

Assignment 5

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I. PROBLEM

[Papoulis exercise 15.2]: Consider a Markov chain $\{X_n\}$ with states $e_0, e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m$ and the transition probability matrix

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} q & p & 0 & . & . & . & 0 \\ 0 & q & p & 0 & . & . & 0 \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ 0 & 0 & . & . & . & q & p \\ p & 0 & . & . & . & 0 & q \end{pmatrix}$$

Determine P^n , and the limiting distribution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{x_n = e_k\} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$$

Solution: We have to note that both row sums and column sums are unity in this case. Hence P represents a doubly stochastic matrix here, and

$$P^n = \frac{1}{m+1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & . & . & . & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & . & . & . & 1 & 1 \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ 1 & 1 & . & . & . & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & . & . & . & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{x_n = e_k\} = \frac{1}{m+1}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, m \quad (2)$$