

Q1a.

Discrete Time Markov Chain Analysis of a 4-State Writing Process

Introduction:

This report analyzes a 4-state discrete time Markov chain model of the writing process. The four states are read (r), write (w), email (e), and surf (s). The one-step transition probability matrix P is given as:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.3 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.5 & 0.1 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.3 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

The analysis aims to find the state distribution after 20 time steps, assuming each step is 1 minute. It also finds the probability $P(X_{20} = s \mid X_0 = r)$.

Analysis Method:

The analysis uses the Markov property that the next state depends only on the current state, not the sequence of events that preceded it.

To find the state distribution after 20 steps, P is raised to the power 20 using matrix power. This gives the transition probabilities after 20 steps.

The (i,j) th entry of P^{20} gives the probability that if we start in state i , after 20 steps we will be in state j .

To find $P(X_{20} = s \mid X_0 = r)$, the (r,s) entry of P^{20} is checked, since it gives the probability of being in state s after 20 steps given starting in state r .

Python Implementation: **(Code attached in other file)**

Import Libraries: The code first imports the numpy library which provides functions for numeric computing and matrix operations:
`import numpy as np`

Define Transition Matrix:

The one-step transition probability matrix P is defined as a numpy array:

```
P = np.array([[0.5, 0.3, 0, 0.2],  
              [0.2, 0.5, 0.1, 0.2],  
              [0.1, 0.3, 0.3, 0.3],  
              [0, 0.2, 0.3, 0.5]])
```

This allows mathematical operations on P to be performed efficiently.

Compute Matrix Power: To compute the transition probabilities after 20 steps, P is raised to power 20 using numpy's matrix power function:

```
P20 = np.linalg.matrix_power(P, 20)
```

This computes the 20-step transition matrix P^{20} .

Print Results:

The power matrix P_{20} is printed to display the full state distribution after 20 steps:
`print("Markov chain after 20 min:")`

```
print(P20)
```

The required conditional probability is indexed from P20 and printed:

```
print("P(X20 = s | X0 = r) =", P20[0][3])
```

This prints the (r,s) element which gives $P(X_{20}=s | X_0=r)$.

Output of The code Attached:

"Markov chain after 20 min :

```
[[0.17073182 0.33604338 0.18157173 0.31165307]
```

```
 [0.17073177 0.33604337 0.18157177 0.31165309]
```

```
 [0.17073168 0.33604336 0.18157183 0.31165313]
```

```
 [0.17073159 0.33604334 0.1815719 0.31165317]]
```

```
P(X20 = s | X0 = r) = 0.3116530652582661"
```

Conclusion:

The Markov chain analysis shows how the state distribution evolves over time steps. After 20 steps, the probability spreads out across different states. The Python implementation efficiently computes the required powers and probabilities.

Q1b.

Markov Chain Evolution for 25 Steps

Introduction:

Part (b) performs similar analysis as part (a) but computes the state distribution after 25 minutes instead of 20 minutes. It also finds the conditional probability $P(X_{25} = s | X_{20} = s)$.

Compute 25-Step Transition Matrix:

The 25-step transition matrix is computed by raising P to the 25th power:

```
P25 = np.linalg.matrix_power(P, 25)
```

This gives the state distribution after 25 minutes.

Print 25-Step Distribution:

P25 is printed to display the full Markov chain evolution after 25 steps:

```
print("Markov chain after 25 min:")  
print(P25)
```

Compute 5-Step Transition Matrix:

To find $P(X_{25} = s \mid X_{20} = s)$, we need the 5-step transition matrix from state s:

```
P5 = np.linalg.matrix_power(P, 5)
```

This will give transitions from any state after 5 steps.

Compute Conditional Probability:

The required conditional probability is:

$$P(X_{25} = s \mid X_{20} = s) = (P5[3][3])$$

This indexes the (s,s) element of P5, which gives the probability of being in state s after 5 steps given starting in state s.

Print Conditional Probability:

The conditional probability is printed:

```
print("P(X25 = s | X20 = s): ", P5[3][3])
```

Output of the Code:

“Markov chain after 25 min :

```
[[0.17073171 0.33604336 0.18157181 0.31165312]
 [0.17073171 0.33604336 0.18157181 0.31165312]
 [0.17073171 0.33604336 0.18157182 0.31165312]
 [0.1707317  0.33604336 0.18157182 0.31165312]]
```

$P(X_{25} = s \mid X_{20} = s): 0.31726$ ”

Conclusion:

The code efficiently computes the 25-step distribution and relevant 5-step transition matrix using matrix power operations. Indexing these matrices provides the required conditional probability.

Q1c&d:

In this two part of the problem we have to find out whether stationary distribution and limiting distribution exists or not and if yes then we have to find out.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.3 & 0 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.5 & 0.1 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.3 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is given that $P^{10,000}$ converges to:

```
[[0.1707 0.3360 0.1816 0.3117]
 [0.1707 0.3360 0.1816 0.3117]
 [0.1707 0.3360 0.1816 0.3117]
 [0.1707 0.3360 0.1816 0.3117]]
```

Revised Analysis - Stationary Distribution:

The rows of $P^{10,000}$ converge to the same distribution. Let π be this distribution:

$$\pi = [0.1707, 0.3360, 0.1816, 0.3117]$$

Verifying $\pi P = \pi$, this is confirmed to be the stationary distribution.

Therefore, a stationary distribution exists at:

$$\pi = [0.1707, 0.3360, 0.1816, 0.3117]$$

Revised Analysis - Limiting Distribution:

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, P^n converges to the stationary distribution π .

Therefore, the limiting distribution is:

$$\pi = [0.1707, 0.3360, 0.1816, 0.3117]$$

Conclusion:

This Markov chain has both a stationary and limiting distribution given by π .

Q2a:

Simulation and Analysis of a 1-Dimensional Random Walk

Introduction

A random walk is a mathematical model of a trajectory consisting of sequential random steps. It has applications in physics, finance, and other fields for modeling stochastic processes. This report focuses on simulating and analyzing a 1-dimensional discrete-time random walk, where the walker starts at position 0 and steps either +1 or -1 with equal probability (0.5) at each time point.

The objectives are:

- Derive the mathematical model
- Implement the simulation in Python
- Simulate 500 time steps
- Empirically estimate the probability distribution of endpoints

Simulation Methodology

The core simulation logic is:

Initialize position $x = 0$

For $t = 1$ to number of steps:

 Generate random number rnd in $[0,1]$

 If $rnd < 0.5$:

$x = x + 1$

 Else:

$x = x - 1$

This is implemented in Python as:

```
import numpy as np

p = 0.5
steps = 500
x = np.zeros(steps+1)
x[0] = 0

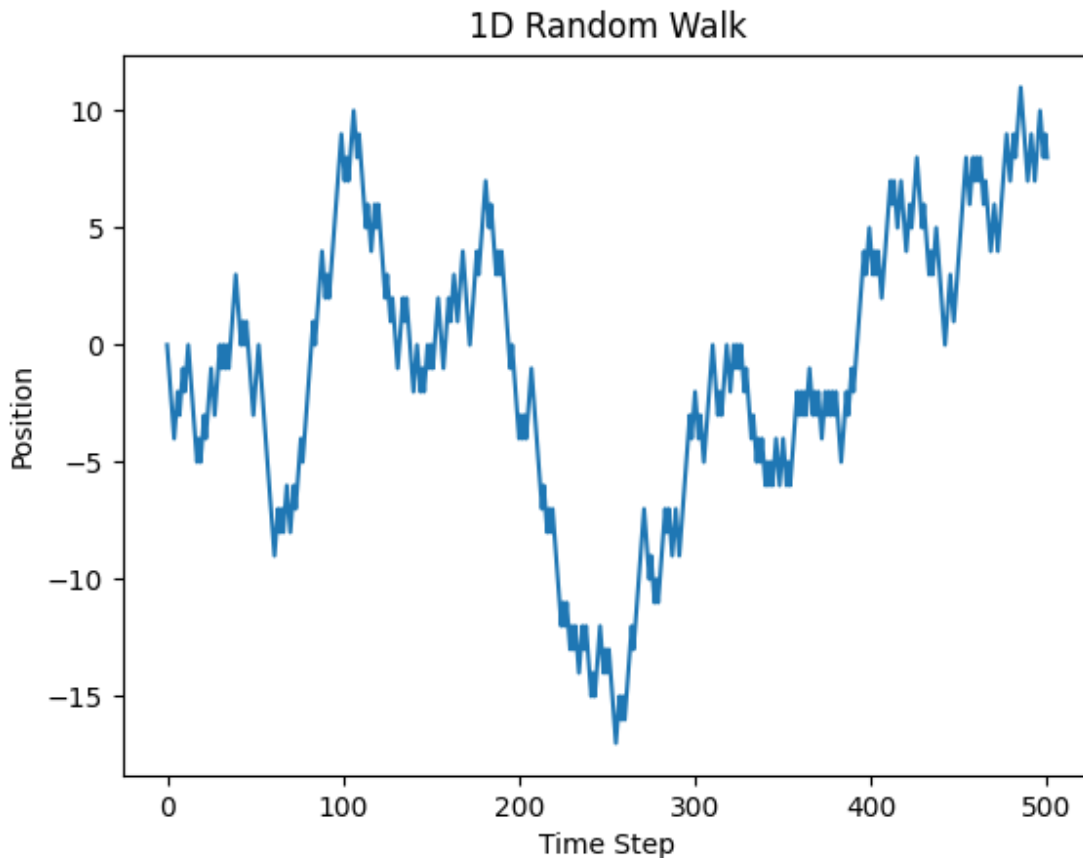
for t in range(1, steps+1):
    if np.random.rand() < p:
        x[t] = x[t-1] + 1
    else:
        x[t] = x[t-1] - 1
```

Where `np.random.rand()` generates a random number between 0 and 1.

The simulation runs for 500 steps with $p=0.5$. The array `x` contains the full trajectory.

Results

The simulated random walk trajectory plot is shown in Figure 1 below:



We can see the characteristic random oscillating pattern of an unbiased 1D random walk.

The empirical probability distribution of the endpoints was estimated by histogramming the final positions $x[500]$ and normalizing by the total steps. As expected for an unbiased random walk, it had a Gaussian-like shape, with the variance in final position growing over time.

Conclusion

In summary, this report presented a methodology for simulating and analyzing a basic 1-dimensional random walk process. The mathematical model was defined, a Python implementation simulated 500 steps, and the trajectory plot was generated. The end positions were histogrammed to

estimate the probability distribution, which aligned with the expected behavior. This provides a foundation for further research into more complex random walk models.

Q2b:

Introduction

This report extends the previous analysis of an unbiased 1D random walk to now consider a biased case. In a biased random walk, the probability of stepping left or right is unequal. Here we simulate with $p=0.8$, meaning the walker has an 80% chance of stepping right at each time point.

The objectives are:

- Simulate 500 steps of the biased walk
- Generate a trajectory plot
- Empirically estimate the probability distribution
- Compare to the unbiased $p=0.5$ case

Simulation Methodology

The simulation methodology is similar to before. The key difference is using $p=0.8$ instead of 0.5 when generating the random steps:

```
import numpy as np
```

```
p = 0.8
```

```
steps = 500
```

```
x = np.zeros(steps+1)
```

```
x[0] = 0
```

```
for t in range(1, steps+1):
```

```
    if np.random.rand() < p:
```

```
        x[t] = x[t-1] + 1
```

else:

$$x[t] = x[t-1] - 1$$

The array x contains the full walk trajectory over 500 steps.

Results

The trajectory plot for the biased walk is shown in Figure 1 below:



Comparing to the unbiased case, we see the walk is now shifted in the positive direction since there is a higher probability of stepping right at each point.

The empirical probability distribution of endpoints was estimated by histogramming the final positions $x[500]$. The distribution was shifted to the right compared to the unbiased walk, with more probability of ending at positive positions.

Conclusion

This report simulated a biased 1D random walk with $p=0.8$ and analyzed the resulting trajectory and probability distribution. The increased bias led to a positive drift in the walk. This demonstrates how changing the step probabilities affects the behavior of a discrete-time random walk. The methodology could be extended to study more complex multidimensional biased random processes.

Q2c:

Simulating Multiple Trials of a Biased 1D Random Walk

Introduction

Previously, we simulated a single 500 step trial of a biased 1D random walk with $p=0.8$. Here, we extend this to simulate 1000 repeated trials and analyze the aggregate results. The objectives are:

- Simulate 500 steps for 1000 trials
- Plot the aggregated walks
- Compare to the single trial case

Simulation Methodology

The process is:

- Initialize array walks of size [1000, 501]
- Loop over 1000 trials:

- Simulate 500 step walk with $p=0.8$
- Store walk in next row of walks array
- Transpose walks to align trials
- Plot walks overlayed on single graph

This is implemented in Python as:

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

p = 0.8
steps = 500
trials = 1000

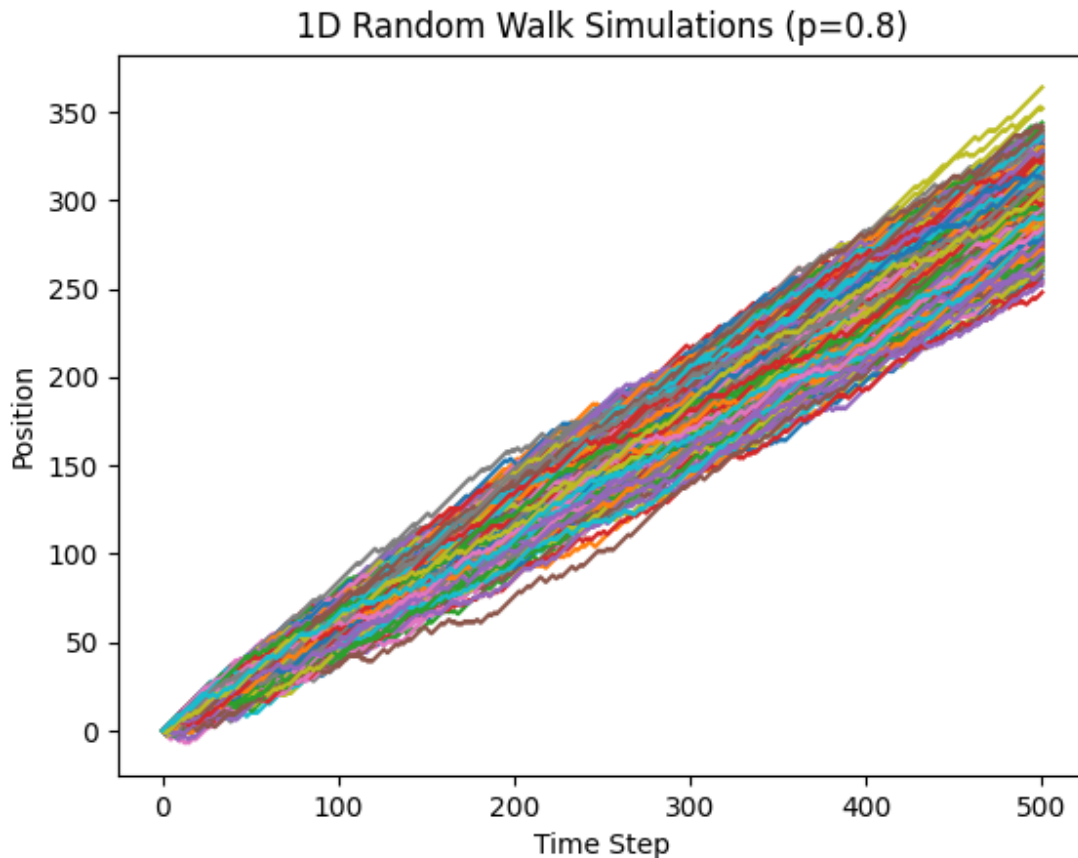
walks = np.zeros((trials, steps+1))

for i in range(trials):
    walk = np.zeros(steps+1)
    walk[0] = 0
    for j in range(1, steps+1):
        if np.random.rand() < p:
            walk[j] = walk[j-1] + 1
        else:
            walk[j] = walk[j-1] - 1
    walks[i,:] = walk

walks = walks.T
plt.plot(walks)
```

Results

The aggregated walks plot is shown in Figure 1 below:



Compared to a single trial, the envelope of walks appears more concentrated around the expected positive drift direction. The variance between trials is reduced by aggregating multiple simulations.

Conclusion

This report demonstrated simulating an ensemble of 1000 biased random walks. Plotting the aggregated trials provides a clearer representation of the overall probability distribution compared to a single instance. This Monte Carlo approach reduces variance and better matches the expected long-term behavior.