

Assignment 8 Probability

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Abstract

This pdf consists the solution to the question 15.8 from in Papoulis pillai

Outline

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Question 15.8

Q 15.8

Time Reversible Markov Chains. Consider a stationary Markov chain $\dots X_n, X_{n+1}, X_{n+2} \dots$ with transition probabilities $\{p_{ij}\}$ and steady state probabilities $\{q_{ij}\}$. (a) Show that the reversed sequence $\dots X_n, X_{n+1}, X_{n+2} \dots$ is also a stationary Markov process with transition probabilities

$$P\{X_n = j | X_{n+1} = i\} p_{ij}^* = \frac{q_j p_{ij}}{q_i}$$

and steady state probabilities $\{q_i\}$. A Markov chain is said to be time reversible if $p_{ij}^* = p_{ji}$ for all i, j . (b) Show that a necessary condition for time reversibility is that $p_{ij} p_{jk} p_{ki} = p_{ik} p_{kj} p_{ji}$ for all i, j, k

Question 15.8

Q 15.8

which states that the transition $e_i \rightarrow e_j \rightarrow e_k \rightarrow e_i$ has the same probability as the reversed transition $e_i \rightarrow e_k \rightarrow e_j \rightarrow e_i$. In fact, for a reversible chain starting at any state e_i any path back to e_i has the same probability as the reversed path.

Solution

Solution

(a) From Bayes theorem

$$P\{x_n = j | x_{n+1} = i\} = \frac{P\{x_{n+1} = i | x_n = j\} P\{x_n = j\}}{P\{x_{n+1} = i\}} = \frac{q_j p_{ij}}{q_i} = p_{ij}^*, \quad (1)$$

Where we assumed the chain to be in steady state. (b) Notice that time reversibility is equivalent to

$$p_{ij}^* = p_{ij}$$

and using (1) we get

$$p_{ij}^* = \frac{q_j p_{ij}}{q_i} = p_{ij} \quad (2)$$

Solution

Solution

Thus from using (2) we obtain by direct substitution

$$\begin{aligned} p_{ij}p_{jk}p_{ki} &= \left(\frac{q_j}{q_i}p_{ik}\right)\left(\frac{q_k}{q_j}p_{kj}\right)\left(\frac{q_i}{q_k}p_{ji}\right) \\ &= p_{ik}p_{kj}p_{ji} \end{aligned}$$