

# Problem Set 4

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13FEB2020

## Problem 1

Let  $X_n$  be a Markov chain with the state space  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  and initial distribution  $\pi = (0.2, 0.5, 0.3)$  and the transition probability matrix:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0.1 & 0.6 \\ 0.4 & 0.4 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0.7 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

### (a) $P(X_1 = 2)$

What is the probability that the state is 2 in 1 step. Since  $t=1$  we just need to take:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_i = j) &= \sum_i \pi^{t-1} \cdot P^t(i, j) \\ P(X_1 = 2) &= \sum_i \pi^0 \cdot P^1(i, 2) \\ &= [0.2 \quad 0.5 \quad 0.3] \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= 0.28 \end{aligned}$$

```
p <- matrix(c(0.3,0.4,0.1,0.1,0.4,0.7,0.6,0.2,0.2) , ncol = 3)
pi <- matrix(c(0.2,0.5,0.3),ncol = 1)
p_2 <- p[,3]
t(pi) %*% p_2
```

```
##      [,1]
## [1,] 0.28
```

### (b) $P(X_2 = 2)$

What is the probability that the state is 2 in step 2. Since  $t=2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_i = j) &= \sum_i \pi^{t-1} \cdot P^t(i, j) \\ P(X_2 = 2) &= \sum_i \pi^1 \cdot P^2(i, 2) \\ &= [0.2 \quad 0.5 \quad 0.3] \begin{bmatrix} 0.32 \\ 0.36 \\ 0.24 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= 0.316 \end{aligned}$$

```
p <- matrix(c(0.3,0.4,0.1,0.1,0.4,0.7,0.6,0.2,0.2) , ncol = 3)
pi <- matrix(c(0.2,0.5,0.3),ncol = 1)
p2 <- p %*% p
as.matrix(p2)
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 0.19 0.49 0.32
## [2,] 0.30 0.34 0.36
## [3,] 0.33 0.43 0.24
```

```
p2_2 <- p2[,3]
t(pi) %*% p2_2
```

```
##      [,1]
## [1,] 0.316
```

### (c) $P(X_3 = 2 | X_0 = 0)$

What is the probability that the state is 2 in three steps given that step 0 is 0. By theorem 1 in the notes: The  $m$ -step transition probability  $P(X_{n+m} = j | X_n = i)$  is the  $(i,j)$ th element of the  $m$ th power of  $P$ . So we want  $P_{0,2}^3 = 0.276$

```
p <- matrix(c(0.3,0.4,0.1,0.1,0.4,0.7,0.6,0.2,0.2) , ncol = 3)
pi <- matrix(c(0.2,0.5,0.3),ncol = 1)
p3 <- p %*% p %*% p
as.matrix(p3)
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 0.285 0.439 0.276
## [2,] 0.262 0.418 0.320
## [3,] 0.295 0.373 0.332
```

(d)  $P(X_0 = 1 | X_1 = 2)$

The process is reversible since there are no zeros in the transition matrix. So we just need the  $P_{2,1}^1 = 0.4$

(e)  $P(X_1 = 1, X_3 = 1)$

What is the probability that X is 1 in 1 step and X is 1 in 3 steps. We just need the  $P_{1,1}^2 = 0.19$

## Problem 2

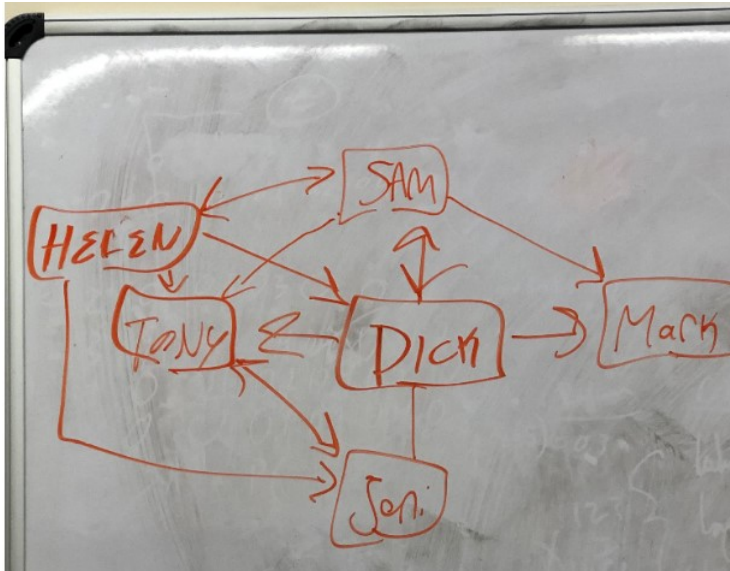
Okay so there are 3 umbrellas. Let  $X_n$  be the number of umbrellas at the place where Ella arrives after walk  $n$ . It rains with probability  $p$ . To help me walk through this  $X_{n-1}$  is the place of ella's departure on walk  $n$ . We have the transition probability matrix of:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & (1-p) & p \\ 0 & (1-p) & p & 0 \\ (1-p) & p & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This makes sense because (for example) 3 goes to 0 if it isn't raining, and 3 goes to 1 if it is raining. We can say that this Markov chain is irreducible and aperiodic and we see that  $(0,3)$  is recurrent so that will be the limiting distribution. That works out for us since if Ella gets to a point where all of her umbrellas are at the arrival she won't have an umbrella for her departure. To get the limiting probability we will have to apply the limiting probability matrix s.t.  $\pi_3 \cdot P_{i,3} = \pi_i$ . Also note that there are 3  $(1-p)$ s and 3  $p$ s so in order for the  $\pi_i = 1$  then we multiply by  $p$  to because it needs to rain on the day that there are no umbrellas so  $\pi_0 p = \frac{1}{(1-p)+3} \cdot p$

## Problem 3

(Joni, Tony) are irreducible since they can both throw to each other. It is also recurrent and absorbing since they only throw to themselves. (Mark) is also an absorbing set. Everyone but Mark (Dick, Helen, Joni, Sam, Toni) are transient since once you leave that group the ball is gone. To find the probability that Mark will end up with the ball we solve  $\pi_j = \sum_i P(i,3) \pi_i$ . By finding the limiting matrix and taking the 4th element of that matrix I was able to find the probability of Mark ending up with the ball given Dick starts with it is 0.4.



throw	Catch	Dick	Helen	Joni	Mark	Sam	Tony
	Dick	0	0	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
	Helen	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25	0.25
	Joni	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Mark	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sam	0.25	0.25	0	0.25	0	0.25
	Tony	0	0	1	0	0	0

text

## Problem 4

Consider a general Chain with state space  $S = \{1, 2\}$  and write the ransition probability as

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} (1-a) & a \\ b & (1-b) \end{bmatrix}$$

Use the Markov Property to show that:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{n+1} = 1) - \frac{b}{a+b} &= (1-a-b)\{P(X_n = 1) - \frac{b}{a+b}\} \\ P(X_{n+1} = 1) &= P(X_{n+1} = 1|X_n = 1) \cdot P(X_n = 1) + P(X_{n+1} = 1|X_n = 2) \cdot P(X_n = 2) \\ &= (1-a) \cdot P(X_n = 1) + b \cdot P(X_n = 2) && \text{def} \\ &= (1-a) \cdot P(X_n = 1) + b \cdot (1 - P(X_n = 1)) && \text{axiom 5 (mod1)} \\ &= (1-a-b) \cdot P(X_n = 1) + b \\ P(X_{n+1} = 1) - \frac{b}{a+b} &= (1-a-b) \cdot P(X_n = 1) + b - \frac{b}{a+b} \\ &= (1-a-b) \cdot P(X_n = 1) - \frac{b-b(a+b)}{a+b} \\ &= (1-a-b)\{P(X_n = 1) - \frac{b}{a+b}\} \\ P(X_n = 1) &= \frac{b}{a+b} + (1-a-b)\{P(X_n = 0) - \frac{b}{a+b}\} && \text{theorem 1} \end{aligned}$$