

# Challenge Problem 5

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## 1 PROBLEM

Challenging problem: Intersection of transforms, matrices, signal processing, probability:

[https://github.com/abhishekt711/EE5609/blob/master/Assignment20/Assignment\\_20.pdf](https://github.com/abhishekt711/EE5609/blob/master/Assignment20/Assignment_20.pdf)

This problem provides an opportunity to link all the above. What is the link?

## 2 EXPLANATION

The transition probability of Markov chain is expressed as:

$P_{ij} = P[\text{next state } S_j \text{ at time } t=1 | \text{current state } S_i \text{ at } t=0]$

and the Transition Probability Matrix (TPM) is given as:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.1)$$

In this problem,  $P_{11} = P_{22} = P_{33} = 0 \implies$  Any state cannot retain in its own state after 1 step execution, that is, for  $n=1$ . These  $P_{11}, P_{22}, P_{33}$  are the retention probabilities.

The summation of each row of this TPM,  $P$  is 1 which is similar to a Binary Symmetric Channel Matrix which is very important concept in Information Theory.

Now, while considering 2nd step execution, the TPM for  $n=2$  is:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.2)$$

From here we get that after 2nd execution, the retention probability is  $\frac{1}{2}$  for all the 3 states, that is,

$P_{11}^{(2)} = P[\text{next state } S_1 \text{ at time } t=2 | \text{current state } S_1 \text{ at } t=0] = \frac{1}{2}$ .

The transition probabilities from any state to other states are equal, that is,  $P_{21} = P_{23}, P_{31} = P_{32}$  and  $P_{12} = P_{13}$ .

The transition probability from one state to another state of a current state is the retention probability of the next state, that is,  $P_{21}^{(n)} = P_{23}^{(n)} = P_{22}^{(n+1)}$ , for all the 3 states.

In each period, that is, for  $n=0,1,2,\dots$ , the retention probabilities ( $P_{22}, P_{22}^{(2)}, P_{22}^{(3)}, \dots$ ) for all 3 states are same, that is,  $P_{11}^{(2)} = P_{22}^{(2)} = P_{33}^{(2)}$ .

$\pi$  is the stationary distribution and  $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} \pi_1 \\ \pi_2 \\ \pi_3 \end{pmatrix}$  such

that  $\pi P = \pi \implies$  The markov chain is in steady state with period 1 and  $\pi$  is the state probabilities vector which is fixed for the entire Markov chain

with the values  $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix}$ . It means the Markov chain

is in steady state condition and all the 3 states have equal share in the process.