

Assignment 9

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Abstract—This document shows the concept of markov chain state and tranistion matrices

<https://github.com/AddagallaSatyanarayana/AI5106/tree/master/Assignment9/Assignment9.tex>

1 PROBLEM

Consider a Markov chain with state space $\{0,1,2,3,4\}$ and transition matrix

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.0.1)$$

Draw the Markov chain and obtain the stationary probabilities

2 EXPLANATION

The Markov chain can be constructed from the transition matrix \mathbf{P} where the states represent the nodes of directed graph and the weights of the edges represent the transition probabilities. For a Markov chain with transition matrix \mathbf{P} , a vector \mathbf{v} is called a stationary distribution for \mathbf{P} if and only if

$$\mathbf{v}\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{v} \quad (2.0.1)$$

3 SOLUTION

The Markov chain state can be drawn as shown below. The markov chain has

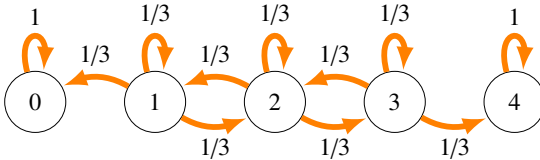


Fig. 0: Markov state diagram

multiple communicating classes namely $\{0\}$, $\{4\}$ which are recurrent (ie remain in the same state) and $\{1,2,3\}$ which is transient. It can be observed that the equation (2.0.1)

is similar to the equation $\mathbf{v}\mathbf{P} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$ for eigenvalues and eigenvectors, with $\lambda = 1$. Taking the transpose of (2.0.1) we get

$$(\mathbf{v}\mathbf{P})^T = \mathbf{v}^T \quad (3.0.1)$$

$$\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{v}^T = \mathbf{v}^T \quad (3.0.2)$$

The eigenvectors corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda = 1$ of the transposed transition matrix \mathbf{P}^T are the stationary distributions of the chain. When there are multiple eigenvectors associated to an eigenvalue of $\lambda = 1$, each such eigenvector is the stationary distribution.

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.3)$$

$$\mathbf{P}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.4)$$

The eigen values can be calculated using

$$|\mathbf{P}^T - \lambda\mathbf{I}| = 0 \quad (3.0.5)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3}-\lambda & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3}-\lambda & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3}-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (3.0.6)$$

The eigen vectors corresponding to the eigen value $\lambda = 1$ are

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.7)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.8)$$

The (3.0.7) and (3.0.8) represent the stationary probabilities.