

- Till now - revision of prob + stats (with a sim focus) - random number gen
Rest of course - variance reduction
- Discrete event simulation (systems with state)
 - Generating 'complex' random processes (MCMC)

ORIE 4580/5580: Simulation Modeling and Analysis

ORIE 5581: Monte Carlo Simulation

Unit 9: Intro to Markov Chains

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random process = $\cup [0,1]$ source + memory (state) (all random
proc are
Markov)

random process

index

indexed collection of rvs $X_t \in S$, one for each $t \in T$

- S : state space, T : index set

Markov property

random process X_t has the Markov property if the probability of moving to a future state only depends on the present state and not on past states

- $T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, $(X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_t)$

$$P[X_{t+1} = x \mid X_0 = x_0, X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_t = x_t] = P[X_{t+1} = x] \quad ?$$

- $T = [0, \infty)$,

$$P[X_t = x \mid X_t, t \in [s_1, s_2]] = P[X_t = x \mid X_{s_1}]$$

- Basic prob model = indep r.v.

- Markov prop covers all

other processes! You can define 'state'

most recent known state

random process

random process

indexed collection of rvs $X_t \in \mathcal{S}$, one for each $t \in T$

– \mathcal{S} : state space, T : index set

Markov property

random process X_t has the Markov property if the probability of moving to a future state **only depends on the present state and not on past states**

four types

- \mathcal{S} discrete, T discrete: discrete-time Markov chain (DTMC)
 - random walk
 - \mathcal{S} ~~continuous~~^{discrete}, T ~~discrete~~^{continuous}: continuous-time Markov chain (CTMC)
 - Poisson process
 - \mathcal{S} ~~discrete~~^{continuous}, T ~~continuous~~^{discrete}: discrete-time Markov process
 - \mathcal{S} continuous, T continuous: Markov process
 - Brownian motion
-
- The handwritten notes include:
A large bracket on the right side groups the first two items: "S discrete = Chain".
A second bracket on the right side groups the last two items: "S continuous = Markov process".

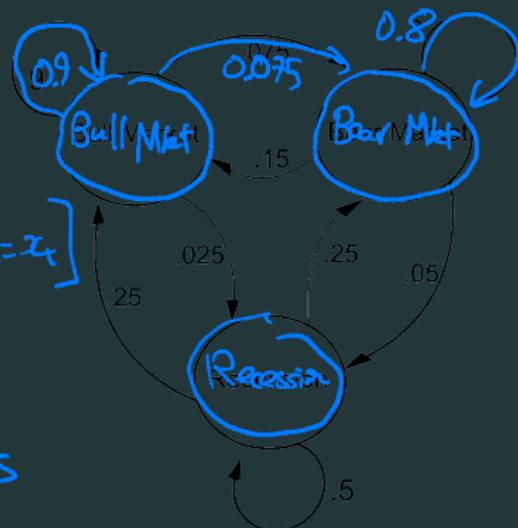
Markov chains: basic definition (Discrete Time - DTMC)

- $T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, $S = \text{some discrete set } \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

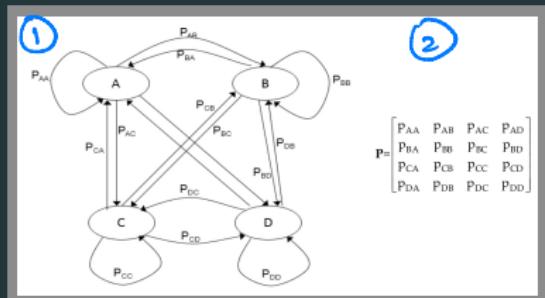
- Collection (X_0, X_1, \dots) occurs s.t.

$$\Pr[X_{t+1} = z | X_0 = z_0, \dots, X_t = z_t] = \Pr[X_{t+1} = z | X_t = z_t]$$

- Can represent each state as a node in a graph, edges represent transition prob



Markov chains: transition-diagram and transition matrix



$$\leftarrow S = \{A, B, C, D\}$$

$$\mathcal{T} = \{0, 1, 2, -3\}$$

\leftarrow 2 representations of MC

Idea - ^{time homogeneous} MC completely defined by trans prob $P_{xy} = P[X_{t+1}=y | X_t=x]$

$$② P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{AA} & P_{AB} & P_{AC} & P_{AD} \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & P_{DD} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Need $P_{xy} \geq 0 \forall x, y \in S$
- Need $\sum_{x \in \{A, B, C, D\}} P_{Ax} = 1$ (every row sums)

(Stochastic matrix)

① directed graph with edge wts

- All edge wts > 0 ($P_{xy} = 0 \Rightarrow$ no edge betw x, y)
- 'Out degree' $\sum_y \text{wt of } (x, y) = 1 \forall x$
- Can have self loops

example: coin tosses and geometric rv.

recall the Geometric rv $p(k) = q^{k-1}(1 - q) \forall k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ (# of coin tosses till heads)
 we can view this as a Markov chain as follows:

Transition diagram

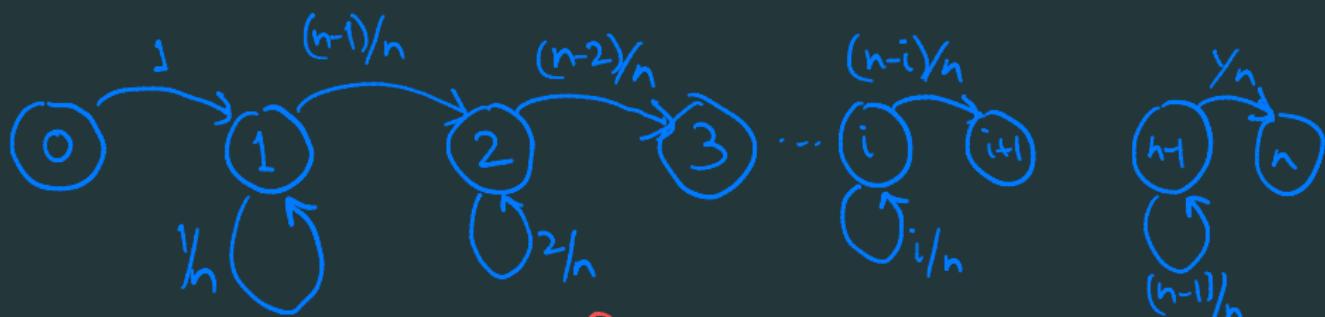
example: the coupon collector

a brand of cereal always distributes a baseball card in every cereal box, chosen randomly from a set of n distinct cards

Markov chain model for number of cards owned by a collector:

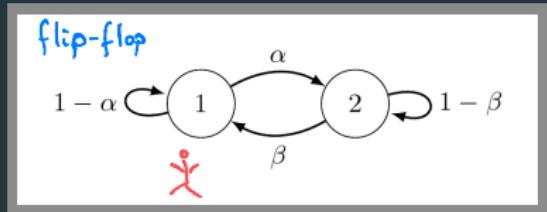
$$S \equiv \# \text{ of } \overset{\text{unique}}{\text{cards owned by collector}} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$J \equiv \{0, 1, 2, \dots\} \equiv \text{buy new cereal box}$$



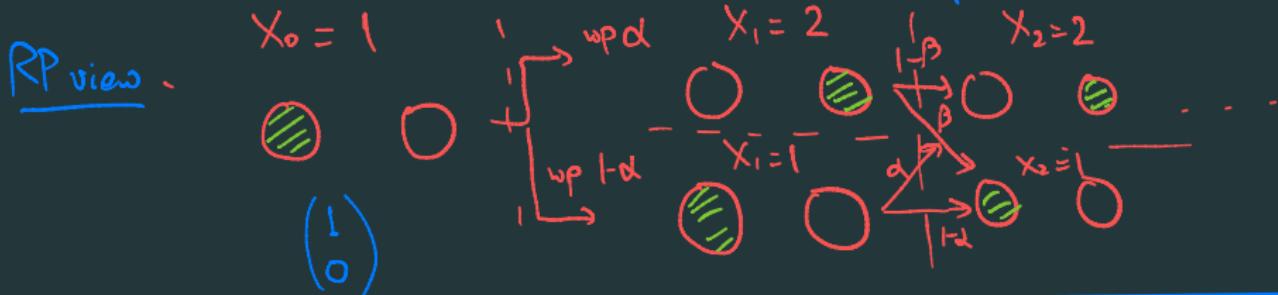
$$Q: \mathbb{E}[\text{Time to collect all coupons}] = ?$$
$$(= H_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i} \approx \ln n)$$

Markov chains: two viewpoints



1) Random particle view

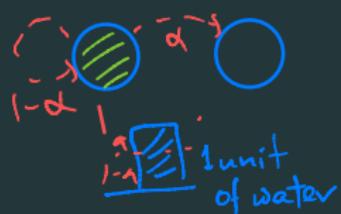
2) Flow view / Distribution view



$$\Pi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \Pr[X_0=1] \\ \Pr[X_0=2] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Pi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1-\alpha \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\Pi_t^T = \Pi_{t-1}^T P}$$



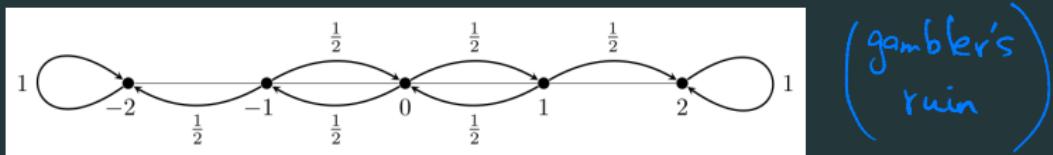
$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_2 &= \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1-\alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1-\beta \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \Pr[X_1=1] \\ \Pr[X_1=2] \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1-\alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1-\beta \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 1-\alpha \\ \alpha \end{array} \right] \\ &= \left[\begin{array}{c} (1-\alpha)^2 + \alpha\beta \\ \alpha(1-\beta) + \beta\alpha \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} \Pi_2(1) \\ \Pi_2(2) \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Markov chains: long-term behavior

Possible long-term behavior

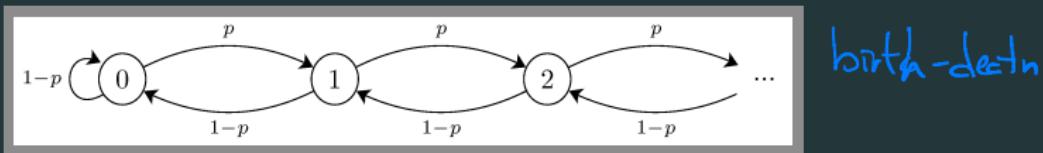
- absorption = particle gets stuck
- transient = particle 'escapes' off to ∞
(or oscillates)
- recurrent = particle 'keeps coming back' to
undesirable state 0
 - Positive recurrent
 - null recurrent

Markov chains: absorbing chain



$$\rightarrow \boxed{1, \frac{\epsilon}{n}, 1}$$

Markov chains: transient/recurrent chain



- Rough idea - Particle visits 0 'infinitely often'
 \Rightarrow chain is recurrent
Particle never visits 0 after some t
 \Rightarrow chain is transient (Eg, $P=1$)
- Flow view - the amount of liquid in each state 'settles down' (converges) - positive recurrent

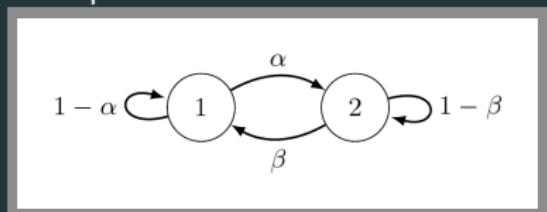
Markov chains: steady-state behavior

- $\pi_{t+1}^T = \pi_t^T P$ - MC flow update eqn

- In steady-state -
(if MC is positive recurrent)
$$\begin{cases} \pi_t \xrightarrow{\text{if } \alpha} \pi \\ \text{s.t. } \pi^T = \pi^T P \end{cases}$$

'flow-balance'

example:



If $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$

Steady-state - $\pi = \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}, \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta} \right)^T$

Check - $\pi^T P = \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}, \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 1-\alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1-\beta \end{pmatrix} = \pi^T$

a little diversion (to mark the day...)

Bertrand's ballot problem

two candidates A and B contest an election with n votes, out of whom a people vote for A and $b = n - a < a$ vote for B

if votes are counted in random order, what is the chance A is always in the lead?

$$a > n/2$$

Want to model as a Markov chain

$$\cdot \quad \mathcal{T} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$\cdot X_t = \# \text{ of votes } A$$

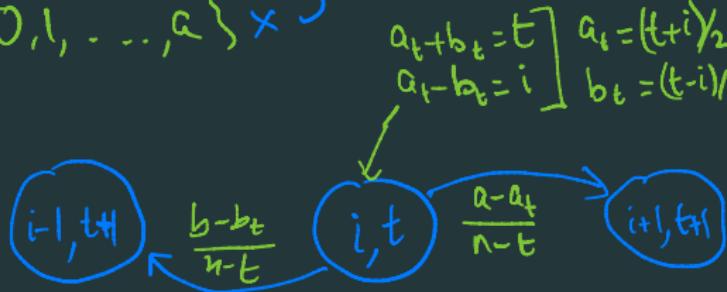
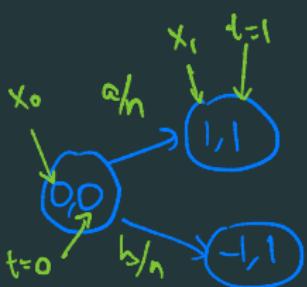
$$\cdot S = \{-n, -n+1, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, n\} \times \mathcal{T}$$

leads by after t votes
are counted

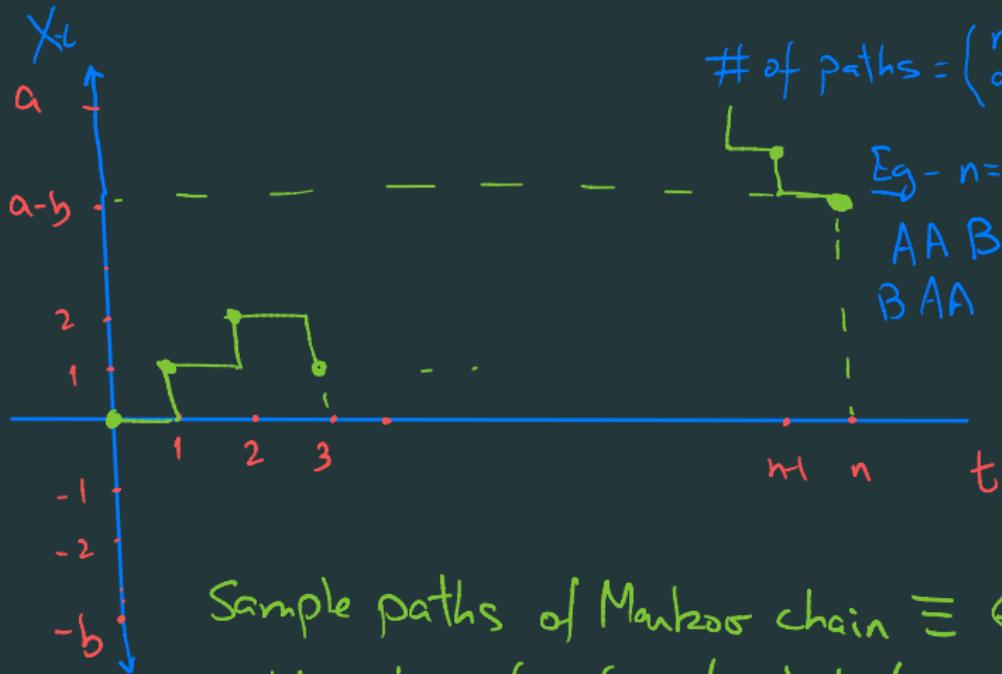
$$\{-b, -b+1, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, a\} \times \mathcal{T}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_t + b_t &= t \\ a_t - b_t &= i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_t &= (t+i)/2 \\ b_t &= (t-i)/2 \end{aligned}$$



Random walk view



(Markov chain Monte Carlo)

$$\# \text{ of paths} = \binom{n}{a} \approx n^a$$

Eg - $n=3, a=2$
 AA B, ABA, BAA

Sample paths of Markov chain \equiv Every possible step fn from $(0,0)$ to $(n, a-b)$ such that at each time you go up or down by 1 step

and a little magic! (Recall - X_t = A's lead after t votes are counted)

Bertrand's ballot theorem

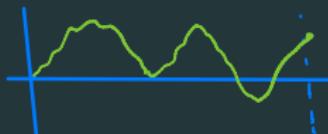
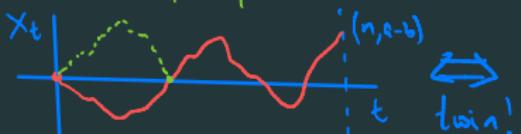
two candidates A and B contest an election with n votes, out of whom a people vote for A and $b = n - a < a$ vote for B

if votes are counted in random order, then $\mathbb{P}[A \text{ is always in the lead}] = \frac{2}{n} \binom{a-n/2}{a-b}$

Reflection method

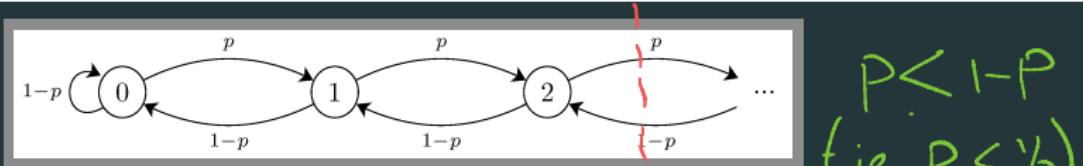
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[A \text{ always in lead}] &= 1 - \mathbb{P}[\text{There is a tie at sometime}] \\ &= 1 - \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_1 = 1 \text{ and } \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0]}_M - \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_1 = -1 \text{ and } \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0]}_N \quad \leftarrow \text{but } M = N! \\ &= 1 - 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[X_1 = -1] = 1 - \frac{2b}{a+b} = \frac{a-b}{a+b}\end{aligned}$$

Why is $M = N$? Because every sample path in $\{X_1 = -1, \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0\}$ has a unique twin sample path in $\{X_1 = 1, \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0\}$



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[X_1 = -1, \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0] &= \mathbb{P}[X_1 = 1, \exists t \text{ s.t. } X_t = 0] \\ &= b/a+b!\end{aligned}$$

Markov chains: steady-state for infinite chains



Claim $\pi(i) = \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^i \left(1 - \frac{p}{1-p}\right) > 0$

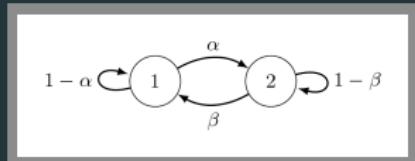
flow balance

How to check? - $\underbrace{\pi^T P = \pi^T}_{\text{infinite \# of eqns}}$, $\underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \pi(i)}_{\text{easy to check}} = 1$

Flow balance for cut $\{0, 1, \dots, i\}$ $\{i+1, i+2, \dots, \infty\}$ ✓

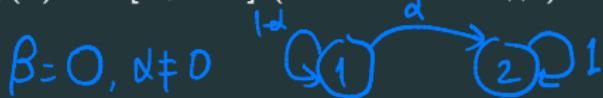
To check: $\pi(i) P_{i \rightarrow i+1} = \pi(i+1) P_{i+1 \rightarrow i+2} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^i \cdot p = \left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right)^{i+1}$

clicker question: long-term behavior in the flip-flop



in the flip-flop Markov chain, which of the following outcomes is possible for $\pi_t(1) = \mathbb{P}[X_t = 1]$ (for different α, β)?

19
9 (a) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_t(1) = 0$



19
19 (b) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_t(1) = 1$



33
33 (c) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_t(1)$ settles down to a constant $\pi(1) \in (0, 1)$

$$\alpha \in (0, 1), \beta \in (0, 1)$$

40
40 (d) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_t(1)$ oscillates



22
22 (e) all of these

$$\Rightarrow \pi = \begin{pmatrix} \beta / (\alpha + \beta) \\ \alpha / (\alpha + \beta) \end{pmatrix}$$

DTMC: applications and problems

Applications

- 1) Model complex phenomena over time
(eg- Ballot problem, coupon collector)
- 2) Generate complex random variables (MCMC)

Problem

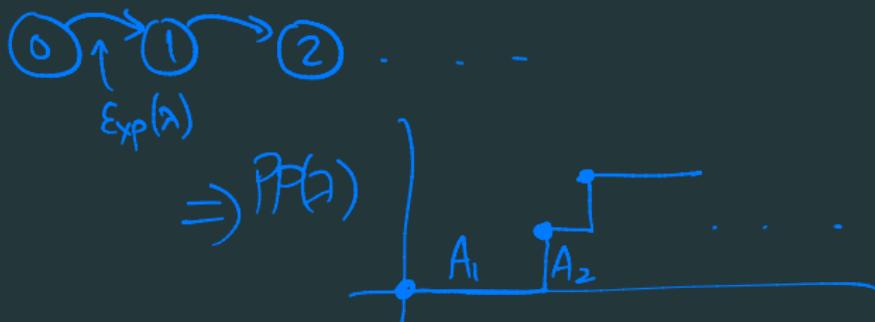
- Specifying DTMCs may be complex
 - Multiple 'events' between 2 times
 - Order of events matter

from discrete to continuous time

Markov property

random process X_t has the Markov property if the probability of moving to a future state **only depends on the present state and not on past states**

- \mathcal{S} discrete, \mathcal{T} discrete: discrete-time Markov chain (DTMC)
 - random walk
- \mathcal{S} ~~continuous~~^{discrete}, \mathcal{T} ~~discrete~~^{continuous}: continuous-time Markov chain (CTMC)
 - Poisson process - PP is the 'generator' for all CTMC



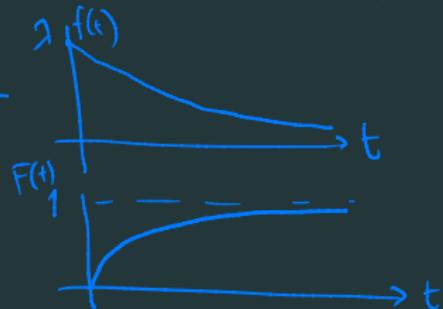
exponential distribution cheat sheet

$\lambda \equiv 1/\text{sec} \Rightarrow \lambda \equiv \text{'rate'}$

can extend DTMCs to continuous time using special properties of the exponential distribution/poisson process

suppose $T \sim \text{exponential}(\lambda)$, then:

$$\mathbb{E}[T] = 1/\lambda$$



- pdf: $f_T(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \quad \forall t \geq 0$

- cdf: $F_T(t) = \mathbb{P}[T \leq t] = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$

- (memorylessness): cdf of T knowing it is bigger than t ?

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{P}[T \leq t+x | T > t]}_{= \mathbb{P}[T \leq x]} = \frac{\mathbb{P}[t < T \leq t+x]}{\mathbb{P}[T > t]} = \frac{F(t+x) - F(t)}{1 - F(t)} \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Any} \\ \text{r.v.} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{iff } T \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} - e^{-(t+x)\lambda}}{e^{-t\lambda}} = 1 - e^{-x\lambda} = F(x) \\ \text{(or for discrete, } T \sim \text{Geom}(p)) \end{array} \right.$$

understanding exponential distributions

suppose T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n are all exponentially distributed, with $T_i \sim \text{exponential}(\lambda_i)$.
independent,

- (minimum of exponentials): let $T_{\min} = \min\{T_i | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$; distribution of T_{\min} ?

$$T_{\min} \sim \text{Exp}\left(\hat{\sum}_{i=1}^n \lambda_i\right)$$

- (first arrival): let $T_{\min} = \arg \min_i \underline{\text{min}}\{T_i | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$; distribution of T_{\min} ?

$$T_{\min} \sim \underset{i}{\text{wp}} \frac{\lambda_i}{\hat{\sum}_{i=1}^n \lambda_i}$$

clicker question: spreading a rumor



we model rumor spreading among n people using a Markovian model:

- each pair of people (i, j) independently meet after $\text{Exponential}(1/\tau)$ time
- when a person in the know meets someone who is unaware, then the rumor spreads

suppose at time t , there are $N(t)$ people who know the rumor

what is the distribution of the time T after which the number of people in the know increases to $N(t) + 1$?

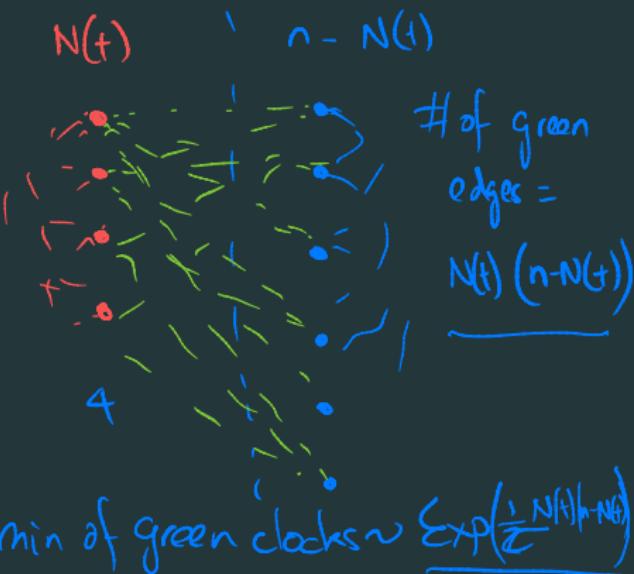
(a) $\text{Exponential}(N(t)/\tau)$

(b) $\text{Exponential}(N(t)\tau)$

(c) $\text{Poisson}(N(t)^2/\tau)$ $\text{Exp}\left(\frac{1}{\tau} N(t)(n - N(t))\right)$

(d) $\text{Exponential}(N(t)^2/\tau)$

(e) $\text{Exponential}(N(t)(N(t) + 1)/2\tau)$



Poisson process cheat sheet

given Poisson processes $X(t) \sim PP(\lambda)$

- (inter-arrival times): let $\{A_1, A_2, A_3 \dots\}$ be the arrival times of the agents; then

$$T_i = A_i - A_{i-1} \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$



- (splitting): suppose we probabilistically split arrivals from $X(t)$ to $Y(t)$ with probability p , else to $Z(t) = X(t) - Y(t)$

$$Y(t) \sim PP(p\lambda) \text{ and } Y(t) \perp\!\!\!\perp Z(t)$$
$$Z(t) \sim PP((1-p)\lambda)$$



- (time-varying rate): a time-varying rate of $\lambda(t) \in [0, \lambda^*]$ is equivalent to a $PP(\lambda^*)$ for which arrivals at time t are thinned with probability $p(t) = \lambda(t)/\lambda^*$

Poisson process cheat sheet (contnd)

$$X_1 + X_2$$

given independent Poisson processes

$$X_1(t) \sim PP(\lambda_1), X_2(t) \sim PP(\lambda_2), X_3(t) \sim PP(\lambda_3)$$



- (superposition): suppose $S(t) = X_1(t) + X_2(t) + X_3(t)$

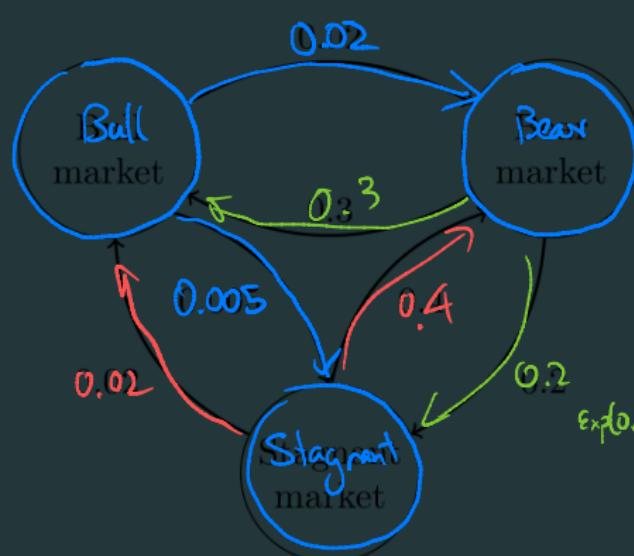
$$S(t) \sim PP\left(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3\right)$$

- (first arrival): let I_{\min} = the identity (i.e., $\{1, 2, 3\}$) of the first arrival among the three processes; distribution of I_{\min} ?

$$I_{\min} \sim i \text{ w.p. } \lambda_i / \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i$$

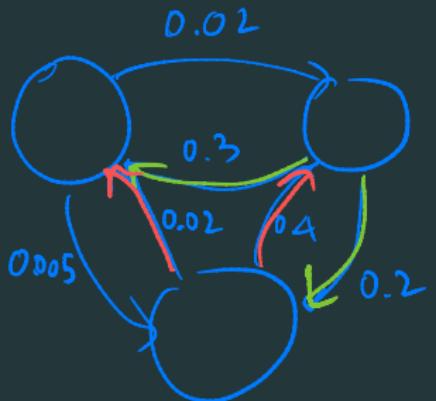
continuous-time Markov chains

CTMC: continuous-time Markov processes on discrete state-space
eg. modeling the financial market in continuous time

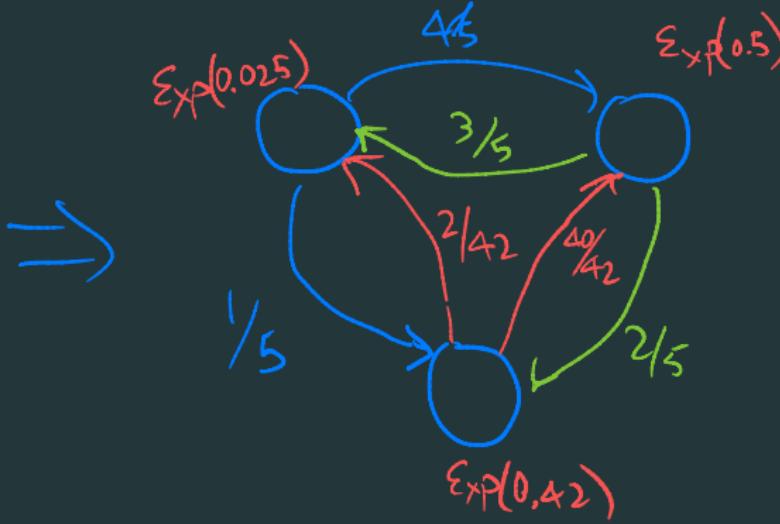


- directed graph on discrete set of nodes (node = state)
- edge weights \equiv rates of expo





CTMC



DTMC

+ holding times

(jump chain)

CTMCs

used as a model for many applications:

- queueing and service systems
- transportation networks
- epidemiology
- communications and computer networks
- agent choice models

advantages

- easy to analyze (in some cases)
- easier to simulate than general discrete-event simulation

problems

- need all inter-event times to be exponentially distributed
- can give spurious insights, hide critical issues

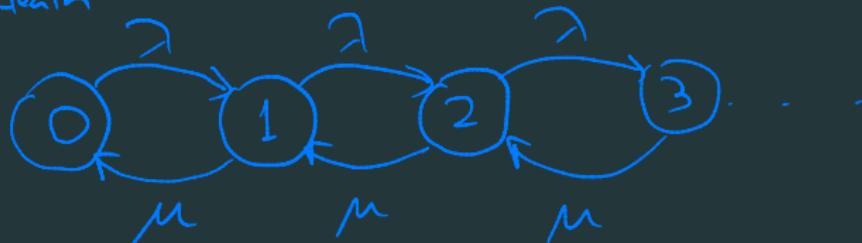
simulating a CTMC

example: queueing

the single-server M/M/1 queue

- number of servers: 1
- capacity: infinite
- service discipline: first-come-first-served (FCFS or FIFO)
- interarrival times: $\text{exponential}(\lambda)$
arrivals
rate
- service times: $\text{exponential}(\mu)$
service
rate
(independent interarrival and service times)

- birth death



example: simulating an M/M/1 queue

- Maintain time T , state $N(T)$, set $N(0) = 0$
- At any state $N(T)$:
 - Advance time to $T + \text{Exp}(\lambda + \mu)$ ($\{N(T) > 0\}$)
(or $T + \text{Exp}(\lambda)$: $\{N(T) = 0\}$)
 - Change state to $\begin{cases} N(T) + 1 & \text{wp } \lambda / (\lambda + \mu) \\ N(T) - 1 & \text{wp } \mu / (\lambda + \mu) \end{cases}$
(if $N(T) > 0$)

example: epidemics

SIS epidemic (SIR, SEIR, ...)

want to model the spread of the latest influenza strain among the population

- there is a population of n people
- at any time t , each person i is either **susceptible** (denoted S or 0) or **infected** (denoted I or 1)
- infected people get cured on average after time τ , becoming susceptible to future infection.
- each pair of people (i, j) independently meet each other with average rate λ
- when a susceptible person meets an infected person, the susceptible person becomes infected
- when two susceptible people or two infected people meet, nothing happens



For each $i=I$

$I \rightarrow S$ transⁿ after $\text{Exp}(\gamma_c)$

For any $i=S$

$I_i(t) = \# \text{ of infected neighbours}$

example: SIS epidemic (contnd)

what assumptions do we need to make this Markovian?

