

Modeling and Verification of Probabilistic Systems

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<http://moves.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-1819/movep18/>

October 9, 2018

Overview

- 1 What are Discrete-Time Markov Chains?
- 2 DTMCs and Geometric Distributions
- 3 Transient Probability Distribution
- 4 Long Run Probability Distribution

Geometric distribution

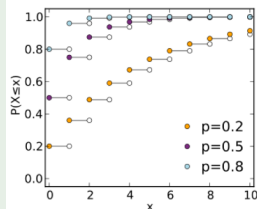
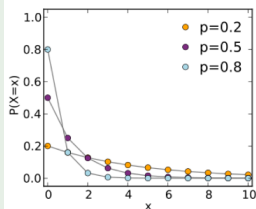
Geometric distribution

Let X be a discrete random variable, natural $k > 0$ and $0 < p \leq 1$. The mass function of a *geometric distribution* is given by:

$$\Pr\{X = k\} = (1 - p)^{k-1} \cdot p$$

We have $E[X] = \frac{1}{p}$ and $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$ and cdf $\Pr\{X \leq k\} = 1 - (1-p)^k$.

Geometric distributions and their cdf's



Memoryless property

Theorem

1. For any random variable X with a geometric distribution:

$$Pr\{X = k + m \mid X > m\} = Pr\{X = k\} \quad \text{for any } m \in T, k \geq 1$$

This is called the **memoryless** property, and X is a **memoryless r.v.**.

$$\Pr \{ T = k+m \mid T > m \}$$

$$= \Pr \{ T = k+m \mid \cancel{T > m} \} / \Pr \{ T > m \}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{p} \cdot (1-p)^{k+m-1}}{\sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} \cancel{p} \cdot (1-p)^{i-1}}$$

$$= \frac{(1-p)^{k+m-1}}{\cancel{(1-p)^m} \cdot \underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (1-p)^i}_{\text{geometric series}}}$$

$$= \frac{(1-p)^{k-1}}{\frac{1}{1-(1-p)}} = p \cdot (1-p)^{k-1}$$

$$= \Pr \{ T = k \}$$

Memoryless property

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2. **Any** discrete random variable which is memoryless is geometrically distributed.

Proof:

Exercise.

Andrei Andrejewitsch Markow



Markov property

The conditional probability distribution of future states of a Markov process only depends on the current state and not on its further history.

Markov process

A discrete-time stochastic process $\{X(t) \mid t \in T\}$ over state space $\{d_0, d_1, \dots\}$ is a *Markov process* if for any $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n < t_{n+1}$:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr\{X(t_{n+1}) = d_{n+1} \mid X(t_0) = d_0, X(t_1) = d_1, \dots, X(t_n) = d_n\} \\ = \\ Pr\{X(t_{n+1}) = d_{n+1} \mid X(t_n) = d_n\} \end{aligned}$$

The distribution of $X(t_{n+1})$, given the values $X(t_0)$ through $X(t_n)$, only depends on the current state $X(t_n)$.

Invariance to time-shifts

Time homogeneity

Markov process $\{X(t) \mid t \in T\}$ is *time-homogeneous* iff for any $t' < t$:

$$\Pr\{X(t) = d \mid X(t') = d'\} = \Pr\{X(t - t') = d \mid X(0) = d'\}.$$

A time-homogeneous stochastic process is invariant to time shifts.

Discrete-time Markov chain

A *discrete-time Markov chain* (DTMC) is a time-homogeneous Markov process with discrete parameter T and discrete state space.

Discrete-time Markov chain

Discrete-time Markov chain

A *discrete-time Markov chain* (DTMC) is a time-homogeneous Markov process with discrete parameter T and discrete state space S .

Transition probabilities

The *(one-step) transition probability* from $s \in S$ to $s' \in S$ at epoch $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is given by:

$$p^{(n)}(s, s') = \Pr\{X_{n+1} = s' \mid X_n = s\} = \Pr\{X_1 = s' \mid X_0 = s\}$$

where the last equality is due to time-homogeneity.

Since $p^{(n)}(\cdot) = p^{(k)}(\cdot)$, the superscript (n) is omitted, and we write $p(\cdot)$.

Transition probability matrix

Discrete-time Markov chain

A *discrete-time Markov chain* (DTMC) is a time-homogeneous Markov process with discrete parameter T and discrete state space S .

Transition probability matrix

Let \mathbf{P} be a function with $\mathbf{P}(s_i, s_j) = p(s_i, s_j)$. For finite state space S , function \mathbf{P} is called the *transition probability matrix* of the DTMC with state space S .

Properties

1. \mathbf{P} is a (right) *stochastic* matrix, i.e., it is a square matrix, all its elements are in $[0, 1]$, and each row sum equals one.
2. \mathbf{P} has an eigenvalue of one, and all its eigenvalues are at most one.

$$\mathbf{P} \cdot \underline{x} = c \cdot \underline{x} \quad \text{eigenvalue } c \leq 1$$

Transition probability matrix

Discrete-time Markov chain

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2. \mathbf{P} has an eigenvalue of one, and all its eigenvalues are at most one.
3. For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, \mathbf{P}^n is a stochastic matrix.

DTMCs — A transition system perspective

Discrete-time Markov chain

A **DTMC** \mathcal{D} is a tuple $(S, \mathbf{P}, \iota_{\text{init}}, AP, L)$ with:

- ▶ S is a countable nonempty set of **states**
- ▶ $\mathbf{P} : S \times S \rightarrow [0, 1]$, **transition probability function** s.t. $\sum_{s'} \mathbf{P}(s, s') = 1$
- ▶ $\iota_{\text{init}} : S \rightarrow [0, 1]$, the **initial distribution** with $\sum_{s \in S} \iota_{\text{init}}(s) = 1$
- ▶ AP is a set of **atomic propositions**.
- ▶ $L : S \rightarrow 2^{AP}$, the **labeling function**, assigning to state s , the set $L(s)$ of atomic propositions that are valid in s .

Initial states

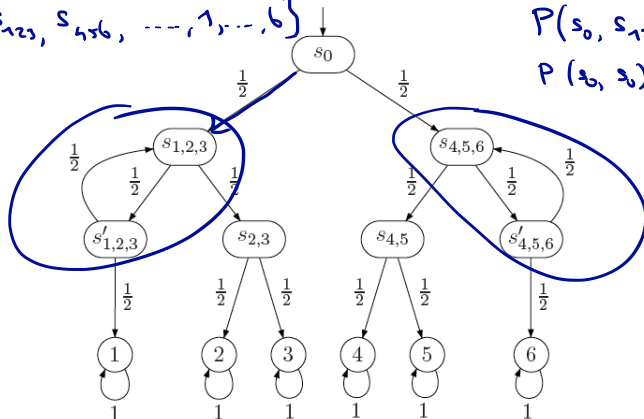
- ▶ $\iota_{\text{init}}(s)$ is the probability that DTMC \mathcal{D} starts in state s
- ▶ the set $\{s \in S \mid \iota_{\text{init}}(s) > 0\}$ are the possible **initial states**.

Simulating a die by a fair coin [Knuth & Yao]

$$S = \{s_0, s_{1,2,3}, s_{4,5,6}, \dots, 1, \dots, 6\}$$

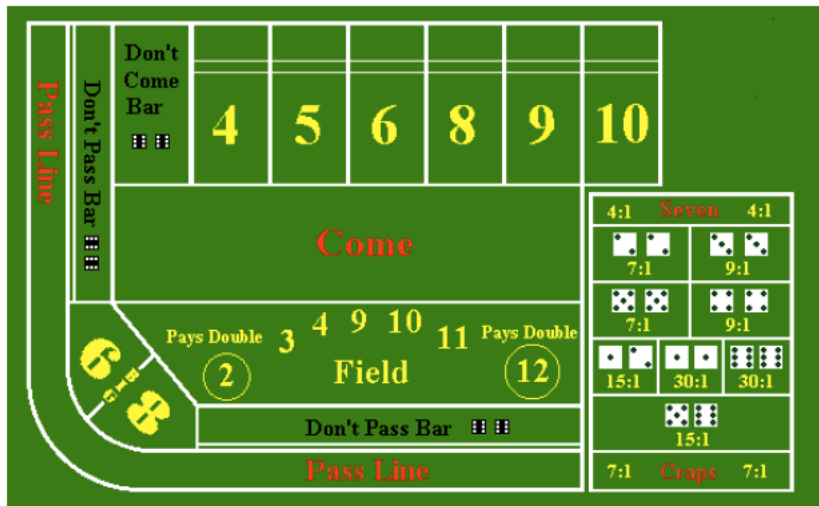
$$P(s_0, s_{1,2,3}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(s_0, s_0) = 0$$



Heads = “go left”; tails = “go right”.

Craps



Craps

- ▶ Roll two dice and bet
- ▶ Come-out roll (“pass line” wager):
 - ▶ outcome 7 or 11: win
 - ▶ outcome 2, 3, or 12: lose (“craps”)
 - ▶ any other outcome: roll again (outcome is “point”)
- ▶ Repeat until 7 or the “point” is thrown:
 - ▶ outcome 7: lose (“seven-out”)
 - ▶ outcome the point: win

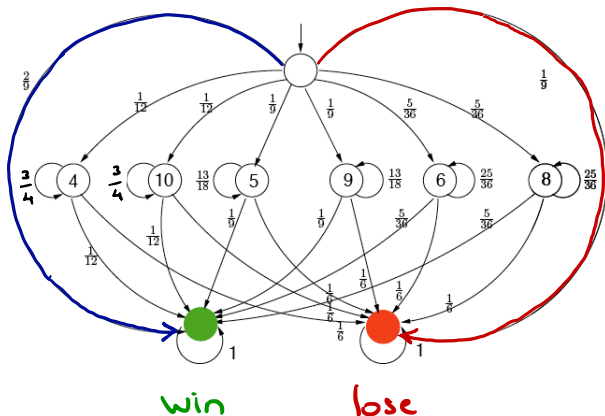
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 - ▶ outcome the point: win
 - ▶ any other outcome: roll again



A DTMC model of Craps

- ▶ Come-out roll:
 - ▶ 7 or 11: win
 - ▶ 2, 3, or 12: lose
 - ▶ else: roll again
- ▶ Next roll(s):
 - ▶ 7: lose
 - ▶ point: win
 - ▶ else: roll again



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State residence time distribution

Let T_s be the number of epochs of DTMC \mathcal{D} to **stay** in state s :

$$Pr\{T_s = 1\} = 1 - \mathbf{P}(s, s)$$

$$Pr\{T_s = 2\} = \mathbf{P}(s, s) \cdot (1 - \mathbf{P}(s, s))$$

.....

$$Pr\{T_s = n\} = \mathbf{P}(s, s)^{n-1} \cdot (1 - \mathbf{P}(s, s))$$

So, the state residence times in a DTMC obey a **geometric** distribution.

The expected number of time steps to stay in state s equals $E[T_s] = \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{P}(s, s)}$.

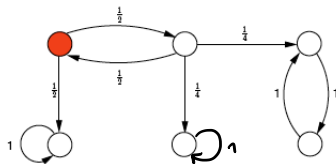
The variance of the residence time distribution is $Var[T_s] = \frac{\mathbf{P}(s, s)}{(1 - \mathbf{P}(s, s))^2}$.

Recall: the geometric distribution is the **only** discrete probability distribution that is memoryless.

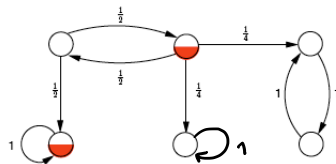
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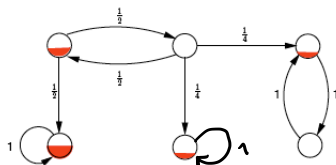
Evolution of an example DTMC



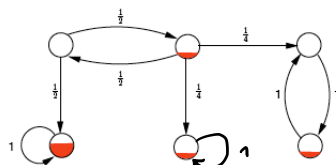
zero-th epoch



first epoch



second epoch



third epoch

$P^{(s,s')}$

We want to determine $p_{\underline{s},s'}(n) = \Pr\{X(n) = s' \mid X(0) = \underline{s}\}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Determining n -step transition probabilities

n -step transition probabilities

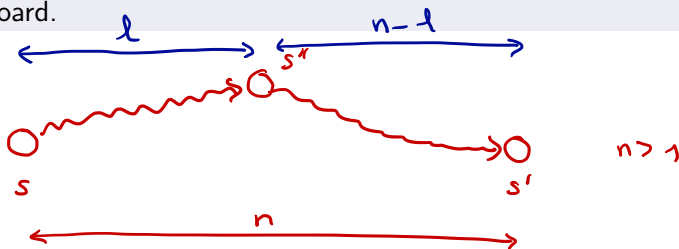
The probability to move from s to s' in $n \in \mathbb{N}$ steps is inductively defined:

$$p_{s,s'}(0) = 1 \quad \text{if } s = s', \quad \text{and } 0 \text{ otherwise,}$$

$p_{s,s'}(1) = \mathbf{P}(s, s')$, and for $n > 1$ by the Chapman-Kolmogorov equation:

$$p_{s,s'}(n) = \sum_{s''} p_{s,s''}(l) \cdot p_{s'',s'}(n-l) \quad \text{for some } 0 < l < n$$

Proof: see black board.



Determining n -step transition probabilities

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$$\text{for } n > 0: \quad P_{s,s'}(n) = \sum_{s''} P_{s,s''}(l) \cdot P_{s'',s'}(n-l)$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} P_{s,s'}(n) &= \Pr \{ X(n) = s' \mid X(0) = s \} \\ &= \Pr \{ X(n) = s' \wedge X(0) = s \} / \Pr \{ X(0) = s \} \\ &= \sum_{s''} \frac{\Pr \{ X(n) = s' \wedge X(l) = s'' \wedge X(0) = s \}}{\Pr \{ X(0) = s \}} \\ &= (* \Pr(A \wedge B) = \Pr(A|B) \cdot \Pr(B) *) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{s''} \Pr \{ X(n) = s' \mid X(l) = s'' \wedge X(0) = s \} \\ &\quad \cdot \frac{\Pr \{ X(l) = s'' \wedge X(0) = s \}}{\Pr \{ X(0) = s \}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= (* \text{Markov property} + \text{def. cond. prob.} *)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{s''} \Pr \{ X(n) = s' \mid X(l) = s'' \} \cdot \Pr \{ X(l) = s'' \mid X(0) = s \} \\ &= (* \text{time homogeneity} *) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{s''} \Pr \{ X(n-l) = s' \mid X(0) = s'' \} \cdot \Pr \{ X(l) = s'' \mid X(0) = s \}$$

$$= \sum_{s''} P_{s'',s}(n-l) \cdot P_{s,s'}(l)$$



Determining n -step transition probabilities

n -step transition probabilities

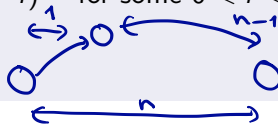
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For $l = 1$ and $n > 0$ we obtain: $p_{s,s'}(n) = \sum_{s''} p_{s,s''}(1) \cdot p_{s'',s'}(n-1)$

Determining n -step transition probabilities

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Proof: see black board.

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$\mathbf{P}^{(n)} = \mathbf{P}^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{(n-1)} = \mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{(n-1)}$ is the n -step transition probability matrix

Repeating this scheme: $\mathbf{P}^{(n)} = \mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{(n-1)} = \dots = \mathbf{P}^{n-1} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{(1)} = \mathbf{P}^n$.

Transient probability distribution

Transient distribution

$\mathbf{P}^n(s, t)$ equals the probability of being in state t after n steps given that the computation starts in s .

The probability of DTMC \mathcal{D} being in state t after exactly n transitions is:

$$\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}(t) = \sum_{s \in S} \iota_{\text{init}}(s) \cdot \mathbf{P}^n(s, t)$$

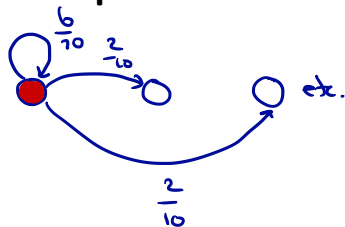
$\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}(t)$ is called the *transient state probability* at epoch n for state t . The function $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}$ is the *transient state distribution* at epoch n of DTMC \mathcal{D} .

When considering $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}$ as vector $(\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}})_{t \in S}$ we have:

$$\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}} = \iota_{\text{init}} \cdot \underbrace{\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{P} \cdot \dots \cdot \mathbf{P}}_{n \text{ times}} = \iota_{\text{init}} \cdot \mathbf{P}^n.$$

Transient probability distribution: example

$$P = \frac{1}{10} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 8 & 1 \\ 6 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\underline{P}(0) = \underline{(1, 0, 0)} = \text{init}$$

$$\underline{P}(1) = \underline{(1, 0, 0)} \cdot P = \frac{1}{10} (6, 2, 2)$$

$$\underline{P}(2) = (\underline{P}(1) \cdot P) \cdot P = \frac{1}{10} (6, 2, 2) \cdot P = \frac{1}{100} (50, 28, 22)$$

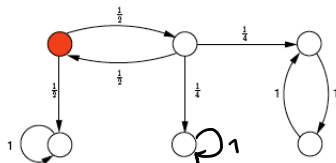
$$\underline{P}(3) = \frac{1}{1000} (460, 324, 216)$$

$$\underline{P'(0)} = \underline{\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right)}$$

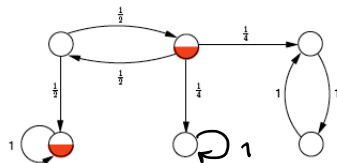
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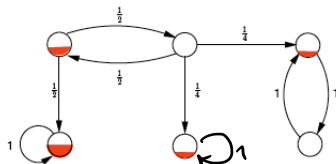
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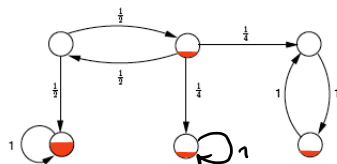
zero-th epoch



first epoch



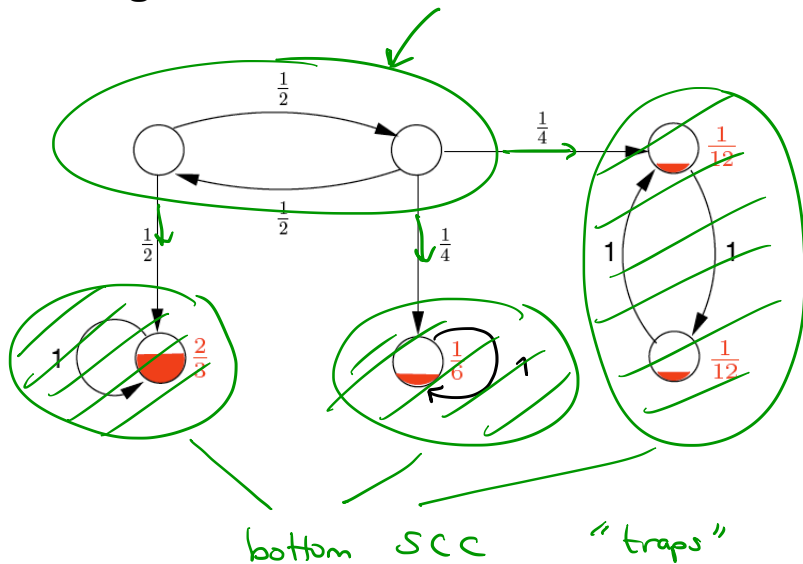
second epoch



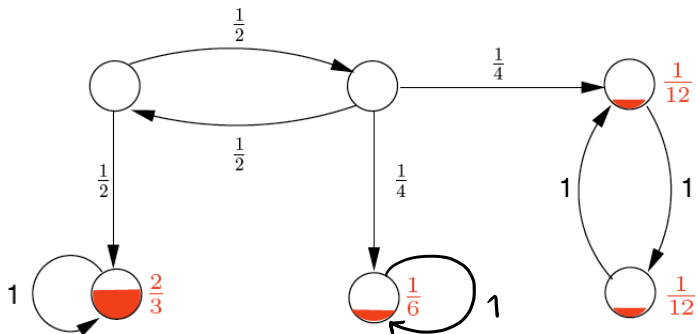
third epoch

We want to determine the probability to be in a state on the long run.

On the long run



On the long run



The probability mass on the long run is only left in **bottom** SCCs.

Limiting distribution

Ergodic stochastic matrix

Stochastic matrix \mathbf{P} is called *ergodic* if:

$$\mathbf{P}^\infty = \begin{pmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{P}^\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}^n \quad \text{exists and has identical rows}$$

Ergodicity theorem

If the transition probability matrix \mathbf{P} of a DTMC is ergodic, then:

1. $\underline{p}(n)$ *converges* to a limiting distribution \underline{v} independent from $\underline{p}(0)$
2. each row of \mathbf{P}^∞ *equals* the limiting distribution

Proof.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{p}(0) \cdot \mathbf{P}^n = \underline{p}(0) \cdot \underbrace{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}^n}_{\mathbf{P}^\infty} = \underline{p}(0) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_{s_0} & \dots & v_{s_n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ v_{s_0} & \dots & v_{s_n} \end{pmatrix} = \underline{v}$$



Example

limiting distribution

(A)

$$P = \frac{1}{10} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 8 & 1 \\ 6 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

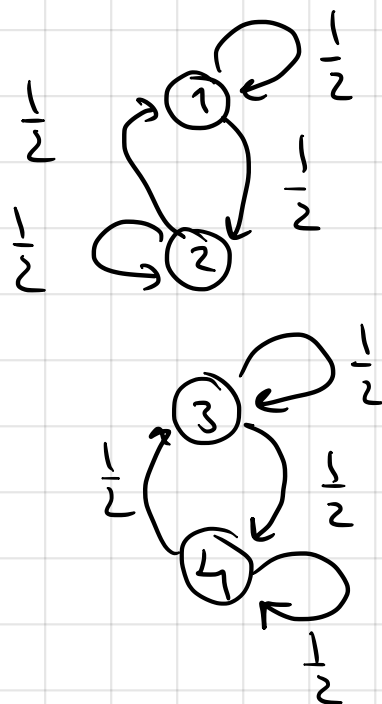
$$P^\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

So: P is ergodic

(B)

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

not
ergodic



$P^2 = P$ so $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n = P$, but no identical rows

Example

$$\underline{v} = \underline{v} \cdot P$$

$$\sum_i v_i = 1$$

$$\underline{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$$

$$P = \frac{1}{10} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 8 & 1 \\ 6 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} v_1 &= \frac{1}{10} (6v_1 + 2v_2 + 2v_3) \\ v_2 &= \frac{1}{10} (v_1 + 8v_2 + v_3) \\ v_3 &= \frac{1}{10} (6v_1 + 4v_3) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$v_1 + v_2 + v_3 = 1$$

$$v_1 = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$v_2 = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$v_3 = \frac{1}{5}$$

Limiting distribution

- ▶ We also have:

$$\underline{v} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{p}(n+1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{p}(0) \cdot \mathbf{P}^{n+1} = \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{p}(0) \cdot \mathbf{P}^n \right) \cdot \mathbf{P} = \underline{v} \cdot \mathbf{P}$$

- ▶ Thus, limiting probabilities can be obtained by solving the (homogeneous) system of linear equations:

$$\underline{v} = \underline{v} \cdot \mathbf{P} \quad \text{or} \quad \underline{v} \cdot (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}) = \underline{0} \quad \text{under} \quad \sum_i \underline{v}(i) = 1$$

- ▶ vector \underline{v} is the left Eigenvector of \mathbf{P} with Eigenvalue 1
- ▶ \underline{v} is called the *limiting* state-probability vector

Two interpretations of $\underline{v}(s)$:

- ▶ the long-run proportion of time that the DTMC “spends” in state s
- ▶ the probability the DTMC is in s when making a snapshot after a very long time

Limiting distributions should not be confused with stationary distributions

vector $\underline{\pi}$ is a stationary distribution of a DTMC with transition prob matrix P whenever: $\underline{\pi} = \underline{\pi} \cdot P$

Equivalently:

$$\underline{\pi}(s) = \sum_{s'} \underline{\pi}(s') \cdot P(s', s)$$

or equivalently

$$\underbrace{\underline{\pi}(s) \cdot (1 - P(s, s))}_{\text{the "outflux" of } s} = \underbrace{\sum_{s' \neq s} \underline{\pi}(s') \cdot P(s', s)}_{\text{the "influx" of } s}$$

Periodic Markov chains may have a stationary distribution but do not have a limiting distribution.

Summary

What are Markov chains?

- ▶ A **discrete-time Markov chain** (DTMC) is a time-homogeneous Markov process with discrete parameter T and discrete state space S .
- ▶ State residence times are geometrically distributed.
- ▶ Alternative: a DTMC \mathcal{D} is a tuple $(S, \mathbf{P}, \nu_{\text{init}}, AP, L)$

What are transient probabilities?

- ▶ $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}(s)$ is the probability to be in state s after n steps.
- ▶ These **transient probabilities** satisfy: $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}} = \nu_{\text{init}} \cdot \mathbf{P}^n$.

What are long-run probabilities?

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- ▶ Alternative: a DTMC \mathcal{D} is a tuple $(S, \mathbf{P}, \nu_{\text{init}}, AP, L)$

What are transient probabilities?

- ▶ $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}}(s)$ is the probability to be in state s after n steps.
- ▶ These **transient probabilities** satisfy: $\Theta_n^{\mathcal{D}} = \nu_{\text{init}} \cdot \mathbf{P}^n$.

What are long-run probabilities?

- ▶ $\underline{\nu}(s)$ is the probability to be in state s after infinitely many steps.

Summary

What are Markov chains?

- ▶ A **discrete-time Markov chain** (DTMC) is a time-homogeneous Markov process with discrete parameter T and discrete state space S .
- ▶ State residence times are geometrically distributed.
- ▶ Alternative: a DTMC \mathcal{D} is a tuple $(S, \mathbf{P}, \nu_{\text{init}}, AP, L)$

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What are long-run probabilities?

- ▶ $\underline{\nu}(s)$ is the probability to be in state s after infinitely many steps.
- ▶ long-run probabilities satisfy: $\underline{\nu} \cdot (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}) = \underline{0}$ under $\sum_i \underline{\nu}(i) = 1$.