



Markov chain

100A

Xiaowu Dai

Basics

Population

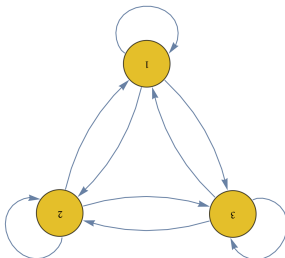
Region

Coin

Markov

Reasoning

Example 5: Random walk over three states



With probability $1/2$, stay. With probability $1/4$, go to either states.

$$K_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i).$$

Markov property: past history before X_t does not matter.





Population migration

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Basics

Population

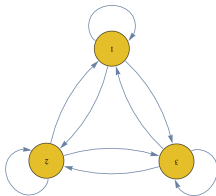
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



With probability $1/2$, stay. With probability $1/4$, go to either of the other two states.

$$K_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i).$$

Forward conditional probability, from cause to effect.

Imagine 1 million people migrating. At each step, for each state, half of the people stay, $1/4$ go to each of the other two states. 1 million trajectories.





Transition matrix

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Basics

Population

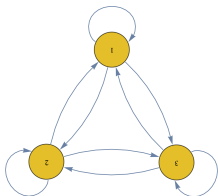
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



With probability $1/2$, stay. With probability $1/4$, go to either of the other two states.

$$K_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i).$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/2 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$





Marginal probability

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Population

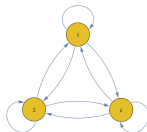
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



With probability $1/2$, stay. With probability $1/4$, go to either of the other two states.

$$K_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i).$$

$$p_i^{(t)} = P(X_t = i).$$

Imagine 1 million people migrating. $p_i^{(t)}$ is the number of people (in million) in state i at time t .

$$\mathbf{p}^{(t)} = (p_1^{(t)}, p_2^{(t)}, p_3^{(t)}).$$





Population migration

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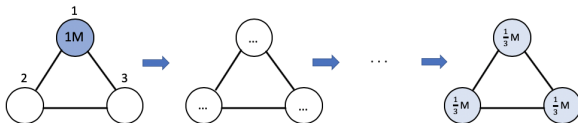
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



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Population migration

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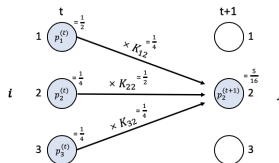
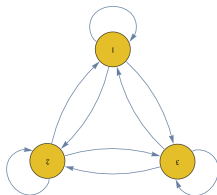
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



$$K_{ij} = P(X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i).$$

$$p_i^{(t)} = P(X_t = i).$$

$$p_j^{(t+1)} = \sum_i p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}.$$

Number of people in state j at time $t + 1$ = sum number of people in state i at time t \times fraction of those in i who go to j .



Stationary distribution

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Basics

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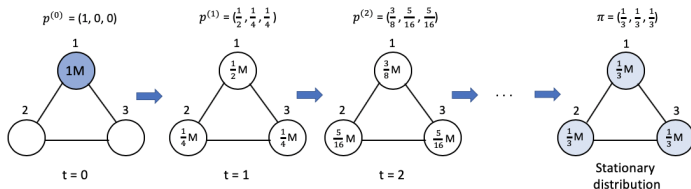
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



$$p_j^{(t+1)} = \sum_i p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}.$$

$$p_i^{(t)} \rightarrow \pi_i.$$

$$\pi_j = \sum_i \pi_i K_{ij}.$$

Stationary distribution, arrow of time.





Matrix multiplication

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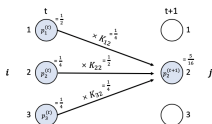
Region

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Example 5: Random walk over three states



$$p^{(t+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} & 5 & \\ 1 & 16 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$i \backslash j$	K		
	1	2	3
1		$\frac{1}{4}$	
2		$\frac{1}{2}$	
3		$\frac{1}{4}$	

$$p_j^{(t+1)} = \sum_i p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}.$$

$$p^{(t+1)} = p^{(t)} K.$$

$$p^{(t)} = p^{(0)} K^t \rightarrow \pi.$$





Diagonalization and eigen-analysis

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Basics

Population

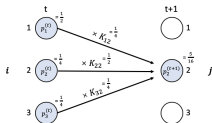
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Example 5: Random walk over three states



$$p^{(t+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} & 5 & \\ & 16 & \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

		K		
$i \backslash j$	1	2	3	
1		$\frac{1}{4}$		
2		$\frac{1}{2}$		
3		$\frac{1}{4}$		

Diagonalization and eigen-analysis: $K = PDP^{-1}$, D diagonal, eigenvalues.

$$K^t = PDP^{-1}PDP^{-1}...PDP^{-1} = PD^tP^{-1}.$$

$$p^{(t)} = p^{(0)}K^t \rightarrow \pi.$$

Largest eigenvalue = 1, $1^t = 1$.

Second largest eigenvalue < 1 , e.g., $.99^t \rightarrow 0$.





Google pagerank

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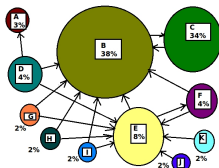
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Example 5: Random walk



$$p_j^{(t+1)} = \sum_i p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}.$$

$$p_i^{(t)} \rightarrow \pi_i.$$

$$\pi_j = \sum_i \pi_i K_{ij}.$$

π_i : proportion of people who are in page i .

Popularity of i depends on the popularities of pages linked to i .





Conditional

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Basics

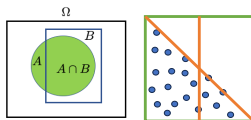
Population

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Reasoning



$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}.$$

(1) Counting population: Randomly sample from subpopulation B (e.g., males).

(2) Counting repetitions: When B happens, how often A happens.

Regular prob is conditional prob: $P(A) = P(A|\Omega)$.

Fixed condition (within the same subpopulation B), conditional prob behaves like regular prob.

e.g., $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$; $P(A^c|B) = 1 - P(A|B)$.





Chain rule

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Basics

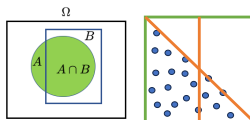
Population

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Reasoning



$$P(A \cap B) = P(B)P(A|B).$$

(1) Counting population: Population proportion of tall males = proportion of males \times proportion of tall among males.

(2) Counting repetitions: B happens 1/2 times. When B happens, A happens 3/4 times. How often A and B happen together?

Generalize to chain of multiple events:

$$P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A \cap B)P(C|A \cap B) = P(A)P(B|A)P(C|A, B).$$

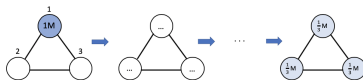
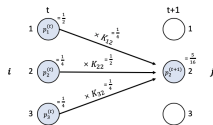




Chain rule and rule of total probability

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Chain rule:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{t+1} = j \cap X_t = i) &= P(X_t = i)P(X_{t+1} = j|X_t = i) \\ &= p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

Rule of total probability:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{t+1} = j) &= \sum_i P(X_{t+1} = j \cap X_t = i). \\ p_j^{(t+1)} &= \sum_i p_i^{(t)} K_{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

Add up probabilities of alternative chains of events.





Marginal, conditional and joint distributions

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Basics

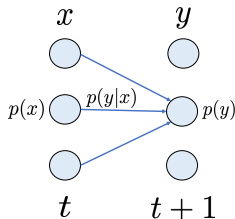
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Marginal: $p_t(x) = P(X_t = x)$, $p_{t+1}(y) = P(X_{t+1} = y)$.

Conditional: Forward $p(y|x) = P(X_{t+1} = y | X_t = x)$.

x : cause, y : effect. $p(y|x)$: cause \rightarrow effect, given or learned.

Joint: $p(x, y) = P(X_t = x, X_{t+1} = y)$.

Chain rule: $p(x, y) = p_t(x)p(y|x)$.

Rule of total probability:

$$p_{t+1}(y) = \sum_x p(x, y) = \sum_x p_t(x)p(y|x).$$

Add up probabilities of alternative chains of events.

