

We've seen several versions of the Markov property.
 The most powerful form, for time-homogeneous processes, was in [Lec 38.2]

If X is a time homogeneous Markov process $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \in T}) \rightarrow (S, \mathcal{B})$
 and $\{P^\nu : \nu \in \text{Prob}(S, \mathcal{B})\}$ are the associated probability measures
 on $(S^T, \mathcal{B}^{\otimes T})$ with $P^\nu(X_0 \in B) = \nu(B)$, then $\forall F \in \mathcal{B}(S^T, \mathcal{B}^{\otimes T})$,

$$E^\nu[F(X_{t+ \cdot}) | \mathcal{F}_t] = E^\nu[F(X)]|_{x=X_t}.$$

Theorem: Let $T = \mathbb{N}$. Let $\tau : (\Omega, \{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ be a stopping time
 Then

$$E^\nu[F(X_{\tau + \cdot}) | \mathcal{F}_\tau] = E^\nu[F(X)]|_{x=X_\tau} \quad P^\nu - \text{a.s.}$$

on $\{\tau < \infty\}$.

I.e. Conditioned on the value at the random
 time τ , the process restarts fresh.

Pf. We know how to condition on \mathcal{F}_τ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[F(X_{\tau+}) | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \mathbb{1}_{\tau < \infty} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[F(X_{\tau+}) | \mathcal{F}_n] \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau=n\}} \\&= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[F(X_n) \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau=n\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \\&= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[F(X_n) | \mathcal{F}_n]}_{\mathbb{E}^x[F(X)]} \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau=n\}} \\&\quad \text{--- } \end{aligned}$$

I.e. if $g(x) = \mathbb{E}^x[F(X)]$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[F(X_{\tau+}) | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \mathbb{1}_{\tau < \infty} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g(X_n) \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau=n\}} \\&= g(X_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty\}} \\&= \mathbb{E}^x[F(X)] \Big|_{x=X_\tau} \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty\}}\end{aligned}$$

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To be clear, we can rephrase this (in the discrete spacetime context) as:

Cor: Let $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a Markov chain in the discrete state space S .

Let τ be a stopping time (adapted to the same filtration as $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$).

For any $x \in S$, conditioned on $\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}$,

\mathcal{F}_τ and $\{X_{\tau+n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ are independent, and

$(X_{\tau+n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ have the same distribution under P^x .

Pf. Let $Y \in \mathcal{B}(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_\tau)$, $F \in \mathcal{B}(S^\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{B}^{\otimes \mathbb{N}})$. Then for any initial distribution ν ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}^\nu [F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) Y \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}^\nu [\mathbb{E}[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) | \mathcal{F}_\tau] Y \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}^\nu [\mathbb{E}_{\cancel{x}}^\nu [F(X)] Y \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}^\nu [F(x)] \mathbb{E}^\nu [Y \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau < \infty, X_0 = x\}}]. \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{F}_τ -meas.

Thus $\mathbb{E}^{\nu}[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) Y : \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x] = \mathbb{E}^\nu[F(X)] \mathbb{E}^{\nu}[Y : \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x]$.

In other words: $\mathbb{E}^{\nu}[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) Y | \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x]$

$$= \mathbb{E}^\nu[F(X)] \mathbb{E}^{\nu}[Y | \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x].$$



In particular, taking $Y \equiv 1$ shows

$$\mathbb{E}^{\nu}[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) | \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x] = \mathbb{E}^\nu[F(X)].$$



I.e. conditioned on $\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}$, $(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) \stackrel{d}{=} (X_\cdot)$ under P^α .

Moreover, $\star + \star \star \Rightarrow E' = \mathbb{E}^{\nu}[- | \tau < \infty, X_\tau = x]$

$$E'[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot}) Y] = \mathbb{E}'[F(X_{\tau+ \cdot})] \mathbb{E}'[Y].$$

This holds $\forall Y \in \mathcal{B}(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_\tau)$, and

$\therefore (X_{\tau+ \cdot})$ is independent from \mathcal{F}_τ . //

Conditioned on $\{\tau < \infty, X_\tau = x\}$

In particular: $(X_0, \dots, X_\tau), (X_\tau, X_{\tau+1}, X_{\tau+2}, \dots)$ are independent.