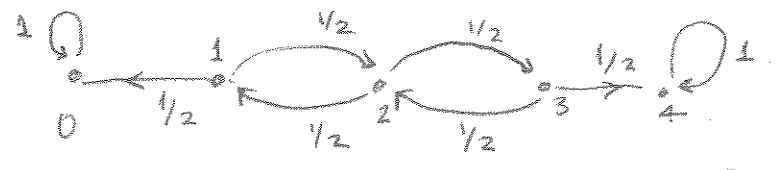


Transient, if the chain eventually leaves and never returns.

Recurrent, if the chain keeps visiting each state in the class ∞ -many times.

Example.

Gambler's ruin problem. (Fair game)



$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$0 \leftrightarrow 0$

$1 \rightarrow 0$

$1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$

$\Rightarrow 1 \leftrightarrow 2$

$2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 2$

$\Rightarrow 2 \leftrightarrow 3$

$1 \leftrightarrow 3$

$\rightarrow 4$

$\leftrightarrow 4$

Three communication classes!

$\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1,2,3\}$

Recurrent Recurrent

This implies transience

- mass (chain) leaves

$\{1,2,3\}$ comm. class.

Exercise 1.5.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	1/2	1/2	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	1/4	1/4	0	0	1/4	1/4
4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0

$0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leftrightarrow 0$

$1 \leftrightarrow 0 \quad 1 \leftrightarrow 1$

$2 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \quad 2 \leftrightarrow 4$

$2 \leftrightarrow 2$

$4 \leftrightarrow 4$

$3 \rightarrow 1, 0$

$3 \rightarrow 4$

$3 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 1$

$\rightarrow 3$

$\rightarrow 5$

$3 \leftrightarrow 5$

Three communication classes.

$\{0,1\}, \{2,4\}, \{3,5\}$
 R R T.

chain that starts in a recurrent class always stays in it!

1) Periodicity:

Assume P is the matrix for an irreducible MC (otherwise work with each block)

Definition: A period of a state i , $d=d(i)$ is the largest common divisor of the integer set:

$$J_i = \{n \geq 0 : P_n(i,i) > 0\}$$

Properties of J_i

18

If $m, n \in J_i \Rightarrow m+n \in J_i$ ($P_{m+n}(z, i) \geq P_m(z, i) + P_n(z, i) > 0$)

If d is g.c.d. of J_i , then $J_i \subset \{0, d, 2d, \dots\}$

$\exists M_i$ s.t. $md \in J_i \quad \forall m > M_i$ (*).

Exercise 1.21 ~~(Prove a certain property)~~

Define $D_i = \{x \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid dx \in J_i\}$. Then $\text{g.c.d.}(D_i) = 1$, thus there exist $m, n \in D_i$ with $\text{g.c.d.}(m, n) = 1$

Euclid's algorithm implies that there exist $\alpha_0, \beta_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $m\alpha_0 + n\beta_0 = 1$.

Now consider the set $A = \{mx + ny \mid x, y \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$.

Because J_i (and by extension D_i) are closed under addition

$A \subseteq D_i$. We'll show (*) for the set A .

First note that there are two consecutive integers in A :

Let $x > |\alpha_0|, y > |\beta_0| \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$N = mx + ny \in A$ and $mx + ny + 1 = m(x + \alpha_0) + n(y + \beta_0) = N + 1$.

We'll show that all numbers $> N^2$ are in A .

Let $m \geq N^2$ and write $m - N^2 = kN + r, 0 \leq r < N$

Then $m = r + N^2 + kN = \underbrace{r(N+1)}_{\in \mathbb{N}_0} + \underbrace{(N-r+k)N}_{\in \mathbb{N}_0} \in A \subseteq D_i$

Proposition: The period is a class property.

Let P be irreducible (so only one communication class)

Let n, m such that $P_n(i, j) > 0$, $P_m(j, i) > 0$. and let

$d = \text{g.c.d. } \{J_i\}$. We'll show that $d = \text{g.c.d. } J_j$.

$\cdot P_{m+n}(i, i) \geq P_n(i, j) P_m(j, i) > 0 \Rightarrow m+n \in J_i \Rightarrow d | m+n$.

$\cdot P_{m+n}(j, j) \geq P_m(j, i) P_n(i, j) > 0 \Rightarrow m+n \in J_j$

for any other $l \in J_j$, $m+n+l \in J_j$



$P_{m+n+l}(i, i) \geq P_n(i, j) \cdot P_l(j, j) \cdot P_m(j, i) > 0 \Rightarrow m+n+l \in J_i \Rightarrow$

$\left. \begin{matrix} d | m+n+l \\ d | m+n \end{matrix} \right\} \Rightarrow d | l \Rightarrow \boxed{d \leq \text{g.c.d. } \{J_j\}}$

Similarly, interchanging the roles of i, j we have

$\boxed{\text{g.c.d. } \{J_i\} \leq d}$

- Later:
- 1. How fast do we leave a transient class?
 - 2. What is the probability we end up in a given recurrent class?
 - 3. What happens in a recurrent class? $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{Periodic } (d \geq 2) \\ \text{aperiodic } (d = 1) \end{matrix} \right.$

*3.3 Irreducible, aperiodic chains

• Any ^{irred.} matrix P is aperiodic iff $d=1$. Then, \exists a unique invariant probability vector π satisfying $\pi P = \pi$.

• Moreover, if φ is any initial probability vector

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi P^n = \pi$$

• Also $\pi(i) > 0 \quad \forall i$

Theorem (No proof)

If P is irreducible with period d , P will have d eigenvalues with absolute value 1, the d complex numbers z , s.t. $|z|^d = 1$

- Each is simple
- In particular, 1 is simple and there exists a unique invariant prob. $\bar{\pi}$
- Given any initial distribution $\bar{\varphi}$ for large n $\bar{\varphi} P^n$ will cycle through d different distributions but they will average to $\bar{\pi}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{d} [\bar{\varphi} P^{n+1} + \dots + \bar{\varphi} P^{n+d}] = \bar{\pi}$$

• $\bar{\pi}$ does not represent the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n(j, i) \neq \bar{\pi}(i)$

• It still is the average ~~over~~ proportion of time spend on each state!

• for each pair (i, j) there exist $0 \leq r < d$ such that

$$P(X_{k+d+r} = j | X_0 = i) \xrightarrow[k \rightarrow \infty]{} d \pi_j \quad \text{and} \quad P(X_n = j | X_0 = i) = 0$$

if $n \neq r \pmod d$.

Section 1.4. Return times!

\mathcal{X}_n is irreducible (MC) (possibly periodic), transition matrix P

What is the ~~proportion~~^{amount} of time spent on state j , up to (and including) time " n "? (say we call it $Y(j, n)$)

Let $\mathbf{1}\{X_m = j\} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X_m = j \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$ the "indicator" function

$$\text{Then } Y(j, n) = \sum_{m=0}^n \mathbf{1}\{X_m = j\}$$

Is it a useful expression? Not really, since we have to know all history for it to make sense, however, we can compute expectation, or limiting behavior:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \mathbb{E}(Y(j, n) | X_0 = i) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \mathbb{E}\left(\sum_{m=0}^n \mathbf{1}\{X_m = j\} | X_0 = i\right)$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{m=0}^n \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{1}\{X_m = j\} | X_0 = i) \stackrel{!}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{m=0}^n \mathbb{P}\{X_m = j | X_0 = i\}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{m=0}^n P_m(i, j) \stackrel{!}{=} \pi(j)$$

$$a_n \rightarrow a \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n a_m \rightarrow a \text{ (Why?)}$$

\Rightarrow Proportion of time spent on state j is $\pi(j)$!

Time of first return

Fix a state i , ~~let~~ assume that $\mathbb{P}\{X_0 = i\} = 1$.

Define the first return time

$$T_{ii}^1 = \min \{ n \geq 1 : X_n = i \}$$

Recursively, define the time of the k -th return to state i

$$T_{ii}^k = \min \{ n \geq T_{ii}^{k-1} + 1 : X_n = i \}, \quad k \geq 2.$$

Observations:

• Markov property implies that $T_{ii}^k - T_{ii}^{k-1} \stackrel{D}{=} T_{ii}^1$ (why?)

• S.M.P. implies $T_{ii}^k - T_{ii}^{k-1} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\perp} T_{ii}^1$ (why?)

↳ why strong? necessary? $\stackrel{i.i.d.}{\rightleftharpoons}$

$$\frac{1}{k} \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^k) = \frac{1}{k} \mathbb{E} \left(\underbrace{T_{ii}^1 + (T_{ii}^2 - T_{ii}^1) + \dots + (T_{ii}^k - T_{ii}^{k-1})}_{\text{Sum of } k\text{-many i.i.d.'s}} \right)$$

Law of Large #s \rightarrow $\mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1)$

Handwaving argument:

There are about k visits to state i in $k \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1)$ steps

But also, we expect $\pi(i) k \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1)$ proportion of time spent there!

$$\text{Hence: } \pi(i) k \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1) = k \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1) = \frac{1}{\pi(i)}$$

100f (Exercise 1.15)

Define $r(j) = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n = j\}} \right]$, the expected # of visits to state j , before reaching state i for the first time!

Let $\bar{r} = [r(1), r(2), \dots, r(N)]$.

Claim 1. $\bar{r} \cdot P = \bar{r}$

Proof of Claim 1:

$$r(j) = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n = j\}} \right] \stackrel{!}{=} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{T_{ii}^1} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n = j\}} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n = j, T_{ii}^1 \geq n\}} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \{ X_n = j, T_{ii}^1 \geq n \}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{k \in S} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \{ X_n = j, X_{n-1} = k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n \}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\substack{k \in S \\ k \neq i}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \{ X_n = j, X_{n-1} = k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n-1 \}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\substack{k \in S \\ k \neq i}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \{ X_n = j, T_{ii}^1 \geq n-1 \mid X_{n-1} = k \} \cdot \mathbb{P} \{ X_{n-1} = k \}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\substack{k \in S \\ k \neq i}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \{ X_n = j \mid X_{n-1} = k \} \mathbb{P} \{ T_{ii}^1 \geq n-1 \mid X_{n-1} = k \} \cdot \mathbb{P} \{ X_{n-1} = k \}$$

↑ $f(X_n)$ ↑ $f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{n-1})$ ↑ $n-1$
past future present

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\substack{k \in S \\ k \neq i}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p(k, j) \mathbb{P} \{ X_{n-1} = k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n-1 \}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\substack{k \in S \\ k \neq i}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p(k, j) \cdot \mathbb{P} \{ X_{n-1} = k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n \}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{k \in S} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p(k,j) \mathbb{P}\{X_{n-1}=k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n\} \\
&= \sum_{k \in S} p(k,j) \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1_{\{X_{n-1}=k, T_{ii}^1 \geq n\}} \right) \\
&= \sum_{k \in S} p(k,j) \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 1_{\{X_m=k, T_{ii}^1 - 1 \geq m\}} \right) \\
&= \sum_{k \in S} p(k,j) \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{m=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_m=k\}} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{k \in S} p(k,j) r(k) = (\bar{r}P)_j$$

← easier to start here and work it out backward!

$$\Rightarrow [\bar{r}P = \bar{r}]$$

Claim 2

$$\mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1) = \sum_{j \in S} r(j)$$

Proof of claim 2

$$\begin{aligned}
T_{ii}^1 &= \sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_n=1\}} + \sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_n=2\}} + \dots + \sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_n=N\}} \\
&= \sum_{j \in S} \sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_n=j\}} \\
\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1) &= \sum_{j \in S} \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{T_{ii}^1 - 1} 1_{\{X_n=j\}} \right) = \sum_{j \in S} r(j)
\end{aligned}$$

Claim 3

$$\mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1) = (\pi(i))^{-1}$$

Proof of Claim 3

$$\exists \lambda > 0 \text{ s.t. } \lambda \pi = \bar{r} \quad (\text{why?})$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^N \pi(j) \right) = \sum_{i=1}^N r(j) \Rightarrow \lambda = \mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \cdot \pi(i) = r(i) = 1 \quad (\text{why?}) \Rightarrow \pi(i) = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}(T_{ii}^1)}$$

Section 1.5. Transient States!

A state is transient if the walk cannot visit infinitely often

i.e. $E \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1_{\{X_n=j\}} \right) < \infty$ iff j is transient.

Let P be the matrix for the chain X_n . Assume j transient and $X_0=i$, i also transient

Then:

$$E \left(\underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1_{\{X_n=j\}}}_{Y_j} \mid X_0=i \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P\{X_n=j \mid X_0=i\} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(i,j)$$

Thus, $E(Y_j \mid X_0=i) = \left(I + P + P^2 + \dots + P^n + \dots \right)_{i,j}$

computationally, this is hard! P could be very, very large
 \Rightarrow Need for a canonical form.

Canonical form of matrix P :

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{Recurrent} & \text{Transient} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} R \\ S \end{matrix} & \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \tilde{P} & \emptyset \\ \hline S & Q \end{array} \right] \end{matrix} \Rightarrow P^n = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{Recurrent} & \text{Transient} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} R^n \\ S^n \\ \text{junk} \end{matrix} & \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \tilde{P}^n & \emptyset \\ \hline S^n & Q^n \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$$

Hence, (i,j) entry of $I + P + \dots$ is (i,j) entry of $I + Q + Q^2 + \dots$

Example.

$$P_1 = \begin{matrix} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cancel{0} & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$R_1 = \{0\}, \quad R_2 = \{4\}, \quad T_1 = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\Rightarrow P = \begin{matrix} & R_1 & R_2 & T_1 \\ & 0 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \begin{matrix} R_1 & 0 \\ R_2 & 4 \\ T_1 & \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\tilde{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I$$

$$\tilde{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To compute $E(Y_3 | X_0 = 1)$ we must find the

$(1 + P_1 + P_1^2 + \dots)_{1,3}$ entry (5x5 matrix \Leftrightarrow evil) or

$(1 + Q + Q^2 + \dots)_{1,3}$ entry ~~of~~.

$$Q^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2^2 & 0 & 1/2^2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2^2 & 0 & 1/2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2^2 & 0 & 1/2^2 \\ 0 & 1/2^2 & 0 \\ 1/2^2 & 0 & 1/2^2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2^2 & 0 \\ 1/2^3 & 0 & 1/2^3 \\ 0 & 1/2^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2^2 & 0 \\ 1/2^3 & 0 & 1/2^3 \\ 0 & 1/2^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2^3 & 0 & 1/2^3 \\ 0 & 1/2^3 & 0 \\ 1/2^3 & 0 & 1/2^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow (I + Q + \dots + Q^n + \dots)_{1,3} = \frac{1}{2^2} + 0 + \frac{1}{2^3} + 0 + \frac{1}{2^4} + \dots = \frac{1/2^2}{1 - 1/2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

\therefore = expected # visits to state 3 (starting from 1) before absorption.

computing infinitely many powers of Q (if we cannot find a pattern) could potentially be annoying: What do we do?

• Q^k, Q^m is sub-stochastic; \exists at least one row with sum of coordinates < 1 .

• Since Q contains transient states $Q^n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ (why?)

• This implies that all eigenvalues $\{|\lambda_i|\}_{1 \leq i \leq m} < 1$. (why?)

• In turn, this implies that $I - Q$ is invertible!

Proof: $\det(I - Q) = (1 - \lambda_1)(1 - \lambda_2) \dots (1 - \lambda_m) \neq 0!$

Now observe that:

$$(I + Q + Q^2 + \dots)(I - Q) = I$$
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(I + Q + Q^2 + \dots) = M = (I - Q)^{-1}}$$

1 the previous example:

$$M = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 3/2 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Question. What is the expected number of steps before absorption if we start from 1? from 2?

Answer. Starting from 1 is:

$$\# \text{ of visits to } 1 + \# \text{ visits to } 2 + \# \text{ visits to } 3$$
$$3/2 + 1 + 1/2 = 3$$

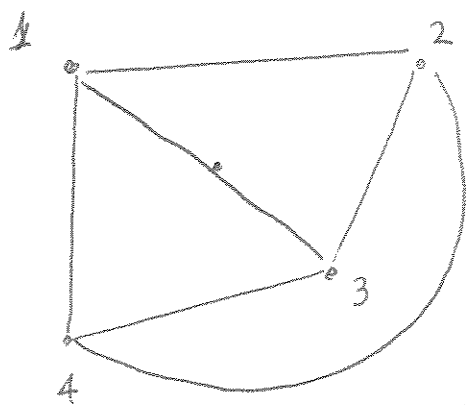
Starting from 2

$$\# \text{ of visits to } 2 + \# \text{ visits to } 3 + \# \text{ visits to } 1 = 4$$
$$2 + 1 + 1$$

This "technique" can be used to determine the expected number of steps to visit state j starting from state i even if they are recurrent states

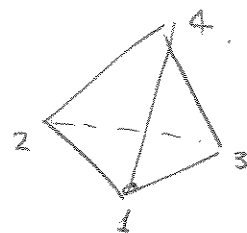
How? We make the chain transient with one absorbing class!

Example: Random walk on a tetrahedron



$$P(i, j) = \frac{1}{3} \quad i \neq j$$

$$P(i, i) = 0.$$



What is the ~~probability~~ ^{expected} number of steps to visit state 4 if we start from state 1?

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Rewrite
P with
state 4
first

$$P_1 = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Make state
of interest
absorbing
⇒ Chain is
transient now

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(compute matrix M)

$$M = (I - Q)^{-1}$$

$$I - Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/3 & -1/3 \\ -1/3 & 1 & -1/3 \\ -1/3 & -1/3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \det(I - Q) = \frac{16}{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow M = (I - Q)^{-1} = \frac{27}{16} \begin{bmatrix} 8/9 & 4/9 & 4/9 \\ 4/9 & 8/9 & 4/9 \\ 4/9 & 4/9 & 8/9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow M = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 3/2 & 3/4 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 3/2 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 3/4 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Sum
Coordinates
of starting
row:
(near the first).
 $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{4} = 3$

Question 2

Lec. 10

If we have more than 1 recurrent class (say k of them)

$\{R_1, \dots, R_k\}$, what is the probability that we visit (the chain enters) R_1 ? (a specific recurrent class?) if

method.

Assume that all recurrent classes are singletons $\{r_i\} = R_i, 1 \leq i \leq k$.

(This is without loss of generality \Downarrow why?) and assume

we have s transient states, $\{t_1, \dots, t_s\}$.

The canonical form of the matrix

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} I_k & | & 0 \\ \hline P_{s \times k} & | & Q \end{bmatrix}$$

$s \times k$ $s \times s$

$$\text{Define } \alpha(t_i, r_j) = P\{I_n: X_n = r_j \mid X_0 = t_i\}$$

$$\alpha(r_i, r_j) = 0 \quad i \neq j$$

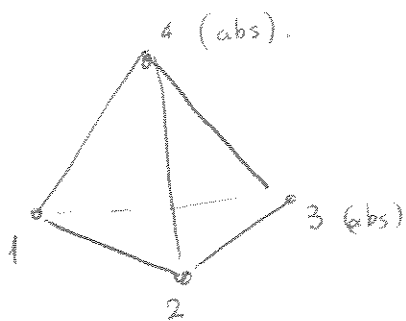
$$\alpha(r_i, r_i) = 1$$

Example 2

random walk on a tetrahedron with absorbing tip

$$S = \begin{matrix} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \begin{matrix} 4 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 3/2 & 3/4 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 3/2 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 3/4 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \Rightarrow MS = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \parallel$$

Random walk on a tetrahedron with two absorbing tips!



$$P = \begin{matrix} & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 \\ \begin{matrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$S \qquad Q$

$$I - Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/3 \\ -1/3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M = (I - Q)^{-1} = \frac{9}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9/8 & 3/8 \\ 3/8 & 9/8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow MS = \begin{bmatrix} 9/8 & 3/8 \\ 3/8 & 9/8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Does it make sense?

Example 3

Covered in Lec. 9

Random walk on graphs (finite).

• Assume the graph is connected so the walk is irreducible

• Let e denote total number of edges

• $d(v)$ = degree of v = # edges that contain v .

• $v \sim w \iff \exists$ edge between v & w .

$$P(v, w) = \frac{\# \text{ edges connecting } v \& w}{d(v)}$$

For simplicity, assume that the graph has no double edges (i.e. $\exists!$ edge $v \leftrightarrow w$).

• Claim 1. The invariant probability $\pi(v) = \frac{d(v)}{2e}$.

Proof: Since it is given, we need to check that

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \pi(v_i) \cdot P(v_i, v_j) = \pi(v_j)$$

Also: $\sum \pi(v_i) = \frac{1}{2e} \sum d(v_i)$
 # of edges but each edge counted twice
 $= \frac{2e}{2e} = 1$

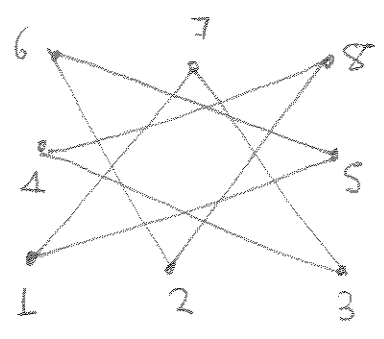
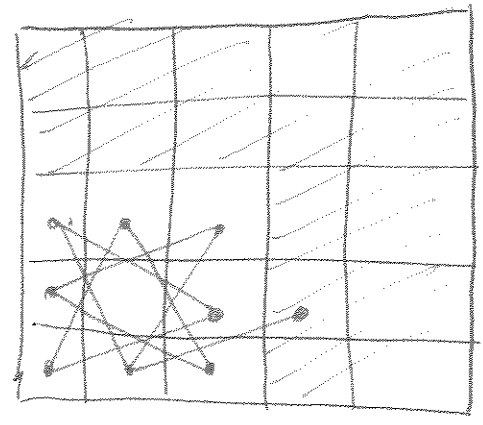
~~$\sum_{i=1}^N \pi(v_i) \cdot P(v_i, v_j)$~~ $\sum_{v_i \sim v_j} \pi(v_i) \cdot P(v_i, v_j) =$

$$= \sum_{v_i: v_i \sim v_j} \pi(v_i) \frac{1}{d(v_i)} = \sum_{v_i: v_i \sim v_j} \frac{d(v_i)}{2e} \cdot \frac{1}{d(v_i)}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \frac{d(v_j)}{2e} = \pi(v_j) \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\text{Yay!!}}}$$

Questions we can answer (even if not obvious)

• Random chessboard knight: (3x3 otherwise is long)



to count e directly would take a while. But for a given v , counting $d(v)$ is easy.
 and $e = \frac{1}{2} \sum d(v)$.

• If we start at 1, when can we ~~ever~~ expect to return?

$$E(T_{11}') = \frac{1}{\pi(1)} = \left(\frac{d(1)}{2e} \right)^{-1} = \frac{2e}{d(1)} = e = 8$$

Section 0.3. Linear Difference Equations

$$*) \begin{cases} f(n) = a f(n-1) + b f(n+1) & k < n < N \quad (N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{+\infty\}) \\ f(k) = c_0 \\ f(k+1) = c_1 \end{cases}$$

∴ we know (*), we can solve it recursively by the formula

$$\boxed{f(n+1) = \frac{1}{b} [f(n) - a f(n-1)]}$$

Guess solutions (as in Diff. Eq theory)

Assume $f(n) = u^n \Rightarrow u^n = a u^{n-1} + b u^{n+1} \iff$

$$u = a + b u^2 \iff \underbrace{b u^2 - u + a = 0}_{\text{characteristic polynomial of difference equation}}$$

$$\rightarrow u_{1,2} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4ab}}{2b}$$

Case I. $\Delta = 1 - 4ab \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ Two distinct roots, $u_1, u_2 \Rightarrow$

$$\boxed{f(n) = \alpha_1 u_1^n + \alpha_2 u_2^n}$$

Silly remark.

If u_1, u_2 are complex numbers (conjugate),

say $u_1 = \bar{u}_2 = x + iy$, write them in polar form, $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$

$$\theta = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

$$u_1 = r e^{i\theta}, \quad u_2 = r e^{-i\theta} \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{f(n) = r^n [C_1 \cos(n\theta) + C_2 \sin(n\theta)]}$$

Case II $\Delta = 0 \iff u = \frac{1}{2b}$

Solution:

$f(n) = \alpha_1 u^n + \alpha_2 u^n \cdot n$ (again, as in diff. eq)

Example: Fibonacci sequence

$a_0 = 1, a_1 = 1$ $a_{n+1} = a_n + a_{n-1} \implies$ Set $f(n) = a_n$

$f(n) = f(n+1) - f(n-1) \implies a = 1, b = +1 \implies$

roots of char. poly $u_{1,2} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1+4}}{2} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$

$\implies f(n) = \alpha_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n + \alpha_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$

$f(0) = 1 \iff 1 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$

$f(1) = 1 \iff 1 = \alpha_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) + \alpha_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$

Solving $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1 \\ \alpha_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) + \alpha_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) = 1 \end{matrix} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} + (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2) \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} = 1 \end{matrix} \right\}$

$\iff \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1 \\ \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \end{matrix} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{matrix} 2\alpha_1 = \frac{\sqrt{5}+1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ \alpha_2 = 1 - \alpha_1 \end{matrix} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 = \frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{2 \cdot 5} \\ \alpha_2 = 1 - \frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{2 \cdot 5} \end{matrix} \right\}$

$\implies \left\{ \begin{matrix} \alpha_1 = \frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10} \\ \alpha_2 = \frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10} \end{matrix} \right\} \implies f(n) = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} \left[\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right]^{n+1} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} \left[\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right]^{n+1}$

$\implies f(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} \right]$

Linear recursions

$$f(n) = \alpha + \beta \cdot f(n-1) \quad k < n < N$$

$$f(k) = c_0$$

case I: $\boxed{\beta = 1}$ \Rightarrow $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(n) = f(n-1) = \alpha \\ f(k) = c_0 \end{array} \right\}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{f(n) = n\alpha + c_0}$$

case II $\boxed{\beta \neq 1}$

1) Because of inhomogeneity, first look for a constant solution
($\alpha \neq 0$)

$$A_0 \Rightarrow A_0 = \alpha + \beta A_0 \Rightarrow \boxed{A_0 = \frac{\alpha}{1-\beta}}$$

2) Then search for general solution

$$\boxed{f(n) = A_0 + A_1 u^n}$$

This gives:

$$A_0 + A_1 u^n = \alpha + \beta [A_0 + A_1 u^{n-1}] \iff$$

$$u^n = u^{n-1} \beta \iff u = \beta$$

Thus, the solution is

$$\boxed{f(n) = \frac{\alpha}{1-\beta} + A_1 \cdot \beta^n}$$

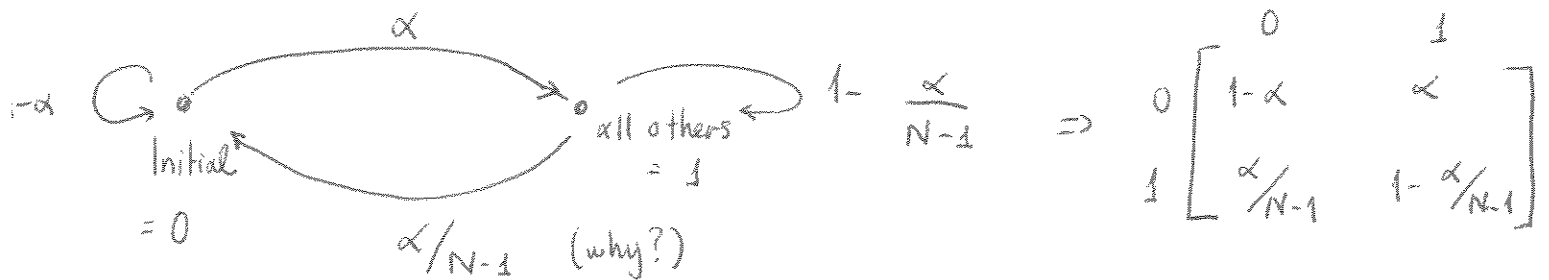
Use initial conditions to specify A_1 .

Example 1Virus Mutation

Suppose that a virus can exist in N different ~~strains~~ strains and in each generation either stays the same, or mutates with probability α to a different strain, chosen uniformly at random

What is the probability that at the n -th generation, the strain is identical as the one we started.

Exploit the symmetry to reduce to a two-state MC (This almost never works)



We want to compute $P_n(0,0)$.

$$\begin{aligned} P\{X_n=0 \mid X_0=0\} &= P\{X_n=0, X_{n-1}=0 \mid X_0=0\} + P\{X_n=0, X_{n-1}=1 \mid X_0=0\} \\ &= P\{X_n=0 \mid X_{n-1}=0\} \cdot P\{X_{n-1}=0 \mid X_0=0\} + P\{X_n=0 \mid X_{n-1}=1\} \cdot P\{X_{n-1}=1 \mid X_0=0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P_n(0,0) &= P(0,0) \cdot P_{n-1}(0,0) + P(1,0) \cdot P_{n-1}(0,0) \\ &= P(1,0) + P_{n-1}(0,0) [P(0,0) - P(1,0)] \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{N-1} + \left(1 - \alpha - \frac{\alpha}{N-1}\right) \cdot P_{n-1}(0,0) \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{N-1} + \left(1 - \frac{N\alpha}{N-1}\right) \cdot P_{n-1}(0,0) \end{aligned}$$

se the linear inhomogeneous recursion for

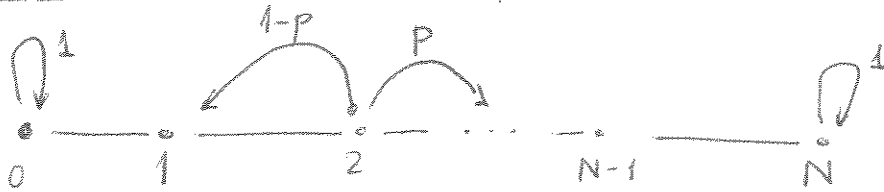
$$\alpha = \frac{\alpha}{N-1}, \quad \beta = \left(1 - \frac{N\alpha}{N-1}\right), \quad p_0(0,0) = 1 \text{ (why?)}$$

to get

$$P_n(0,0) = \frac{1}{N} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\alpha N}{N-1}\right)^n$$

Part of Lec. 12

sample 2 - Gambler's Ruin problem (General)



Transition probabilities:

$$P(i, i+1) = p \quad 1 \leq i \leq N-1$$

$$P(i, i-1) = 1-p \quad 1 \leq i \leq N-1$$

$$P(0,0) = 1$$

$$P(N,N) = 1$$

Define:

$$\alpha(j) = \alpha(j, N) = \mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N \mid X_0 = j\} \text{ . Then}$$

$$\alpha(0) = 0, \quad \alpha(N) = 1$$

Now assume $0 < j < N$. We want to compute the $\alpha(j)$'s.

One step transition method

$$\alpha(j) = \mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N \mid X_0 = j\}$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N, X_1 = j-1 \mid X_0 = j\} +$$

$$\mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N, X_1 = j+1 \mid X_0 = j\}$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N \mid X_1 = j-1\} \mathbb{P}\{X_1 = j-1 \mid X_0 = j\}$$

$$+ \mathbb{P}\{\text{eventually reach } N \mid X_1 = j+1\} \cdot \mathbb{P}\{X_1 = j+1 \mid X_0 = j\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha(j) = (1-p)\alpha(j-1) + p\alpha(j+1)$$

Case I: $p = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha(j) = \frac{1}{2}\alpha(j-1) + \frac{1}{2}\alpha(j+1) & , \quad 0 < j < N \\ \alpha(0) = 0 \\ \alpha(N) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Solve linear difference equation $\Rightarrow a = b = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \Delta = \sqrt{1-4ab} = 0$

\Rightarrow solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(j) &= c_1 \left(\frac{1}{2b}\right)^j + c_2 \left(\frac{1}{2b}\right)^j j \\ &= c_1 + c_2 j \quad (b = \frac{1}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(0) &= 0 \\ \alpha(N) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = 0, \quad c_2 = \frac{1}{N} \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\alpha(j) = \frac{j}{N} \quad , \quad p = \frac{1}{2}}$$

Case II $p \neq \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha(j) = \underbrace{(1-p)}_a \alpha(j-1) + \underbrace{p}_b \alpha(j+1) \Rightarrow \Delta = \sqrt{1-4ab} = \sqrt{1-4p(1-p)}$$

$$= \sqrt{1-4p+4p^2} = \sqrt{(2p-1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha(j) = c_1 \left[\frac{1 + (2p-1)}{2p} \right]^j + c_2 \left[\frac{1-2p+1}{2p} \right]^j$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha(j) = c_1 + c_2 \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^j \\ \alpha(0) = 0 \\ \alpha(N) = 1 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 + c_2 = 0 \\ c_1 + c_2 \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^N = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\alpha(j) = \frac{1 - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^j}{1 - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^N} \quad , \quad p \neq \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{then } p \leq \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{1-p}{p} \geq 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(j) = \begin{cases} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{j}{N} = 0 & p = \frac{1}{2} \\ \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - A^j}{1 - A^N} = 0 & A > 1, p < \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

\Rightarrow If a player has limited resources (j) and the house has a lot (unlimited), (N) , then the probability of winning the house is 0 even at a fair game.

on the other hand, if $p > \frac{1}{2}$ (and so the game is in favor of the player) then $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(j) = 1 - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^j \neq 0$.

However, is not \bullet either $\frac{1}{2}$, but the player could play forever with positive probability.

Part of Lect. 13

Question 2: Suppose $p = \frac{1}{2}$. What is the estimated length of the game if we started at state j .

Answer (via one step recursion)

Define $T =$ Length of game. We want $E(T | X_0 = j)$

Let $G(j) = E(T | X_0 = j) = G(j, N)$, $G(0) = G(N) = 0$.

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} G(j) &= E(T | X_0 = j) = \cancel{E(T | X_0 = j+1)} + \cancel{E(T | X_0 = j-1)} \\ &= E(T (\mathbb{1}_{\{X_1 = j-1\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{X_1 = j+1\}}) | X_0 = j) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \mathbb{E}(T \mid \{X_1=j\} \mid X_0=j) + \mathbb{E}(T \mid \{X_1=j+1\} \mid X_0=j)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_1=j-1, X_0=j) \mathbb{E}(1 \mid \{X_1=j-1\} \mid X_0=j)$$

$$+ \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_1=j+1, X_0=j) \mathbb{E}(1 \mid \{X_1=j+1\} \mid X_0=j)$$

$$\stackrel{M.P.}{=} \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_1=j-1) P(j, j-1) + \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_1=j+1) P(j, j+1)$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} \mathbb{E}(T+1 \mid X_0=j-1) \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{E}(T+1 \mid X_0=j+1) P(j, j+1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\underbrace{\mathbb{E}(1 \mid X_0=j-1)}_{=1} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(1 \mid X_0=j+1)}_{=1} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_0=j-1) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}(T \mid X_0=j+1)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2} G(j-1) + \frac{1}{2} G(j+1) \quad (\text{Makes sense?})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{G(j) = 1 + \frac{1}{2} G(j-1) + \frac{1}{2} G(j+1)} \quad (*)$$

Technically, (*) is an inhomogeneous, linear difference equation, however,

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow \cancel{\frac{G(j) - G(j+1)}{2}} = 1 + \frac{G(j-1) - G(j)}{2}$$

$$\text{Let } f(j) = \cancel{\frac{G(j) - G(j+1)}{2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{f(j) = 1 + f(j-1)} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Solve (1) first} \quad f(j) = j + C_0 \Leftrightarrow G(j) - G(j+1) = 2j + \tilde{C}_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow G(j+1) &= G(j) - 2j + \tilde{C}_0 \\ &= G(j-1) - 2(j-1) - 2j + 2\tilde{C}_0 \\ &= G(j-2) - 2(j-2) - 2(j-1) - 2j + 3\tilde{C}_0 \\ &\vdots \\ &= G(0) - [2 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + \dots + 2j] + \tilde{C}_0(j+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow G(j+1) = -2 \frac{j(j+1)}{2} + G_0(j+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow j=N-1 \Rightarrow G(N)=0 = G_0 N - N(N-1) \Rightarrow G_0 = N-1$$

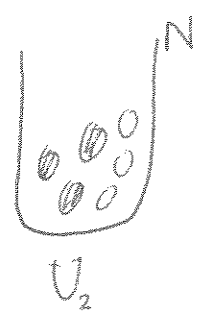
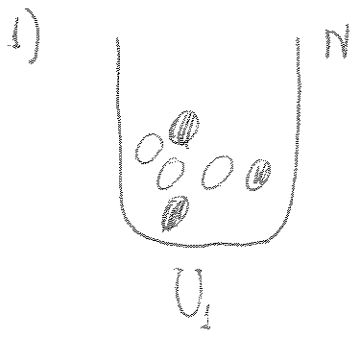
Thus: $G(j+1) = (N-1)(j+1) - \cancel{2j(j+1)} j(j+1)$

Shift the index $G(j) = (N-1)j - (j-1)j = (N-j)j$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mathbb{E}(T | X_0=j) = j(N-j)}$$

Example. Urn-models

Lec. 14



- Two urns, N black balls
- N white balls, each urn contains N balls
- At each step a ball

is chosen independently from each urn, uniformly at random and swap places. Let $X_n = \#$ of white balls in urn 1.

Transition probabilities:

$$p(i, i+1) = \mathbb{P}\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{select black} \\ \text{from } U_1 \end{array} \right\} \cdot \mathbb{P}\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{select white} \\ \text{from } U_2 \end{array} \right\} \cdot \mathbb{1}_{\{i \leq N-1\}}$$

$$\stackrel{\# \text{ white balls}}{=} \frac{N-i}{N} \cdot \frac{N-i}{N} = \left(\frac{N-i}{N}\right)^2$$

$$p(0, 1) = 1$$

$$p(i, i-1) = \frac{i}{N} \cdot \frac{i}{N} = \frac{i^2}{N^2}$$

$$p(N, N-1) = 1$$

$$p(i, i) = \frac{i(N-i)}{N^2} + \frac{i(N-i)}{N^2} = \frac{2i(N-i)}{N^2}$$

Urn Model 2.



1 urn

N balls, either black or white

In each time period, a ball is chosen uniformly at random. Then with probability ~~P~~ P, the color is ~~turned~~ turned white and the ball returns back in the urn.

$X_n = \#$ white balls.
 $1 \leq j \leq N-1:$

$P(0,0) = 1-P$
 $P(0,1) = P$

$P(N,N) = P$
 $P(N,N-1) = 1-P$

$P(j, j+1) = \frac{N-j}{N} \cdot P$, $P(j, j-1) = \frac{j}{N} (1-P)$

$P(j, j) = \frac{N-j}{N} (1-P) + \frac{j}{N} \cdot P = \frac{N-j}{N} + P \left(\frac{j}{N} - 1 + \frac{j}{N} \right)$
 $= \frac{N-j}{N} + P \left(\frac{2j}{N} - 1 \right)$

Claim

$\pi(j) = \binom{N}{j} P^j (1-P)^{N-j}$

Proof For $1 \leq j \leq N-1:$

$(\pi P)(j) = \sum_{k=0}^N \pi(k) P(k, j) = \pi(j-1) P(j-1, j) + \pi(j) P(j, j) + \pi(j+1) P(j+1, j)$

For $j=0:$
 $\pi(0) P(0,0) + \pi(1) P(1,0) = (1-P)(1-P) + NP(1-P)^{N-1} \cdot \frac{1}{N} (1-P)$
 $= (1-P)^{N+1} + P(1-P)^N = (1-P)^N = \pi(0) \checkmark$
Similarly for $j=N.$

$= \binom{N}{j-1} P^{j-1} (1-P)^{N-j+1} \frac{N-j+1}{N} P + \binom{N}{j} P^j (1-P)^{N-j} \left[\frac{N-j}{N} + P \left(\frac{2j}{N} - 1 \right) \right]$
 $+ \binom{N}{j+1} P^{j+1} (1-P)^{N-j-1} \frac{j+1}{N} (1-P)$

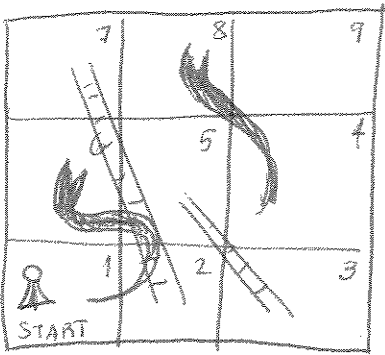
~~$= \frac{N!}{(j-1)! (N-j)!} P^{j-1} (1-P)^{N-j+1} \frac{N-j+1}{N} P + \frac{N!}{j! (N-j)!} P^j (1-P)^{N-j} \left[\frac{N-j}{N} + P \left(\frac{2j}{N} - 1 \right) \right] + \frac{N!}{(j+1)! (N-j-1)!} P^{j+1} (1-P)^{N-j-1} \frac{j+1}{N} (1-P)$~~

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \binom{N}{j} p^j (1-p)^{N-j} \frac{j}{N} \cdot (1-p) \\
 &\quad + \binom{N}{j} p^j (1-p)^{N-j} \left[\frac{N-j}{N} + p \left(\frac{2j}{N} - 1 \right) \right] \\
 &\quad + \binom{N}{j} p^j (1-p)^{N-j} \left[\frac{N-j}{N} p \right] \\
 &= \binom{N}{j} p^j (1-p)^{N-j} \left[\frac{j}{N} - \frac{p j}{N} + \frac{N-j}{N} + p \frac{2j}{N} - p + p \frac{j p}{N} \right] \\
 &= \binom{N}{j} p^j (1-p)^{N-j} \quad (\text{yay!})
 \end{aligned}$$

Does this makes sense?

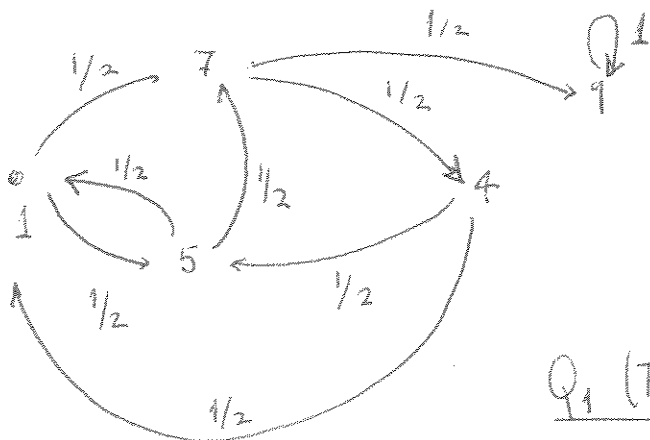
Example: Snakes and Ladders

Lec. 11



- Flip a ^{fair} coin to move 1 or 2
- Ladder foot - follow to top
- Snake mouth - follow to bottom

Q₁: What is average # of turns to finish?



$$\Rightarrow \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 4 & 5 & 7 & 9 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 7 \\ 9 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

TL
Why?

Q₁ (Translated) Expected # turns until absorption

Starting from 1, is # steps in 1, # steps in 4, # steps in 5 + # steps in 7.

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad I - Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/2 & 0 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1 & -1/2 & 0 \\ -1/2 & 0 & 1 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(I-Q)^{-1} = \begin{matrix} & 1 & 4 & 5 & 7 \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 2\frac{1}{3} \\ 2 \\ 2\frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} \\ 2\frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

We want the sum of the first row $\Rightarrow \boxed{E[T_{\text{finish}}] = 7}$.

2} What is the probability of finishing the game without being swallowed, after you reach 5?

2} We need to go to 7 and then 9 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4}$.

3} What is the probability that you play for more than 10 turns?

3} $P\{\text{play more than 10 turns} \mid X_0 = 1\}$

$$= P_{10}(1,1) + P_{10}(1,4) + P_{10}(1,5) + P_{10}(1,7)$$

$$= 1 - P_{10}(1,9) = 0.2041 \text{ (why?)}$$

4} What are the communication classes and their periods?

$$R_1 = \{9\}$$

$$T_1 = \{1, 4, 5, 7\}$$

For the period:

$$P_2(1,1) \geq \frac{1}{4} > 0 \Rightarrow d \mid 2.$$

$$P_3(1,1) > 0 \quad (1 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 1) \Rightarrow d \mid 3$$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid \gcd(2,3) = 1 \Rightarrow d = 1.$$

Simulation Lecture!

• Generate uniform (0,1)

$$X \sim \text{Unif}(0,1) \iff P\{X \leq x\} = x \quad \forall x \in (0,1)$$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [0,1] \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Generate Bernoulli r.v.

$$\text{Bernoulli: } X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{prob. } p \\ 0 & \text{prob. } 1-p \end{cases}$$

$$\text{If } U \sim \text{Unif}(0,1) \Rightarrow \text{To generate } X, \quad P\{X=1\} = p = \int_0^p 1 \, dx$$

$$= P\{U \leq p\}$$

Steps
Call a Uniform(0,1)
• Check if it is $\leq p$ or not.
• If yes $\Rightarrow X=1$
 no $\Rightarrow X=0$

} \rightarrow generates Bernoulli r.v.

Discrete distributions with finitely many values

Generate X , with mass function $P\{X=i\} = p_i \quad 1 \leq i \leq N.$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1.$$

$$\text{Show that } P\{X=i\} = P\left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} p_k < U \leq \sum_{k=1}^i p_k \right\}$$

$$\text{Note: } \sum_{i=1}^0 p_i = 0!$$

Here is a pseudocode:

- 1). Generate Unif (0,1) r.v. U
- 2). If $U \leq p_1$ set $X = x_1$ & stop.
- 3). Else, set $k = 2$, ~~$P_{prev} = p_0$~~ , $S = p_0 + p_1$.
- 4). If $S_{prev} < U \leq S$, set $X = x_k$ & stop
- 5). Else, set $k = k + 1$, $S_{prev} = S$, $S = S + p_k$; go to (4).

Question: What if X has countable (but infinitely many) states? Is there any problem?

Answer: Potentially we have an infinite loop! (4+5) repeating?

Q2: Well do we?

A2: No!

Proof

Let T be the time algorithm stops! Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 P\{T > k\} &= P\{\text{the algorithm does not stop after } k\text{-steps}\} \\
 &= P\{U > p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_k\} = 1 - P\{U \leq p_1 + \dots + p_k\} \\
 &= 1 - \sum_{j=1}^k p_j = \sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} p_j
 \end{aligned}$$

Then $P\{T = \infty\} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} P\{\text{the algorithm does not stop after } k\text{-steps}\} \rightarrow 0$ (why?).

More distributions:

- class problem 1) How to simulate a Uniform r.v. on $\{1, \dots, n\}$?
- 2) Show that $X = 1 + \lfloor nU \rfloor$ is unif. distributed on $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

Answer 1). $X=j \iff \left\{ \frac{j-1}{n} < U \leq \frac{j}{n} \right\} \quad (*)$

2) Multiply (*) by $n \implies j-1 < nU \leq j \implies j-1 = \lfloor nU \rfloor$

$\implies j = 1 + \lfloor nU \rfloor \iff \boxed{X = 1 + \lfloor nU \rfloor}$ \blacksquare

geometric r.v.

$P\{X=j\} = p(1-p)^j \quad j=0,1,\dots, p \text{ prob. of success}$

$\implies X=j \iff p \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} (1-p)^k < U \leq p \sum_{k=0}^j (1-p)^k \quad (\text{again, empty sum} = 0)$

$\implies p \frac{1 - (1-p)^j}{1 - (1-p)} < U \leq p \frac{1 - (1-p)^{j+1}}{1 - (1-p)}$

$\implies \begin{cases} 1 - U < (1-p)^j & \implies \frac{\ln(1-U)}{\ln(1-p)} > j \\ (1-p)^{j+1} \leq 1 - U & \implies j+1 \geq \frac{\ln(1-U)}{\ln(1-p)} \end{cases}$

$\implies X = \left\lfloor \frac{\ln(1-U)}{\ln(1-p)} \right\rfloor$

But $1-U \stackrel{D}{=} \tilde{U} \implies$
 \uparrow
 why?

$\boxed{X = \left\lfloor \frac{\ln \tilde{U}}{\ln(1-p)} \right\rfloor}$

How to simulate a M.C. with finitely many states?

$\{X_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ M.C. ϕ_0 initial distribution, P transition matrix.

$$P = \begin{matrix} & x_1 & \dots & x_N \\ \begin{matrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{matrix} & \left[\begin{matrix} P(x_1, x_1) & \dots & P(x_1, x_N) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P(x_N, x_1) & \dots & P(x_N, x_N) \end{matrix} \right] \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} 1 \leq i \leq N \\ 1 \leq j \leq N \end{matrix}$$

Assume $X_0 = x_1$ (any fixed state!). Then,

$$\sum_{j=1}^N P(x_j, x_1) = 1 \Rightarrow X_2 = x_j \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} P(x_j, x_k) < U_1 \leq \sum_{k=1}^j P(x_j, x_k)$$

$$X_3 = x_m \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} P(x_m, x_k) < U_2 \leq \sum_{k=1}^m P(x_m, x_k)$$

Pseudocode

1) $X_0 = x_1$, P is given, $1 \leq i \leq N$, $1 \leq j \leq N$.

2) Generate a (very) large family of Unif(0,1). (need to be independent)

3) $\{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_M, \dots, U_L\}$, $1 \leq k \leq L$.

Let $k=1$

$$4) X_1 = x_j \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^{j-1} P(x_j, x_k)}_{S_{prev}} < U_1 \leq \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^j P(x_j, x_k)}_S$$

Let $k=k+1$

$$5) X_k = x_j \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} \underbrace{P(x_j, x_k)}_{P(x_{k-1}, x_k)} < U_2 \leq \sum_{k=1}^j \underbrace{P(x_j, x_k)}_{P(x_{k-1}, x_k)}$$

Repeat until $k=L$.

invariant distributions Numerically. (For aperiodic, irreducible matrices)

$$\pi(j) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\# \text{ visits to state } j \text{ in } n \text{ steps.}}{n}$$

When simulating a MC, set counters

$$N_0^i = 0, \quad N_k^i = N_{k-1}^i + 1 \text{ iff } X_k = i$$