

SSIE 660: Stochastic Systems
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In-class Exercise: Chapters 4 and 5

Key

1. Consider the following transition matrix for states 1, 2, 3, and 4.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & 0 & p & 0 \\ q & 0 & q & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-p & p \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) Find the value of q .

From row 2, we know that $q + q = 1$. Thus, $q = 1/2$.

- (b) Classify the states of the chain. You may wish to consider different values of p . We need to consider three cases: 1) $p=0$, 2) $p = 1$, and 3) $0 < p < 1$.

- i. If $p = 0$, then the transition matrix is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

There are four classes: $\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}$. States 1 and 3 are recurrent, and states 2 and 4 are transient.

- ii. If $p = 1$, then the transition matrix is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

There are two classes: $\{1, 3, 4\}, \{2\}$. States 1, 2, and 3 are recurrent, and state 4 is transient.

- iii. If $0 < p < 1$, then the transition matrix is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & 0 & p & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-p & p \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

There are two classes: $\{1, 3, 4\}$, $\{2\}$. States 1, 2, and 3 are recurrent, and state 4 is transient.

- (c) What is the probability that the chain is in state 4 at the 4th step given that it started in state 2?

$$P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} (1-p)^2 & 0 & 2p(1-p) & p^2 \\ 1/2(1-p) & 0 & 1/2 & .5p \\ p & 0 & (1-p)^2 & (1-p)p \\ 1-p & 0 & p & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus,

$$P_{24}^4 = 0.5(1-p)p^2 + 0.5(p-p^2) = 0.5p(1-p^2)$$

2. At the beginning of each day, a machine is inspected to determine its working condition. The equipment can be found in one of four working conditions indexed by 1, 2, 3, and 4. Working condition i is better than $i+1$, $i = 1, 2, 3$. The equipment deteriorates over time. If the present working condition is i and if no repair is done, then its working condition at the beginning of the next day is j with probability q_{ij} given below.

		j			
		1	2	3	4
i	1	0.75	0.2	0.05	0
	2	0	0.5	0.2	0.3
	3	0	0	0.6	0.4

Working condition 4 represents a malfunction which requires a repair that will restore the machine to working condition 1, at the beginning of the next day. If the machine is found to be working condition 3, then a preventive maintenance is done 60% of the time, which will restore the machine to working condition 1, at the beginning of the next day.

- (a) Define the states and find the one-step transition probability matrix.

The states are the working conditions at the beginning of the day. One step transition matrix is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} .75 & .2 & .05 & 0 \\ 0 & .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .6 & 0 & .24(=.6 * .4) & .16(=.4 * .4) \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) Assume that the machine starts in working condition 1 at the beginning of today ($X_0 = 1$). Then, what is $P[X_3 = 2, X_2 = 1, X_1 = 3]$?

$$P[X_3 = 2, X_2 = 1, X_1 = 3] = P_{12}P_{31}P_{13} = .2 * .6 * .05 = .006.$$

- (c) What is $P[X_4 = 1, X_3 = 4, X_2 = 3 | X_1 = 2]$?

$$P[X_4 = 1, X_3 = 4, X_2 = 3 | X_1 = 2] = P_{41}P_{34}P_{23} = 1 * .16 * .2 = .032.$$

- (d) What is $P[X_4 = 1, X_3 = 2 | X_1 = 2]$?

$$P[X_4 = 1, X_3 = 2 | X_1 = 2] = P_{21}P_{22}^2 = 0$$

3. The demand per day of a certain item follows the probability distribution given below:

Demand	Probability
0	0.2
1	0.5
2	0.3

The ordering policy is as follows: "Order two items, if the inventory at the end of day is 0; otherwise, do not order"

No backorders are allowed. The states of the system are the inventories at the beginning of a day after receipt of ordered quantities.

- (a) Obtain all the one-step transition probabilities, using the information given above.

All the one-step transition probabilities can be represented in the transition probability matrix:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} .2 & .8 \\ .5 & .5 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) You are given the following. $\pi_1 = 0.385$. The carrying cost per day per unit at the end of a day is \$50.00. and the ordering cost per order is \$100.00. What is the long-run expected cost per day consisting of the expected carrying cost per day and the expected ordering cost per day?

$$\pi_2 = 1 - \pi_1 = .615$$

Carrying cost:

$$(1 * (\pi_1 * .2 + \pi_2 * .5) + 2 * (\pi_2 * .2)) * 50 = 31.525$$

Ordering cost:

$$(\pi_1 * .8 + \pi_2 * .3) * 100 = 49.25$$

Total cost per day:

$$31.525 + 49.25 = 80.775$$

4. In a certain system, a customer must first be served by server 1, and then by server 2. The service times at server i are exponential with rate $\mu_i, i = 1, 2$. An arrival finding server 1 is busy waits in line for that server. Upon completion of service at server 1, a customer either enters service with server 2 if that server is free or else remains with server 1 (blocking any other customer from entering service) until server 2 is free. Customers depart the system after being served by server 2. Suppose that you arrive to find two others in the system, one being served by server 1 and one by server 2.

What is the expected total time you spend in the system?

$$E[\text{total time}] = E[\text{waiting time before server 1}] + E[\text{service time at server 1}] + E[\text{waiting time before server 2}] + E[\text{service time at server 2}]$$

$$E[\text{waiting time before server 1}] =$$

$$E[\text{service time for the customer already being served by server 1}] + E[\text{blocking time}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\mu_1} + \frac{1}{\mu_2} * P[\text{server 1 completes before server 2}] = \frac{1}{\mu_1} + \frac{1}{\mu_2} \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2}$$

$$E[\text{service time at server 1}] = \frac{1}{\mu_1}$$

$$E[\text{waiting time before server 2}] = \frac{1}{\mu_2} * P[\text{server 1 completes before server 2}] = \frac{1}{\mu_2} \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2}$$

$$E[\text{service time at server 2}] = \frac{1}{\mu_2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
E[\text{total time}] &= \\
&E[\text{waiting time before server 1}] + E[\text{service time at server 1}] + E[\text{waiting time before} \\
&\text{server 2}] + E[\text{service time at server 2}] = \\
&\frac{1}{\mu_1} + \frac{1}{\mu_2} \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} + \frac{1}{\mu_1} + \frac{1}{\mu_2} \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} + \frac{1}{\mu_2} \\
&= \frac{2}{\mu_1} + \frac{2}{\mu_2} \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} + \frac{1}{\mu_2}
\end{aligned}$$

5. A subway station has both local and express service, on opposite sides of the same platform. Local and express trains arrive independently according to a Poisson process with rates $1/5$ and $1/15$ per minute, respectively. Both trains stop at your destination, with transit times of 17 minutes for a local train and 11 minutes for an express train.

- (a) What is the waiting time distribution until the next local train arrives?

The waiting time distribution follows an exponential distribution with rate λ . Therefore,

$$f_{\text{local}}(t) = \frac{1}{5} e^{-\frac{1}{5}t}$$

- (b) What is the waiting time distribution until the next express train arrives?

$$f_{\text{express}}(t) = \frac{1}{15} e^{-\frac{1}{15}t}$$

- (c) What is the waiting time distribution until the next train (either local or express) arrives?

$$f_{\text{either}}(t) = \left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{15} \right) e^{-(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{15})t} = \frac{4}{15} e^{-\frac{4}{15}t}$$

- (d) What is the probability that the next local train arrives before the express?

$$P[\text{Local} < \text{Express}] = \frac{1/5}{1/5 + 1/15} = \frac{3}{4}$$

- (e) If the next train that arrives is a local, should you board that train or wait for an express, assuming that your objective is to minimize your expected travel time?

$$E[\text{total time for local}] = 17 \text{ min.}$$

$$E[\text{total time for express}] = E[\text{waiting time for express}] + 11 \text{ min} = 1/\lambda_{\text{express}} + 11 \\ = 15 + 11 = 26 \text{ min.}$$

It's better to take a local train.