

Exercise -1

The state space is $S = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, N\}$ Class 1: $\{0\}$

- state 0 is absorbing
- stays forever

Class 2: $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, N-1\}$

- These are transient states

Class N:

- state N is absorbing

Exercise -2

The states in $A = \{r+1, \dots, N\}$ are all absorbing state because:

1. The identity block I ensures $P_{\{j,j\}} = 1$ for all $j \in A$
2. The zero block) ensures no return to transient states T
3. Each absorbing state forms its own closed communication class

Exercise -3

T is a stopping time because at each time n, we can determine whether $t = n$ using only the history of the chain up to time n

T is adapted to the natural filtration because the decision "have we been absorbed yet?" depends only on the past and present states, not on future states.

Exercise 4

For this problem we should model X_n as a **discrete-time Markov Chain** where state represents Theseus position in the maze at time n.

State space: $S = \{0, 1, 2, E\}$

State 0: Initial Chamber

State 1: Fork in the path

State 2: Right Path

State E: Exit

Transition Probabilities:

State 0 \rightarrow State 2: $1/2$

State 0 \rightarrow State 1: $1/2$

State 1 \rightarrow State E: $1/3$

State 1 \rightarrow State 0: $2/3$

State 2 \rightarrow State 0: 1

State E \rightarrow State E: 1

Part 2

use first-step analysis approach from optimal stopping theory.

$$w_i = g(i) + \sum_j P_{ij} w_j$$

w_i = expected time to exit from state i

$g(i)$ = some immediate cost time to transition to this state.

P_{ij} = transition probability from i to j.

w_j = Expected time to exit start from state j.

\sum_j = The sum of all possible next state j.

Exercise 5

Absorption probability depends only on which states you visit, not on how long you spend in each state.

CTP $X(*)$

Let u_i = probability of eventually being absorbed into state A, starting from state i

Starting from state i:

- The process spends some random time in state i (distributed as G_i)
- Then jumps to state j with probability P_{ij}
- From state j, probability of absorption is u_j

Therefore

$$u_i = \sum_j P_{ij} * u_j$$

DTMC X_n

Starting from state i in the discrete chain we

- jump to state j with probability P_{ij}
- From state j, probability of absorption is u_j

Therefore

$$u_i = \sum_j P_{ij} * u_j$$

Conclusion

Both continuous time and discrete time satisfy the exact same system of linear equations with the same boundary conditions.

$u_i = u_i$ for all states i.

The distribution doesn't matter

- where absorption occurs
- which absorbing state is reached
- the probability of absorption

does effect

- when absorption occurs
- the rate at which transitions happens.

Exercise 6

First you hang out in state i then you jump to state j with some average probability.

Let W_i denote the expected time to absorption for the continuous-time process $X(\cdot)$ starting from transient state i .

Using first-step analysis, we condition on the first transition:

$$W_i = E[\text{time in state } i] + E[\text{time after leaving state } i \mid X(0) = i]$$

The time spent in state i has mean $1/v_i$ by definition.

After spending time T_i in state i , the process jumps to state j with probability P_{ij} . If j is absorbing, no additional time is needed. If j is transient, the expected additional time is W_j .

By the law of total expectation:

$$\begin{aligned} & E[\text{time after leaving state } i \mid X(0) = i] \\ &= \sum_j P_{ij} * E[\text{time to absorption from } j] \\ &= \sum_{j \in T} P_{ij} * W_j \end{aligned}$$

The sum is only over transient states T since absorbing states contribute 0.)

Therefore:

$$W_i = \frac{1}{v_i} + \sum_{j \in T} W_j P_{ij}$$

Exercise 7

we need to prove

- The future doesn't depend on the past only present
- it doesn't matter

Exercise 8

You can reach any state i , you can reach any state j in exactly n steps. Therefore $i \rightarrow j$ for all pairs (i, j) . This means all states communicate.

All are single communicating class no separate groups.

Exercise 9

It oscillates back and forth with $\alpha \rightarrow 1$.