

$n$ -step transition prob

$$P_{ij}(0, n) = P_{ij}(m, m+n) = P(X_{m+n} = j \mid X_m = i) \\ = P(X_n = j \mid X_0 = i)$$

$$\searrow (P^n)_{ij}$$

$$\mu_i^{(n)} = P(X_n = i)$$

which means that the initial distribution  $\mu^{(0)}$

$$\mu^{(n)} = \mu^{(0)} P^n$$

Let

$$P_i(A) = P(A \mid X_0 = i)$$

$$E_i(X) = E[X \mid X_0 = i]$$

Def: State  $i$  is called **recurrent** if

$$P_i(X_n = i \text{ for some } n \geq 1) = 1$$

if

$$P_i(X_n = i \text{ for some } n \geq 1) < 1 \text{ then}$$

state  $i$  is **transient**

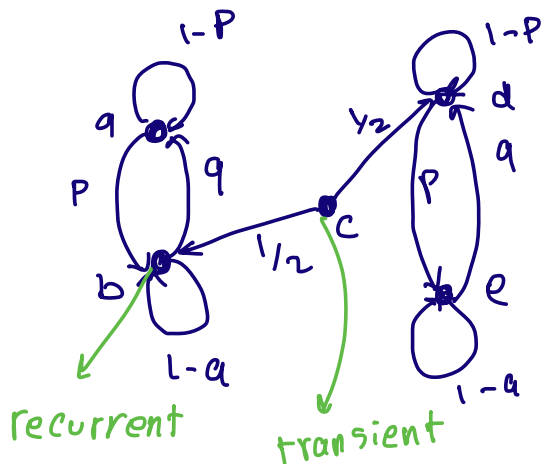
Let

$$f_{ij}(n) = P_i(X_1 \neq j, X_2 \neq j, \dots, X_{n-1} \neq j, X_n = j)$$

So

$$f_{ij} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_{ij}(n)$$

↪ the prob that the chain visits state  $j$  ever if we start from  $i$



Note that a state  $j$  is recurrent iff  $f_{jj} = 1$

we define the generating functions

$$P_{ij}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s^n P_{ij}(n) \quad F_{ij}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s^n f_{ij}(n)$$

$$P_{ij}(0) = P(X_0 = j | X_0 = i) = \delta_{ij}$$

$$f_{ij}(0) = 0$$

Theorem

$$a) P_{ii}(s) = 1 + F_{ii}(s) P_{ii}(s)$$

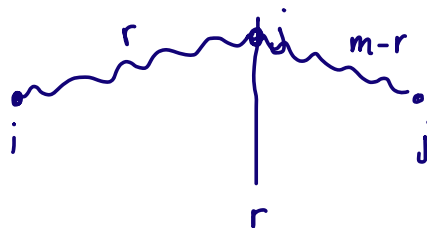
$$b) P_{ij}(s) = F_{ij}(s) P_{jj}(s) \quad \text{if } i \neq j$$

proof: Let  $A_m = \{X_m = j\}$

$$B_m = \{X_r \neq j \text{ for } 1 \leq r < m, X_m = j\}$$

$$P_i(A_m) = \sum_{r=1}^m \underbrace{P_i(A_m \cap B_r)}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ P(A_m | B_r, X_0 = i) P_i(B_r) \\ \text{due to Markov} \\ \parallel \\ P(A_m | B_r) P_i(B_r)}}$$

$$P_{ij}(m) = \sum_{r=1}^m f_{ij}(r) P_{jj}(m-r)$$



multiply by  $s^m$  and sum over  $m \geq 1$  and the property of convolution

$$P_{ij}(s) - \delta_{ij} = F_{ij}(s) P_{jj}(s)$$

Lemma 1: State  $j$  is recurrent if  $\sum_n P_{jj}(n) = \infty$   
 and if this holds then  $\sum_n P_{ij}(n) = \infty$   
 for all  $i$  s.t.  $f_{ij} > 0$

Let's show that  $j$  is recurrent iff  $\sum_n P_{jj}(n) = \infty$

$$P_{jj}(s) = \frac{1}{1 - F_{jj}(s)}$$

As  $s \uparrow 1$  then  $P_{jj}(s) \rightarrow \infty$  iff  $F_{jj}(1) = f_{jj} = 1$

$$\lim_{s \uparrow 1} P_{jj}(s) = \sum_n P_{jj}(n) \rightarrow \infty$$

Lemma 2: if  $j$  is transient  $\sum_n P_{jj}(n) < \infty$  & if this holds  
 then  $\sum_n P_{ij}(n) < \infty$  for all  $i$ .

if  $j$  is transient  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_{ij}(n) = 0$

Let  $N(i)$  : # times we visit state  $i$  if we start from  $i$

$$P(N(i) = \infty) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \text{ is recurrent} \\ 0 & \text{if } i \text{ is transient} \end{cases}$$

Let

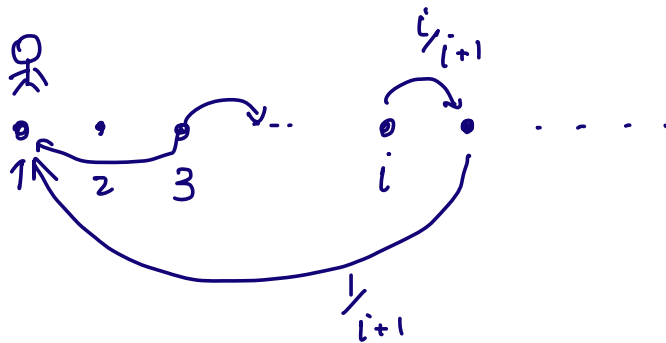
$$T_j = \min \{ n \geq 1, X_n = j \}$$

&  $T_j = \infty$  if this never happens

$P_i(T_i = \infty) > 0$  if  $i$  is transient

$$\mu_i = E_i[T_i] = \begin{cases} \sum_n n \cdot f_{ii}(n) \\ \infty & \text{if } i \text{ is transient} \end{cases}$$

EX:



the prob of not returning to state 1 after  $n$  steps

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} \dots \times \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+1}$$

What is the average time of getting back to 1

$$\sum_n \frac{1}{n(n+1)} \times n = \sum_{n=1} \frac{1}{n+1} \rightarrow \infty$$

Def: for a recurrent state  $i$   $\begin{cases} \text{null} & \mu_i = \infty \\ \text{positive} & \mu_i < \infty \end{cases}$

Theorem: State  $i$  is null recurrent iff  $P_{ii}(n) \rightarrow 0$

The period of a state  $i$ , denoted by  $d(i)$

is  $d(i) = \gcd \{ n : P_{ii}(n) > 0 \}$

we say  $i$  is aperiodic if  $d(i) = 1$