

3. Consider a Markov chain  $\{X_n : n \geq 0\}$  with state space  $S = \{0, 1, 2\}$  and transition matrix

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) Find all probability distributions  $\pi$  on  $S$  such that  $\pi = \pi P$ .  
 (b) Given an initial distribution  $X_0 \sim \mu_0$  on  $S$ , find a formula for  $\mu_n = (P(X_n = 0), P(X_n = 1), P(X_n = 2))$  in terms of  $n$ .  
 (c) Does  $\mu_n$  converge to a distribution on  $S$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

a)  $\pi$  is a left eigenvector with eigen value of 1

Since  $(I - P)^T = I - P$  by inspection,

$(\pi(I - P))^T = (I - P)^T \pi^T = (I - P) \pi^T \Rightarrow \pi^T$  is a right eigenvector of  $P$  with eigenvalue of 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \pi^T = 0 \Rightarrow \pi = \frac{1}{3} [1 \ 1 \ 1] \text{ by inspection}$$

b)  $\mu_n = \mu_{n-1} P = \mu_{n-2} P^2 = \dots = \mu_0 P^n$

c) (%i16) P:matrix([1/2, 1/2, 0],[1/2, 0, 1/2],[0, 1/2, 1/2]);

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

(%i39) eigenvectors(P);

$$(\%o39) \left[ \left[ \left[ 1, -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), \frac{1}{2} \right], [1, 1, 1] \right], \left[ [1, 1, 1], [1, -2, 1], [1, 0, -1] \right] \right]$$

(%i47) V:transpose(matrix([1,1,1],[1,-2,1],[1,0,-1]));

V1:invert(V);

L:matrix([1,0,0],[0,-1/2,0],[0,0,1/2]);

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{6} & -\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P^n = V \Lambda^n V^{-1}$$

$$= V \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & (-\frac{1}{2})^n & \\ & & (\frac{1}{2})^n \end{bmatrix} V^{-1}$$

$$\lim P^n = V \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_0 P^n = \mu_0 \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} [|\mu_0|, |\mu_0|, |\mu_0|]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} [1, 1, 1]$$

$|\mu_0|_1 = 1$  since it is stochastic

This is a uniform distribution

4. Consider the setup of the "Gambler's ruin" chain:  $\{S_n : n \geq 0\}$  is a simple random walk on  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$  with transition probabilities  $p_{i,i+1} = p$ ,  $p_{i,i-1} = q = 1 - p$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N-1\}$  and absorbing states  $\{0, N\}$ . Recall that  $P_i(\cdot) = P(\cdot | S_0 = i)$  and

$$T = \inf\{n \geq 0 : S_n \in \{0, N\}\}.$$

Compute  $E_i[S_T]$  and  $E_i[T]$  for each  $i \in \{0, \dots, N\}$ .

$$E_i[S_T] = 0P_i(S_T=0) + NP_i(S_T=N)$$

$$= N(1 - P_i(S_T=0))$$

From class  $P_i(S_T=0) = \begin{cases} \frac{1 - (p/q)^{N-i}}{1 - (p/q)^N} & p \neq \{0, 1/2, 1\} \\ 1_{i \neq N} & p = 0 \\ 1_{i=0} & p = 1 \\ 1 - \frac{i}{N} & p = 1/2 \end{cases}$

$$E_i[S_T] = \begin{cases} N - N \frac{1 - (p/q)^{N-i}}{1 - (p/q)^N} & p \neq \{0, 1/2, 1\} \\ 0 & p = 0 \\ 0 & p = 1 \\ i & p = 1/2 \end{cases}$$

$p \neq 1/2$

$$S_T = S_0 + \sum_{i=1}^T X_i$$

$$E[S_T] = E[S_0 + \sum_{i=1}^T X_i]$$

$$= E[S_0] + E[\sum_{i=1}^T X_i]$$

$$E[X_i] = 1p + (-1)(1-p)$$

$$= 2p - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= E[S_0] + E_i \left[ \sum_{i=1}^T X_i \right] \\
&= i + E_i[T] E_i[X_i] \quad \text{By Wald's lemma given} \\
&= i + E_i[T] (2p-1) \quad \text{By iid}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{E_i[S_T] - i}{2p-1} = E_i[T]$$

$$\boxed{p = 1/2} \quad f(i) = \frac{1}{2}(f(i+1) + f(i-1)) + 1 \quad f(i) = E_i[T]$$

$$f(i+1) - 2f(i) + f(i-1) = -2 \quad f(0) = 0 = f(N)$$

Characteristic eq for homogeneous solution is

$$r^2 - 2r + 1 = 0$$

$$(r-1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow f_h(i) = A + B_i$$

-2 is a constant so  $f_p(i) = C i^2$

$$C(i+1)^2 - 2C i^2 + C(i-1)^2 = -2$$

$$C(\cancel{i^2} + \cancel{2i} + 1) - 2\cancel{C i^2} + C(\cancel{i^2} - \cancel{2i} + 1) = -2$$

$$2C = -2 \Rightarrow C = -1 \Rightarrow f_p(i) = -i^2$$

$$f(i) = f_h(i) + f_p(i) = A + B_i - i^2$$

$$f(0) = 0 = A + 0 - 0^2 \Rightarrow A = 0$$

$$f(N) = 0 = BN - N^2 \Rightarrow B = N$$

$$f(i) = N i - i^2$$

$$\therefore E_i[T] = \begin{cases} \frac{N - N \frac{1 - (p/q)^{N-i}}{1 - (p/q)^N}}{2p-1} & p \neq \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\} \\ N i - i^2 & p = 1/2 \\ 0 & p \in \{0, 1\} \end{cases}$$

$$p \neq \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\}$$

$$p = 1/2$$

$$p \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\dots \begin{cases} \frac{1 - (1/4)^n}{2p-1} \\ N_i = i^2 \\ 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{aligned} p &\notin \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\} \\ p &= \frac{1}{2} \\ p &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

5. You have a coin for which the chance of heads is  $p \in (0, 1)$ . Find the expected number of tosses of this coin needed to see three consecutive heads using the following steps.

- (a) You flip the coin repeatedly. Let  $\{X_n : n \geq 0\}$  be the Markov chain on state space  $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  where  $X_n$  gives the number of consecutive heads you've seen immediately after the  $n$ th toss, and where you stop after you see three in a row. For example,  $X_0 = 0$ , and if the sequence of flips is  $HTHHH$  then  $X_1 = 1$ ,  $X_2 = 0$ ,  $X_3 = 1$ ,  $X_4 = 2$ , and  $X_n = 3$ ,  $n \geq 5$ . Find the transition matrix of this chain.
- (b) Let  $\tau = \inf\{n \geq 0 : X_n = 3\}$ . Use a "first-step analysis" to write down a difference equation with boundary value for  $f(i) = E_i[\tau]$  and solve it to find  $E_0[\tau]$ .

a) Note, 3 is an absorbing state  
so last row is  $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1]$

For  $0 \leq i \leq 2$

$p_{i0} = 1-p$  since we can always start over with a tails

$p_{01} = p_{12} = p_{23} = p$  because we need a heads to move forward with chance of  $p$

Thus

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & p & 0 & 0 \\ 1-p & 0 & p & 0 \\ 1-p & 0 & 0 & p \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

b)  $f(i) = E_i[\tau] = 1 + P f(i) \quad f(3) = 0$

$$f(0) = 1 + (1-p)f(0) + pf(1)$$

$$f(0) = \frac{1+pf(1)}{p}$$

$$f(2) = 1 + (1-p)f(0) + pf(3) = 0$$

$$f(2) = 1 + (1-p) \frac{1+pf(1)}{p}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1+pf(1)}{p} - 1 - pf(1)$$

$$f(1) = 1 + (1-p)f(0) + pf(2)$$

$$= 1 + (1-p) \frac{1+pf(1)}{p} + 1 + pf(1) - p^2 f(1)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1+pf(1)}{p} - 1 - pf(1) + 1 + pf(1) - p^2 f(1)$$

$$= \frac{1+pf(1)}{p} + 1 - p^2 f(1)$$

$$0 f(1) = 1 + 0 f(1) + 0 - 0^3 f(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 1 + \frac{1 + pf(1)}{p} - 1 - pf(1) \\
 &= \frac{1 + pf(1) - p^2 f(1)}{p}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{p} + 1 - p + (1) \\
 pf(1) &= 1 + pf(1) + p - p^3 f(1) \\
 f(1) &= \frac{1+p}{p^3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(0) &= \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1+p}{p^3} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(1) &= \frac{1+p}{p^3} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p^3} + \frac{1}{p^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(2) &= \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1+p}{p^3} - \frac{1+p}{p^2} \\
 &= \cancel{\frac{1}{p}} + \frac{1}{p^3} + \cancel{\frac{1}{p^2}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{p^2}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{p}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p^3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_0[\tau] = f(0) = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^3}$$