

Problem 3(a):

We have given a transition matrix  $P$ .

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 1/3 \end{pmatrix}$$

To find invariant probability distribution  $\pi$  for the Markov chain with  $P$ , we need to solve the equation,

$$\pi P = \pi$$

With that, we can setting up the equations,

$$\pi_1 = 1/3 \pi_1 + 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3$$

$$\pi_2 = 1/3 \pi_1 + 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3$$

$$\pi_3 = 1/3 \pi_1 + 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3$$

Simplifying left hand side of each equation.

$$2/3 \pi_1 = 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3 \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$2/3 \pi_2 = 1/3 \pi_1 + 1/3 \pi_3 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

$$2/3 \pi_3 = 1/3 \pi_1 + 1/3 \pi_2 \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

[Subtracting  $\pi_i$  on each left hand side], Example:

$$\pi_1 - 1/3 \pi_1 = 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3$$

From equation (i),

$$2/3 \pi_1 = 1/3 \pi_2 + 1/3 \pi_3$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\pi_1 = \pi_2 + \pi_3$$

(multiply by 3)

(iv)

$$\therefore \pi_1 = 1/2 \pi_2 + 1/2 \pi_3$$

(divided by 2)



Substituting  $\pi_1$  value to equation (ii)

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi_2 = \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1}{2} \pi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi_3 \right) + \frac{1}{3} \pi_3$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi_2 = \frac{1}{6} \pi_2 + \frac{1}{6} \pi_3 + \frac{1}{3} \pi_3$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \pi_2 = \frac{1}{6} \pi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi_3 \quad [\text{Combine } \pi_3 \text{ terms}]$$

$$4 \pi_2 = \pi_2 + 3 \pi_3 \quad (\text{multiply by 6})$$

$$3 \pi_2 = 3 \pi_3$$

$$\therefore \pi_2 = \pi_3$$

Since  $\pi_2 = \pi_3$ , we can replace  $\pi_3$  by  $\pi_2$  in equation (iv)

$$\pi_1 = \frac{1}{2} \pi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi_3$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi_2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi_2$$

$$= \pi_2$$

Thus,

$$\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3$$

Since  $\pi$  is probability distribution, we have the normalized condition,

$$\pi_1 + \pi_2 + \pi_3 = 1$$

As we can see  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3$ , let  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3 = \pi$

$$\text{So, } \pi + \pi + \pi = 1$$

$$3\pi = 1, \Rightarrow \pi = \frac{1}{3}$$

Hence, The invariant probability distribution is,  $\pi = \left( \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right)$ .