

a) the probability that the object is in A at time $t \geq 0$?

A B C

Initial Probability: $P_0 = [1, 0, 0]$

$$t \geq 0 \quad P_A = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ t=1}}{P} \times \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ t=2}}{P} \times \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ t=3}}{P} \times \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ t=4}}{P} \times \dots = P^n \Rightarrow \boxed{P(A) = P^n!}$$

c) The probability the object 1st reaches B at time $n \geq 1$?

$$P_B = (1-p) \times P_{(n-1)} \quad \rightarrow \text{at } n=0, P_B = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{n=1 \quad P_B = (1-p) \times P(A) = (1-p) \times 1 = 1-p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n=2 & \quad P_B = P_{(n-1)} \times q = (1-p) \times q \\ n=3 & \quad P_B = P_{(n-1)} \times q = (1-p) \times q^2 \\ & \quad \vdots \\ & \quad \boxed{P_B = (1-p) \times q^n} \end{aligned}$$

c) The probability that the object is in B at time $n \geq 1$?

$$n=1 \quad P_B = 1-p$$

$$n=2 \quad P_B = P_{n-1} \times q = (1-p) \times q$$

$$n=3 \quad P_B = P_{n-1} \times q = (1-p) \times q^2$$

$$n=k \quad P_B = (1-p) \times q^{k-1}$$

d.) The probability that the object first reaches C at time $n \geq 2$

$$n=0 \quad P_0 = [1, 0, 0] \quad \rightarrow \quad n=1 \quad P_1 = (1-p) \times 1$$

$$n=2 \quad P_2 = (1-p) \times (1-q)$$

$$n=3 \quad P_3 = P(C) \times P_{(n-1)} = (1-p)(1-q) \times 1$$

$$\boxed{n=4 \quad P_4 = (1-p)(1-q)}$$