week08-00–financial-market-example

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1 George McNinch Math 87 - Spring 2024

2 Week 7

3 motivating Example: financial markets

4 Financial market example

Consider the state of a financial market from week to week.

- by a *bull market* we mean a week of generally rising prices.
- by a *bear market* we mean a week of generally declining prices.
- by a *recession* we mean a general slowdown of the economy.

Empirical observation shows for each of these three states what the probability of the state for the subsequent week, as follows:

	bull	*bear*	*recession*
followed by bull	0.90	0.15	0.25
followed by bear	0.075	0.80	0.25
followed by recession	0.025	0.05	0.50

In words, the first col indicates that if one has a bull market, then 90% of the time the next week is a bull market, 7.5% of the time the next week is a bear market, and 2.5% of the time the next week is in recession.

4.1 Probabilities

Let's number the weeks we are going to consider $k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$. We can represent the probability that week k is a bull market, a bear market, or in recession using a vector in $\mathbb{R}^3$:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{bull market prob.} \\ \text{bear market prob.} \\ \text{recession prob.} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_k \\ \beta_k \\ \gamma_k \end{bmatrix}$$

We'd like to describe the probabilities describing the next week – i.e. the vector $\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)}$.

Observe that if we *knew for sure* that week k was a bear market, then $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. But then we have more-or-less been told what $\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)}$ is – it must be

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.90 \\ 0.075 \\ 0.025 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In the general case, we see if $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_k \\ \beta_k \\ \gamma_k \end{bmatrix}$, then

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \alpha_k \begin{bmatrix} 0.90 \\ 0.075 \\ 0.025 \end{bmatrix} + \beta_k \begin{bmatrix} 0.15 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.05 \end{bmatrix} + \gamma_k \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 \\ 0.25 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix} = A \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_k \\ \beta_k \\ \gamma_k \end{bmatrix} = A \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(k)}$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.90 & 0.15 & 0.25 \\ 0.075 & 0.80 & 0.25 \\ .025 & 0.05 & 0.50 \end{bmatrix}$$

We want to enter A as a matrix in `python`, and use `numpy` functions to study the iterations.

Of course, with just three states this is fairly straightforward – one just gets a 3×3 matrix. But with more variables, it might be nice to be more systematic. So I wanted to describe a way of using `dictionaries` in `python` to index the probabilities.

The idea is to make a list of the possible states; in this case

`states = ["bull","bear","recess"]`

and to use these states as the row/column index for the information in the resulting matrix.

So we just enter the matrix:

```
A = np.array([[0.90 , 0.15 , 0.25],
              [0.075, 0.80 , 0.25],
              [0.025, 0.05 , 0.50]])
```

and build the dictionary `dict` using the information in `A`.

Note e.g. that if you wanted the entry in A corresponding to "bull then bear", you could do

`A[1,2]`

or

`A[states.index("bull"),states.index("bear")]`

[ ]:
```
import numpy as np

A = np.array([[0.90 , 0.15 , 0.25],
              [0.075, 0.80 , 0.25],
              [0.025, 0.05 , 0.50]])
```

```
states = ["bull","bear","recess"]

A[states.index("bull"),states.index("bear")]
```

Of cours, writing

`A[states.index("bull"),states.index("bear")]`

is a bit clunky…

So let's create the dictionary I mentioned. A dictionary is a collection of `key/value` pairs.

The *keys* to our dictionary will be pairs ("tuples")

`(a,b)` where `a,b` are members of the list `states`.

And the value associated to `(a,b)` will be the probability that state `b` follows state `a`.

The dictionary will be named `prob`, and we'll be able to the probability that a bull market follows a recession as follows:

`prob[("recess","bull")]`

To define `dict`, we'll use:

`{(a,b):A[states.index(a)][states.index(b)] for (a,b) in product(states,states)}`

[ ]:
```
from itertools import product

prob = {(a,b):A[states.index(a)][states.index(b)] for (a,b) in␣
 ↪product(states,states)}

prob
```

[ ]:
```
print("\n".join([f"week of {a:6} ---> week of {b:6}: {prob[(a,b)]}" for (a,b)␣
 ↪in prob.keys()]))
```

[ ]:
```
from graphviz import Digraph

fin = Digraph("financial")

## make the nodes
for a in states:
    fin.node(a)

## make and label the edges
for a,b in prob.keys():
    fin.edge(a,b,f"{prob[(a,b)]}")


fin
```

[ ]:
```python
def sbv(index,size):
    return np.array([1.0 if i == index-1 else 0.0 for i in range(size)])

state_vector = {"bull":sbv(1,3),
                "bear":sbv(2,3),
                "recess":sbv(3,3)}

def state(bull=0,bear=0,recess=0):
    if np.abs(1 - (bull + bear + recess)) < 1e-7:
        return sum([bull*state_vector["bull"],
                    bear*state_vector["bear"],
                    recess*state_vector["recess"]],
                   np.zeros(3))
    else:
        raise Exception("Probabilities must add to 1")

[A @ state_vector["bull"],
 A @ state(bull=1),
 A @ state(bull=.5,bear=.5)]
```

5 Q1

If there is a bear market in week k, what probabilities describe the market state 3 weeks later (i.e. in week $k+3$)?

[ ]:
```python
## we'll need to use the ``matrix_power`` function

from numpy.linalg import matrix_power
```

5.1 Q2

Suppose that in we knew that there was a 50% chance of a recession and a 50% chance of a bear market. What probabilities describe the market state 5 weeks later?

6 Q3

Compute A^50. What do you observe? What about A^100?

Explain what seems to happen to the vector $A^j \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ for large j.

[ ]:
```python
matrix_power(A,50)
```

7 Q4

In the long run, what do you think the probability of a bull market is? Does this probability depend on the starting state of the market?