

**THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**Department of Statistics**

**STAT3007: Introduction to Stochastic Processes**  
**Markov Chains - Some Special Examples - Exercises**

1. (Exercise 3.5.8 in Pinsky and Karlin) Consider a discrete-time queuing model in which at most a single customer arrives in any period and at most a single customer completes service. Suppose that in any single period, a single customer arrives with probability  $\alpha$ , and no customers arrive with probability  $1 - \alpha$ . Provided that there are customers in the system, in a single period a single customer completes service with probability  $\beta$ , and no customers leave with probability  $1 - \beta$ . Let  $X_n$  be the number of customers in the system at the end of period  $n$ . Find the transition probability matrix for this Markov chain.
2. (Exercise 3.5.9 in Pinsky and Karlin) In a simplified model of a certain television game show, suppose that the contestant, having won  $k$  dollars, will at the next play have  $k + 1$  dollars with probability  $q$  and be put out of the game and leave with nothing with probability  $p = 1 - q$ . Suppose that the contestant begins with one dollar. Model her winnings after  $n$  plays as a Markov chain by specifying the transition probability matrix.

**THE END**