

Stochastic Processes

Conditional prob.

$$P[A|B] = \frac{P[A \cap B]}{P[B]}$$

$$\underbrace{P[A \cap B]}_{A \perp\!\!\!\perp B} = P[B] \cdot P[A|B]$$

$$A \perp\!\!\!\perp B \quad P[A \cap B] = P[B] \cdot P[A]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{if}}{\Downarrow} \quad P[A|B] = P[A]$$

r.v.

$$X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\omega \mapsto X(\omega) \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\boxed{T \times \Omega \longrightarrow X(t, \omega) \in \mathbb{R}}$$

Time
↓
Prob.
Space

$$(t, \omega) \mapsto X(t, \omega)$$

$$t \mapsto X_t(\omega)$$

↑
 $[0, +\infty)$

$$T = \mathbb{N}$$

discrete time stochastic processes

$$(X_1(\omega), X_2(\omega), X_3(\omega), \dots, X_n(\omega), \dots)$$

$$T = [0, +\infty)$$

continuous time stoch. process.
 $t \mapsto X_t(\omega)$

$$(t, \omega) \mapsto X_t(\omega) (= X(t, \omega))$$

fix $t \in T$

$$\omega \mapsto X_t(\omega)$$

random variable

fix $\omega \in \Omega$

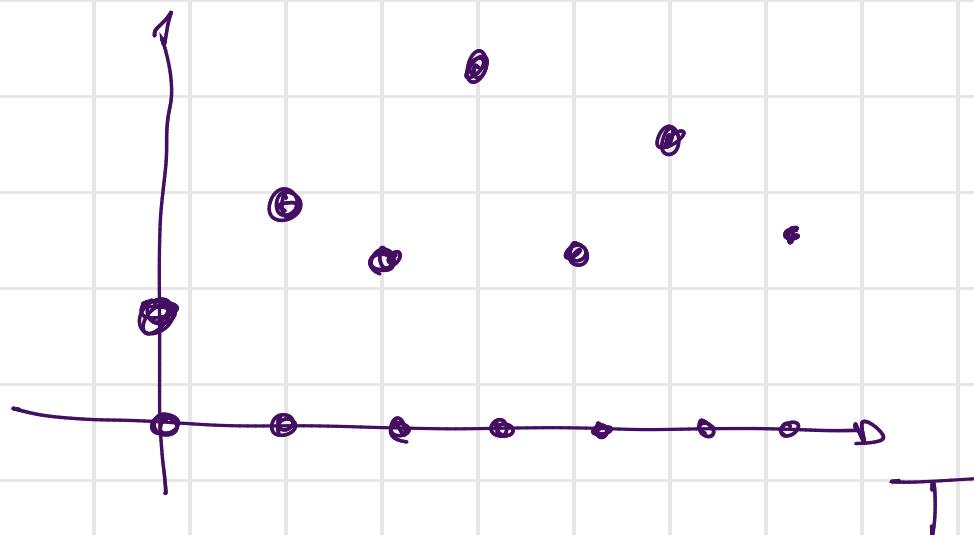
path

$$t \mapsto X_t(\omega)$$

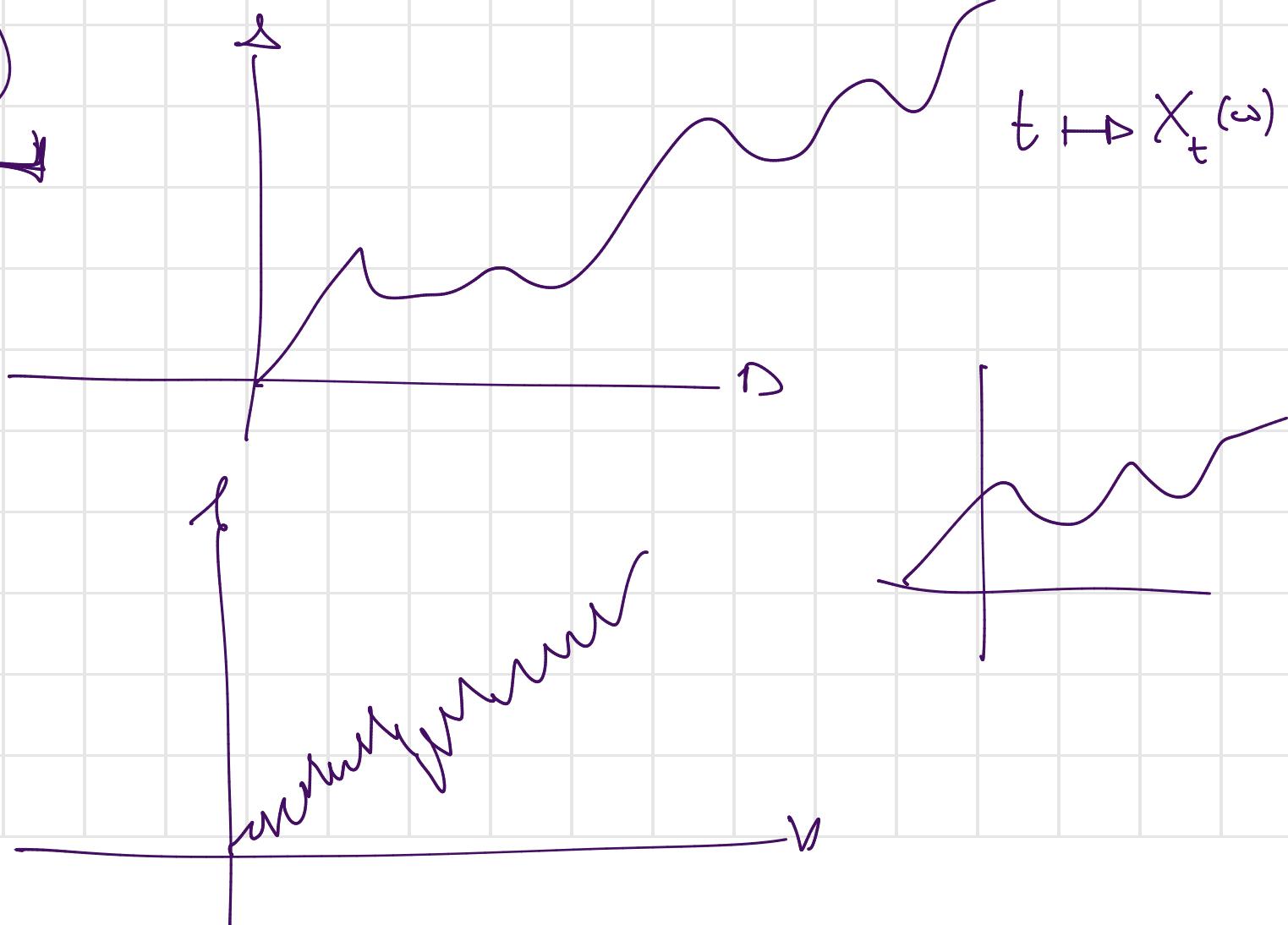
fix $=$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

fix ω



$$T = [0, +\infty)$$



$T = \mathbb{N}$

discrete time stochastic process

$$\mathbb{N} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Discrete time

Markov

chains

$T = \mathbb{N}$

dependence

x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots

$$X_1 : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow S$$

$$X_2$$

S is finite or
at most countable

$\{0, \dots, n\}$

\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}

$$\mathbb{N} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow S$$

discrete set

$x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$

$$P[X_i = k]$$

$\forall k \in S$

$i \in \mathbb{N}$

(x_0, \dots, x_n)

$$P[x_0 = x_0, x_1 = x_1, \dots, x_n = x_n] =$$

$(x_0, \dots, x_n) \in S^{n+1}$

$$\mathbb{P}[X_0 = x_0, X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n] = \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_0 = x_0]}_{\text{Markov property}} \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_1 = x_1 | X_0 = x_0]}_{\text{Markov property}}$$

$$\cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_2 = x_2 | X_0 \neq x_0, X_1 = x_1]}_{\text{Markov property}} \cdot \mathbb{P}[X_3 = x_3 | X_0 \neq x_0, X_1 \neq x_1, X_2 = x_2]$$

$$\dots \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_n = x_n | X_0 \neq x_0, X_1 \neq x_1, \dots, X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}]}_{\text{Markov property}}$$

$$= \mathbb{P}[X_0 = x_0] \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_1 = x_1 | X_0 = x_0]}_{\text{Markov property}} \cdot \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_2 = x_2 | X_1 = x_1]}_{\text{Markov property}} \dots \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_n = x_n | X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}]}_{\text{Markov property}}$$

Fix the notation: $X_m^n = (X_m, X_{m+1}, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n)$

$$m < n$$

Definition: A Markov Chain is a sequence

$(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of random variables, taking values in a finite or countable set S s.t.

$$\forall x_0^{n+1} \in S^{n+1} \quad \left(x_0^{n+1} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \right)$$

and $n \geq 1$

$$\mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | \underbrace{X_0^n = x_0^n}_{\text{Markov property}}] = \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n]}_{\text{Markov property}}$$

This last property is called **Markov property**.

S is called the state space of the MC.

The conditional probabilities

$$P[X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n]$$

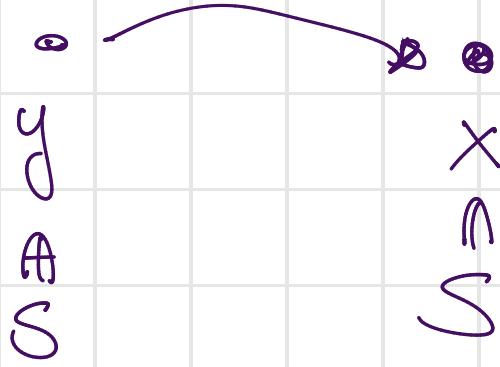
are called the (1-step) transition probabilities.

The complete law of the Markov Chain can be obtained if we know the transition probabilities and the initial distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} P[X_0 = x_0] &= P[X_n = x | X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}] \cdot \\ &\quad \times P[X_{n-1} = x_{n-1} | X_{n-2} = x_{n-2}] \cdot \\ &\quad \vdots \\ &\quad \times P[X_1 = x_1 | X_0 = x_0] \cdot \\ &\quad \times P[X_0 = x_0] \end{aligned}$$

We say that a MC is homogeneous (in time)

if the transition probabilities $P[X_n = x_n | X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}]$
do not depend on n . x_n, x_{n-1}



$y, x \in S$

$$P_{y|x} := P[X_n = x | X_{n-1} = y]$$

homog. MC.

$$P[X_0^n = x_0^n] = P_{x_{n-1}, x_n} \cdot P_{x_{n-2}, x_{n-1}} \cdots P_{x_0, x_1} \cdot d_{x_0}$$

$$d_{x_0} = P[X_0 = x_0]$$

$$P := (P_{y|x})_{y, x \in S}$$

is called the transition matrix

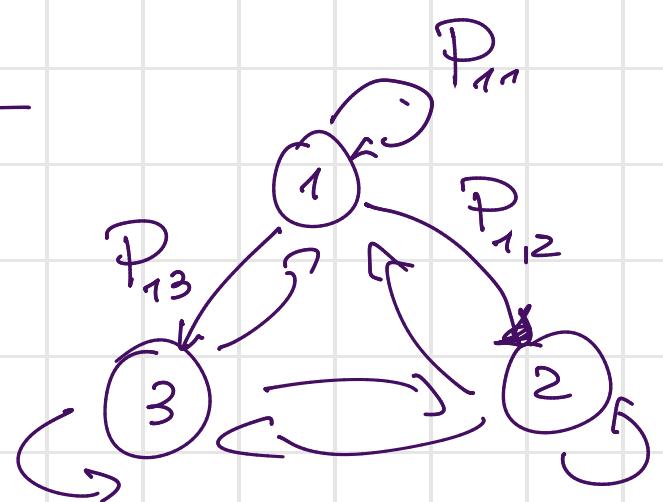
→ if $|S| < +\infty$, this is a square matrix $|S| \times |S|$

→ if $|S| = +\infty$, P is a generalized matrix

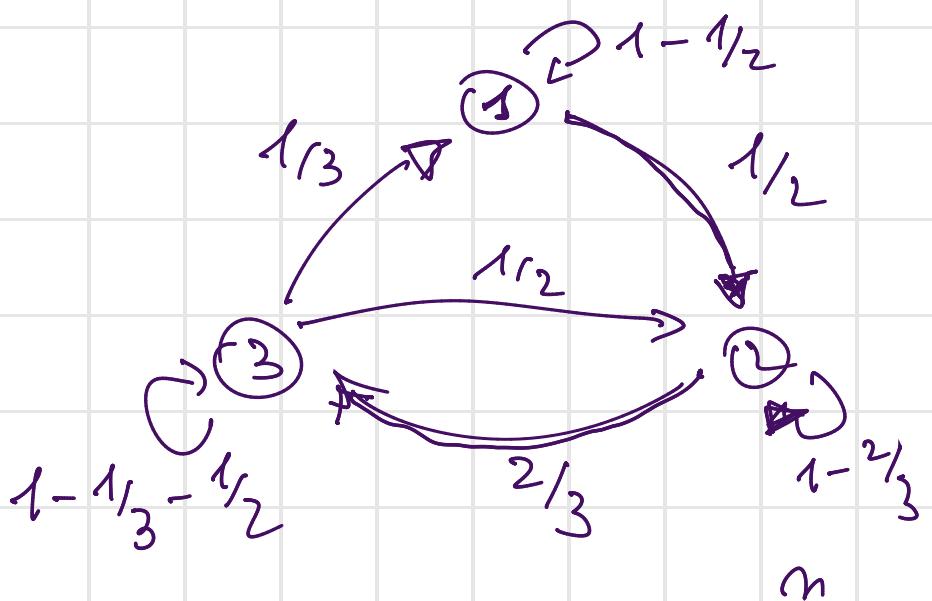
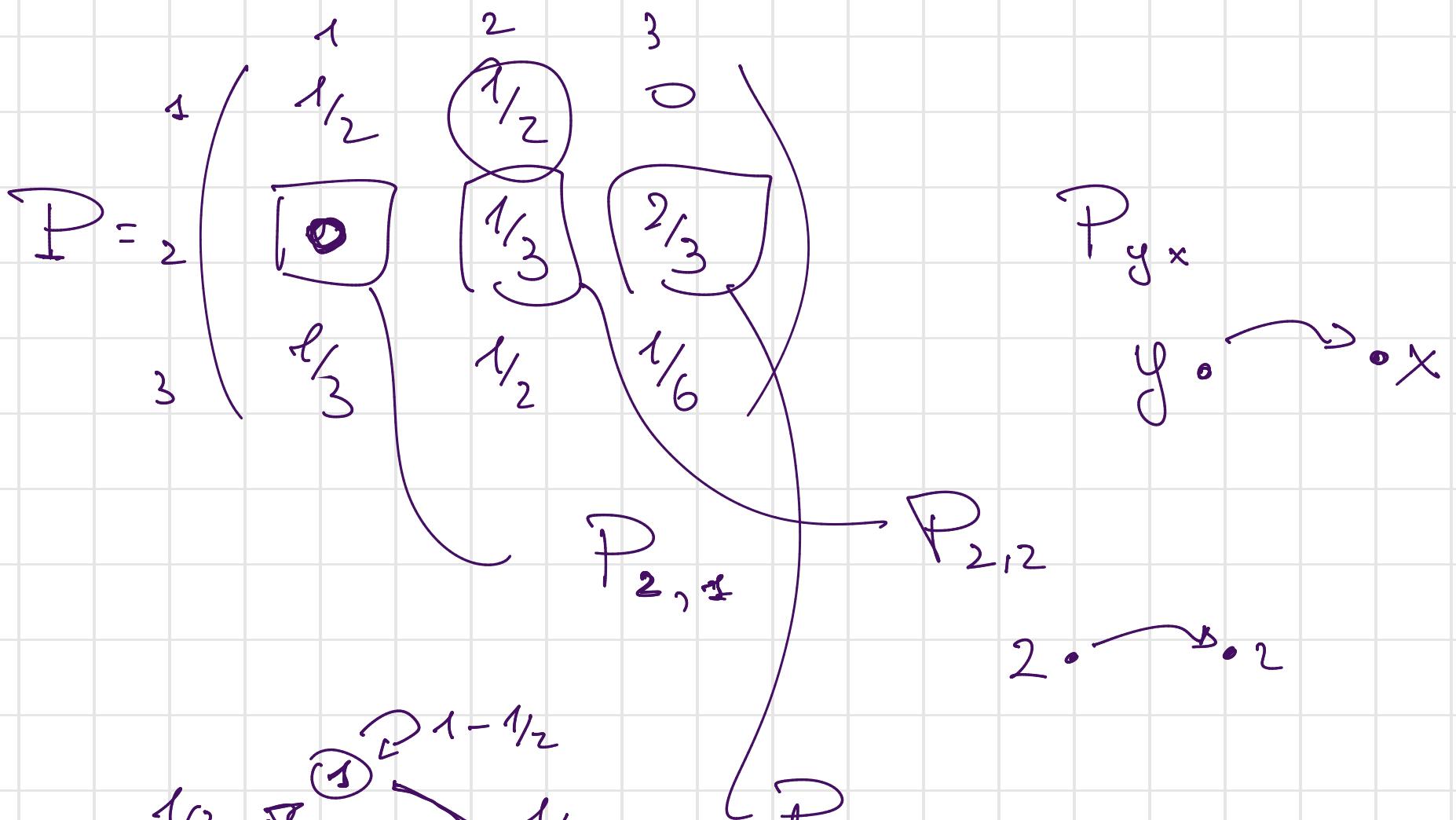
Example

$$S = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$P = (P_{y|x})_{y, x \in S}$$



$$P_{1,x} \quad x = 1, 2, 3$$



B

$$A \rightarrow P[A | \beta]$$

is a prob.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P[X_u=1 | X_{u-1}=1] + P[X_u=2 | X_{u-1}=1] \\
 & + P[X_u=3 | X_{u-1}=1] = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1/3 & 2/3 \\ 1/2 & 1/6 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$P = (P_{yx})_{y, x \in S}$ is a Stochastic Matrix

$$\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_{yx} \geq 0 \quad \forall y, x \\ \sum_{x \in S} P_{yx} = 1 \quad \forall y \in S \end{array} \right.$$

Example : X_0 - S valued r.v. indep. of ϵ

sequence of iid (U_1, U_2, \dots) r.v.'s

$f: S \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S$ be a map

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_1 = f(X_0, U_1) \\ X_2 = f(X_1, U_2) \\ \vdots \\ X_{n+1} = f(X_n, U_{n+1}) \\ \vdots \end{array} \right.$$

$(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots)$

This is a S-valued
Markov Chain!!

$$P[X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} \mid X_n = x_n, X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}, \dots, X_0 = x_0]$$

$X_{n+1} = f(X_n, U_{n+1})$

$$= P[f(X_n, U_{n+1}) = x_{n+1} \mid X_n = x_n, X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}, \dots]$$

$$= P[f(x_n, U_{n+1}) = x_{n+1} \mid X_n = x_n, \cancel{X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}}, \dots]$$

↓

U_{n+1} $U_n, U_{n-1}, \dots, U_1, X_0$

$$= P[f(x_n, U_{n+1}) = x_{n+1}]$$

$$= P[X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} \mid X_n = x_n]$$

YES, this
is \approx H.C.

Random Walk

Example

Gambler's Ruin model

$$S = \{0, 1, \dots, n\} \in$$

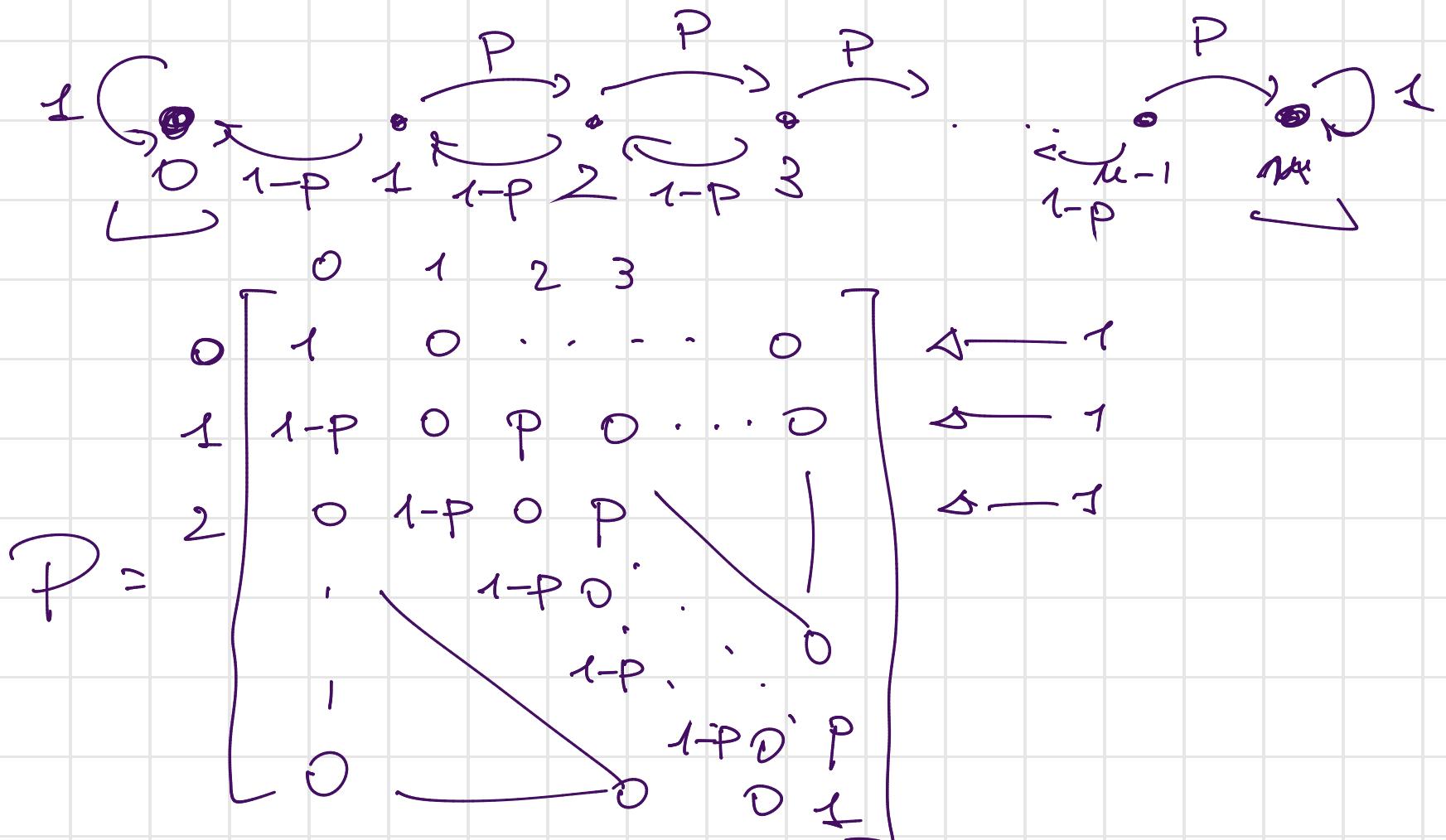
1	K	€
2	n-K	€

$U_i = \begin{cases} +1 & P \\ -1 & (1-P) \end{cases}$
 win $\rightarrow 1$
 lose -1

1

$$X_0 = k, X_1 = X_0 + U_1, X_2 = X_0 + U_1 + U_2 = X_1 + U_2$$

$$\dots X_{n+1} = X_n + U_{n+1}$$



Chapman - Kolmogorov equation

$$P_{y|x}^{n+m} = P[X_{n+m} = x \mid X_0 = y]$$

$$= \sum_{z \in S} P[X_{n+m} = x, \underbrace{X_n = z}_{\text{fixed}} \mid X_0 = y]$$

$$\underbrace{P[A \cap B]}_{\text{independent}} = P[A|B] \cdot P[B]$$



$$= \sum_{z \in S} P[X_{n+m} = x \mid X_n = z, \cancel{X_0 = y}] \cdot \cancel{P[X_n = z \mid X_0 = y]}$$

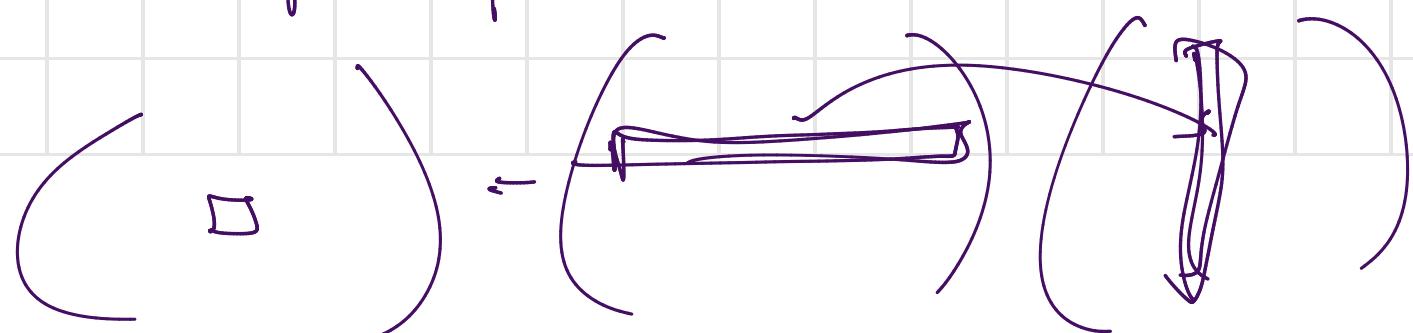
Markov property

$$\underbrace{P_{y|x}^{n+m}}_{\text{independent}} = \sum_{z \in S} P_{zx}^m \cdot P_{yz}^m =$$

$$= \sum_{z \in S} P_{yz}^n \cdot P_{zx}^m \quad (S \subset \mathbb{N})$$

$$\boxed{P^{n+m} = P^n \cdot P^m}$$

C-k equation
matrix product



Remark

$$\underbrace{P_{y_x}^2}_{=} = \underbrace{\mathbb{P}[X_{n+2} = x \mid X_n = y]}_{= (\underbrace{P, P}_{\sim})_{y_x}} \quad (\underbrace{P^2}_{\sim})_{y_x}$$

$$(\underbrace{P^2}_{\sim})_{y_x} =$$

$$(P)$$

$$(P)$$

$$(\underbrace{P^2}_{\sim})_{y_x} \neq (\underbrace{P_{y_x}}_{\sim})^2$$

the entry y_x of
the matrix P^2

the square
of the entry
 y_x of P

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/3 & 2/3 \\ 1/3 & 1/6 & 1/6 \end{bmatrix}$$

($P_{j|x}$)

$$P_{32}^2$$

$$P^2 = P \cdot P$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(1/2)^2 = (P_{32})^2$$