

Exercise 3.5.2 (a) Let A_n be the wealth of player A at time n . Then we can write $A_n = A_{n-1} + 1$ with probability p and $A_n = A_{n-1} - 1$ with probability $1 - p$. We recognize the Gambler's ruin game as a random walk on $\{0, 1, \dots, 100\}$ with absorbing boundaries. From equation (3.4.2) we can calculate the ruin probabilities as follows; let $u_i = \mathbb{P}(A_n \text{ reaches state 0 before state 100} | A_0 = i)$. Then in our case (as $p \neq 1 - p$) we have

$$u_i = \frac{\left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^i - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^{100}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^{100}}$$

Now, for $i = 50$ and $p = 0.49292929$ we have

$$u_{50} = \frac{\left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{50} - \left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{100}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{100}} = 0.804433$$

For $i = 500$ then our random walk is now over $\{0, 1, \dots, 1000\}$ so we have $n = 1000$ and our equation becomes

$$u_i = \frac{\left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^i - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^{1000}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)^{1000}}$$

In which case for $i = 500$ we have

$$u_{500} = \frac{\left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{500} - \left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{1000}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-0.49292929}{0.49292929}\right)^{1000}} = 0.9999993$$

(b) Following an identical process as above but with $p = 0.5029237$ we have

$$u_{50} = \frac{\left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{50} - \left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{100}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{100}} = 0.3578411$$

$$u_{500} = \frac{\left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{500} - \left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{1000}}{1 - \left(\frac{1-0.5029237}{0.5029237}\right)^{1000}} = 0.002878892$$

Exercise 3.6.4 Let $T = \min\{n \geq 0 : X_n \in \{1, 3\}\}$ and define $v_i = \mathbb{E}[T | X_0 = i]$. Here we have $v_0 = v_3 = 0$. Moreover we see that

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= 1 + 0.7v_2 & v_2 &= 1 + 0.3v_1 & \iff \\ v_1 &= 1 + 0.7(1 + 0.3v_1) & \iff & \frac{79}{100}v_1 = \frac{17}{10} & \iff v_1 = \frac{170}{79} \approx 2.151899 \end{aligned}$$

Now, by the equation proceeding equation (3.5.4) we see that

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{p(1-\theta)} \left[N \left(\frac{1-\theta}{1-\theta^N} \right) - 1 \right]$$

where $N = 3$, $p = 0.7$, $q = 0.3$, and $\theta = \frac{q}{p} = \frac{3}{7}$. With all this we see that

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{7/10 * (1 - 3/7)} \left[3 \left(\frac{1 - 3/7}{1 - (3/7)^3} \right) - 1 \right] = 2.151899$$

Exercise 3.8.1 Let X_n be the number of individuals in generation n and let $\xi_i^{(n)}$ be the number of progeny of individual i from generation n . By assumption, we have $\xi_i^{(n)} = 2$ with probability $1/2$ and $\xi_i^{(n)} = 0$ with probability $1/2$. From here we see that $\mathbb{E}(\xi_i^{(n)}) = 1$ and $\text{Var}(\xi_i^{(n)}) = \mathbb{E}[(\xi_i^{(n)})^2] - \mathbb{E}[\xi_i^{(n)}]^2 = 2 - 1 = 1$. Using this we can define the size of the $n + 1$ generation as the random sum

$$X_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{X_n} \xi_i^{(n)}$$

From here we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X_{n+1}] &= \mathbb{E}[X_n] \mathbb{E}[\xi_1^{(n)}] = \mathbb{E}[X_n] = \dots = \mathbb{E}[X_0] = 1 \\ \text{Var}(X_{n+1}) &= \mathbb{E}[X_n] \text{Var}(\xi_1^{(n)}) + \mathbb{E}[\xi_1^{(n)}]^2 \text{Var}(X_n) \\ &= 1 + \text{Var}(X_n) = 2 + \text{Var}(X_{n-1}) \\ &\vdots \\ &= (n+1) + \text{Var}(X_0) \\ &= n+1 \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is due to the fact that $X_0 = 1$ always. Therefore, $\mathbb{E}[X_n] = 1$ and $\text{Var}(X_n) = n$.

Problem 3.5.2 (a) We begin by interpreting the X_n in terms of T .

$$p_i = \mathbb{P}(X_{n+1} = 0 | X_n = i) = \mathbb{P}(T = i+1 | T > i) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(T = i+1)}{\sum_{n=i+1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(T = n)} = \frac{a_{i+1}}{\sum_{n=i+1}^{\infty} a_n}$$

Moreover, seeing that $X_{n+1} \neq X_n$ $r_0 = 0$ which implies that

$$q_i = 1 - \frac{a_{i+1}}{\sum_{n=i+1}^{\infty} a_n}$$

(b) When we enforce a planned replacement policy, we see that $p_N = 1$ and $q_N = 0$. Now, for $0 \leq i < N$, the process is unaffected by planned replacement policy. That is T is independent of N . Hence, for $0 \leq i < N$ the q_i and p_i are given in (a).

Problem 3.5.5 (a) First note that X_n is a random walk on $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ so $X_n \geq 0$ for all n . Now suppose that $X_0 = k < \infty$. Then $\mathbb{E}|X_n| = \mathbb{E}(X_n) \leq \mathbb{E}(X_0) + n = k + n < \infty$. That is, for each X_n , it has taken at most n ‘steps to the right’ which is still a finite value. Now, for second martingale property we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X_{n+1} | X_n, \dots, X_0] &= \mathbb{E}[1/2(X_{n-1} + 1) + 1/2(X_{n-1} - 1) | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_0] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[1/2X_{n-1} + 1/2X_{n-1}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X_{n-1}] \end{aligned}$$

Having shown these properties we see that X_n is a nonnegative martingale.

(b) Applying the maximal inequality we have

$$\mathbb{P}(\max_{n \geq 0} X_n \geq N) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(X_0)}{N} = \frac{k}{N}$$

As the right side of this inequality is free from n , we have a uniform bound of this quantity for all values in the martingale.

Problem 3.6.7 Let $T = \min\{n \geq 0 : X_n \in \{0, 3\}\}$ and define $v_i = \mathbb{E}[T | X_0 = i]$. Then we have $v_0 = v_3 = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= 1 + 0.7v_2 & v_2 &= 1 + 0.1v_1 \iff \\ v_1 &= 1 + 0.7(1 + 0.1v_1) \iff \frac{93}{100}v_1 = \frac{17}{10} \iff v_1 = \frac{170}{93} \approx 1.827957 \end{aligned}$$

Now using the results from equation (3.6.6) we have

$$v_1 = \frac{\Phi_1 + \Phi_2}{1 + \rho_1 + \rho_2}$$

where $\rho_1 = q_1/p_1$, $\rho_2 = q_1q_2/p_1p_2$, and $\Phi_1 = \frac{\rho_1}{q_1}$, $\Phi_2 = \frac{\rho_2}{q_1} + \frac{\rho_2}{q_1\rho_1}$. Evaluating these quantities, we see that

$$v_1 = \frac{1.428571 + 1.269841}{1 + 0.4285714 + 0.04761905} = 1.827957$$

Problem 3.6.8 Let $T = \min\{n \geq 0 : X_n = 3\}$ and define $u_i = \mathbb{E}[T | X_0 = i]$. Note that $u_3 = 0$. From a first step analysis, we arrive at the system given below

$$\begin{aligned} u_0 &= 1 + \alpha u_0 + \beta u_2 \\ u_1 &= 1 + \alpha u_0 \\ u_2 &= 1 + \alpha u_0 + \beta u_1 \end{aligned}$$

First note that

$$u_0 = 1 + \alpha u_0 + \beta u_2 \iff (1 - \alpha)u_0 = 1 + \beta u_2 \iff \beta u_0 = 1 + \beta u_2 \iff u_0 = 1/\beta + u_2$$

Moreover, we see that

$$u_0 - 1/\beta = u_2 = 1 + \alpha u_0 + \beta u_1 \iff \beta u_0 = 1 + 1/\beta + \beta u_1 \iff 1/\beta + 1/\beta^2 + u_1$$

Lastly writing u_1 in terms of u_0 we have

$$u_0 = 1/\beta + 1/\beta^2 + 1 + \alpha u_0 \iff \beta u_0 = 1/\beta + 1/\beta^2 + 1 \iff u_0 = 1/\beta + 1/\beta^2 + 1/\beta^3$$

Therefore we see that

$$u_0 = \sum_{k=1}^3 \frac{1}{\beta^k}$$

Problem 3.8.3 (a) Let N be the number of children this family has and let S_k be the sex of the k -th child. We will begin by conditioning on the first child's sex.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(N = k) &= \sum_{s=F,M} \mathbb{P}(N = k - 1 | S_1 = s) \mathbb{P}(S_1 = s) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(N = k - 1 | S_1 = M) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(N = k - 1 | S_1 = F)\end{aligned}$$

Now, we note that $N | S_1 = F$ is degenerate 2. That is $\mathbb{P}(N = k - 1 | S_1 = F) = \mathbf{1}_{\{k=2\}}$. In a similar way, we see that $N | S_1 = M \sim \text{Geom}(1/2)$ where $\mathbb{P}(N = k - 1 | S_1 = M) = (1/2)^{k-2}(1/2) = 1/2^{k-1}$. Putting this together, we see that

$$\mathbb{P}(N = k) = \begin{cases} (1/2)^k + 1/2 & k = 2 \\ (1/2)^k & k \geq 3 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 3/4 & k = 2 \\ (1/2)^k & k \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

(b) Let B be the number of boys a family has. Then again, conditioning on the sex of the first child we have

$$\mathbb{P}(B = k) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(B = k - 1 | S_1 = M) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(B = k | S_1 = F)$$

Again notice that $B | S_1 = F$ is $\text{Bern}(1/2)$. That is $\mathbb{P}(B = 1 | S_1 = F) = 1/2$ and $\mathbb{P}(B = 0 | S_1 = F) = 1/2$ and $\mathbb{P}(B = k | S_1 = F) = 0$ for all $k \geq 3$. Moreover, we note that $B | S_1 = M \sim \text{Geom}(1/2)$ so $\mathbb{P}(B = k - 1 | S_1 = M) = (1 - 1/2)^{k-1}(1/2) = (1/2)^k$ for $k \geq 1$. Putting this together we arrive at the following

$$\mathbb{P}(B = k) = \begin{cases} (1/2)^2 & k = 0 \\ (1/2)^{k+1} + (1/2)^2 & k = 1 \\ (1/2)^{k+1} & k \geq 2 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1/4 & k = 0 \\ 1/2 & k = 1 \\ (1/2)^{k+1} & k \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Problem 3.9.3 Here, we introduce terms to see this integral as a Gamma density with parameters $(k + \alpha, \frac{1}{1+\theta})$. Using this, we can derive the distribution as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}p_k &= \int_0^\infty \pi(k|\lambda) f(\lambda) d\lambda = \frac{\theta^\alpha}{k! \Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty e^{-(1+\theta)\lambda} \lambda^{(k+\alpha)-1} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{\theta^\alpha \Gamma(k + \alpha) (\frac{1}{1+\theta})^{k+\alpha}}{k! \Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{1}{\Gamma(k + \alpha) (\frac{1}{1+\theta})^{k+\alpha}} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{\lambda}{1/(1+\theta)}} \lambda^{(k+\alpha)-1} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{\theta^\alpha \Gamma(k + \alpha)}{(1 + \theta)^{k+\alpha} k! \Gamma(\alpha)} = \left(\frac{\theta}{1 + \theta} \right)^\alpha \left(\frac{1}{1 + \theta} \right)^k \frac{\Gamma(k + \alpha)}{k! \Gamma(\alpha)}\end{aligned}$$

We recognize this distribution as a negative binomial with parameters $p = \frac{\theta}{1+\theta}$ and $r = \alpha$