

# PROBABILITY AND RANDOM VARIABLES

## ASSIGNMENT 2

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Download latex codes from

[https://github.com/VARSHITHAGANJI/AI1103\\_Probability\\_Assignment/blob/main/Assignment2.tex](https://github.com/VARSHITHAGANJI/AI1103_Probability_Assignment/blob/main/Assignment2.tex)

### QUESTION

#### Gate EC Problem 9

Step 1. Flip a coin twice.

Step 2. If the outcomes are (TAILS, HEADS) then output Y and stop.

Step 3. If the outcomes are either (HEADS, HEADS) or (HEADS, TAILS), then output N and stop.

Step 4. If the outcomes are (TAILS, TAILS), then go to Step 1.

The probability that the output of the experiment is Y is (upto two decimal places) ...

### SOLUTION

Given, a fair coin is tossed is tossed two times.

Let's define a Markov chain  $\{X_n, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , where  $X_n \in S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , such that

TABLE 1: States and their notations

| Notation | State            |
|----------|------------------|
| $S = 1$  | getting $\{TT\}$ |
| $S = 2$  | getting output Y |
| $S = 3$  | getting output N |

The state transition matrix for the Markov chain is

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 & 0.25 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad (0.0.1)$$

Clearly, the state 1 are transient, while 2, 3 are absorbing. The standard form of a state transition matrix is

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A & N \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ N \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} I & O \\ R & Q \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad (0.0.2)$$

where, Converting (0.0.1) to standard form, we get

TABLE 2: Notations and their meanings

| Notation | Meaning                  |
|----------|--------------------------|
| $A$      | All absorbing states     |
| $N$      | All non-absorbing states |
| $I$      | Identity matrix          |
| $O$      | Zero matrix              |
| $R, Q$   | Other submatrices        |

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.25 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad (0.0.3)$$

From (0.0.2),

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 \end{bmatrix} \quad (104.5)$$

The limiting matrix for absorbing Markov chain is

$$\bar{P} = \begin{bmatrix} I & O \\ FR & O \end{bmatrix} \quad (0.0.4)$$

where,

$$F = (I - Q)^{-1} \quad (0.0.5)$$

is called the fundamental matrix of  $P$ .

On solving, we get

$$\bar{P} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.33 & 0.17 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad (0.0.6)$$

A element  $\bar{p}_{ij}$  of  $\bar{P}$  denotes the absorption probability in state  $j$ , starting from state  $i$ .

Then, the absorption probability in state 2 (i.e getting output Y) starting from state 1 is  $\bar{p}_{12}$ .

$$\therefore \bar{p}_{12} = 0.33 \text{ (correct upto 2 decimal places)} \quad (0.0.7)$$

### Markov chain diagram

