



# Stochastic Network Modeling (SNM)

Discrete Time  
Markov Chains  
(DTMC)

Definition of a  
DTMC

Transient  
Solution

Classification  
of States

Steady State

Reversed Chain

Reversible  
Chains

Research  
Example: Aloha

Finite  
Absorbing  
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## Stochastic Network Modeling (SNM)

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### Parts

- I Introduction
- II Discrete Time Markov Chains (DTMC)
- III Continuous Time Markov Chains (CTMC)
- IV Queuing Theory



## Part II

# Discrete Time Markov Chains (DTMC)

### Outline

- Definition of a DTMC
- Transient Solution
- Classification of States
- Steady State
- Reversed Chain
- Reversible Chains
- Research Example: Aloha
- Finite Absorbing Chains

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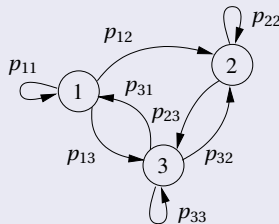
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# Definition of a DTMC

## State Transition Diagram

- We are interested in a **process that evolve in stages**.
- For the model to be tractable, it is convenient to represent the SP by giving all **possible states** (there may be  $\infty$ ), and the **possible transitions** between them:



For the model to be consistent:

$$\sum_j p_{ij} = 1$$

- Mathematically:

$$p_{ij} = P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$$



# Definition of a DTMC

## Properties of a DTMC

- The event  $X(n) = i$  (at step  $n$  the system is in state  $i$ ) must satisfy (**memoryless property**):

$$P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i, X(n-2) = k, \dots) = \\ P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$$

- If  $P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i) = P(X(1) = j \mid X(0) = i)$  for any  $n$  we have an **homogeneous** DTMC. We shall only consider homogeneous DTMC.
- We call **one-step transition probabilities** to:

$$p_{ij} = P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$$

- The SP is called a Markov Process (MP) or Markov Chain (MC) depending on the state being continuous or discrete.



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## Transition Matrix

- Transition probabilities:

$$p_{ij} = P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$$

- In matrix form:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \cdots \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$



## Definition of a DTMC

## Transition Matrix

- We have

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \cdots \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } p_{ij} = P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$$

- For the model to be consistent, the probability to move from  $i$  to any state must be 1. Mathematically:

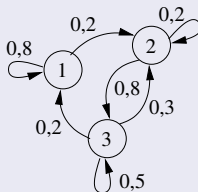
$$\sum_j p_{ij} = \sum_j P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i) = \sum_j \frac{P(X(n-1) = i \mid X(n) = j) P(X(n) = j)}{P(X(n-1) = i)} = \frac{P(X(n-1) = i)}{P(X(n-1) = i)} = 1$$

- $\mathbf{P}$  is a **stochastic matrix**, i.e. a matrix which rows sum 1.

## Definition of a DTMC

## Example

- Assume a terminal can be in **3 states**:
  - State 1: Idle.
  - State 2: Active without sending data.
  - State 3: Active and sending data at a rate  $\nu$  bps.



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{to state} \\
 \mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0,8 & 0,2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0,2 & 0,8 \\ 0,2 & 0,3 & 0,5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text{from} \\ \text{state} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

- The **average transmission rate** (throughput),  $\nu_a$ , is:

$$\nu_a = P(\text{the terminal is in state 3}) \times \nu$$

# Definition of a DTMC

## Discrete Time Markov Chains (DTMC)

### Definition of a DTMC

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#### Properties of a DTMC

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#### Absorbing Chains

#### n-step transition probabilities

#### State Probabilities

#### Chapman-Kolmogorov Equations

#### Sojourn or Holding Time

#### Transient Solution

#### Classification of States

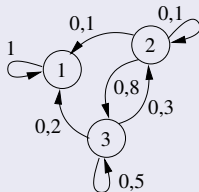
#### Steady State

#### Reversed Chain

#### Reversible Chains

## Absorbing Chains

- It is possible to have chains with **absorbing states**.
- A state  $i$  is absorbing if  $p_{ii} = 1$ .
- Example: State 1 is absorbing.



$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \text{to state} \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{from state} \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0,1 & 0,1 & 0,8 \\ 0,2 & 0,3 & 0,5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$





## Definition of a DTMC

## n-step transition probabilities

- Transition probabilities:  $p_{ij} = P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i)$
- In matrix form:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \cdots \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$

- We define the **n-step** transition probabilities:

$$p_{ij}(n) = P(X(n) = j \mid X(0) = i)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11}(n) & p_{12}(n) & \cdots \\ p_{21}(n) & p_{22}(n) & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix}$$

- $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{P}(n)$  are **stochastic matrices**: Their rows sum 1.



# Definition of a DTMC

### Discrete Time Markov Chains (DTMC)

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### State Probabilities

- Define the probability of being in state  $i$  at step  $n$ :

$$\pi_i(n) = P(X(n) = i)$$

- In vector form (row vector)

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = (\pi_1(n), \pi_2(n), \dots) = (P(X(n) = 1), P(X(n) = 2), \dots).$$

- Thus, the vector  $\boldsymbol{\pi}(n)$  is the distribution of the random variable  $X(n)$ , and it is called the **state probability at step  $n$** .



## Definition of a DTMC

## State Probabilities

- State probability:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = (\pi_1(n), \pi_2(n), \dots) = (P(X(n) = 1), P(X(n) = 2), \dots).$$

- Law of total prob.  $P(A) = \sum_n P(A \cap B_n) = \sum_n P(A|B_n)P(B_n)$ :

$$\pi_i(n) = \sum_k P(X(n-1) = k) P(X(n) = i \mid X(n-1) = k) = \sum_k \pi_k(n-1) p_{ki}$$

$$\pi_i(n) = \sum_k P(X(0) = k) P(X(n) = i \mid X(0) = k) = \sum_k \pi_k(0) p_{ki}(n)$$

- In matrix form:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(n-1) \mathbf{P}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}(n)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\pi}(0)$  is the **initial distribution**.



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## State Probabilities

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(n-1) \mathbf{P}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}^n$$

- Iterating

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(n-1) \mathbf{P} = \boldsymbol{\pi}(n-2) \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P} = \boldsymbol{\pi}(n-3) \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P} = \cdots = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}^n$$

- Thus:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}^n = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}^n$$



## Definition of a DTMC

## Chapman-Kolmogorov Equations

$$p_{ij}(n) = \sum_k p_{ik}(r) p_{kj}(n-r)$$

• **Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} p_{ij}(n) &= P(X(n) = j \mid X(0) = i) = \sum_k P(X(n) = j, X(r) = k \mid X(0) = i) \\ &= \sum_k \frac{P(X(n) = j, X(r) = k, X(0) = i)}{P(X(0) = i)} \times \frac{P(X(r) = k, X(0) = i)}{P(X(r) = k, X(0) = i)} \\ &= \sum_k P(X(n) = j \mid X(r) = k, X(0) = i) P(X(r) = k \mid X(0) = i) \\ &= \sum_k P(X(n) = j \mid X(r) = k) P(X(r) = k \mid X(0) = i) \\ &= \sum_k p_{ik}(r) p_{kj}(n-r) \end{aligned}$$

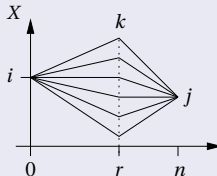


# Definition of a DTMC

## Chapman-Kolmogorov Equations

$$p_{ij}(n) = \sum_k p_{ik}(r) p_{kj}(n-r)$$

- Graphical interpretation:



- In matrix form:

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \mathbf{P}(r) \mathbf{P}(n-r)$$



# Definition of a DTMC

## Chapman-Kolmogorov Equations

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \mathbf{P}(r) \mathbf{P}(n-r)$$

- Particularly:

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \mathbf{P}(1) \mathbf{P}(n-1) = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}(n-1) = \mathbf{P}(n-1) \mathbf{P}$$

- Iterating:

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \mathbf{P}^n$$

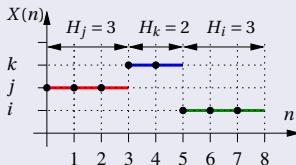
- Thus:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}(n) = \boldsymbol{\pi}(0) \mathbf{P}^n$$

# Definition of a DTMC

## Sojourn or Holding Time

- Sojourn** or **holding time** in state  $k$ : Is the RV  $H_k$  equal to the number of steps that the chain remains in state  $k$  before leaving to a different state:



- The Markov property implies:

$$H_i(n) = P(H_i = n) = p_{ii}^{n-1} (1 - p_{ii}), n \geq 1$$

- Which is a **geometric** distribution with mean:

$$E[H_i] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n P(H_i = n) = \frac{1}{1 - p_{ii}}.$$





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### Sojourn or Holding Time

- NOTE: We allow that:

$$p_{ii} = 0 \Rightarrow H_i(n) = I(n = 1) = \begin{cases} 1, & n = 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}, \text{ and}$$

$$p_{ii} = 1 \Rightarrow E[H_i] = \infty \text{ (absorbing state)}.$$



# Definition of a DTMC

## Theorem

*A stochastic process is a DTMC if and only if the sojourn times are geometrically distributed.*

## Proof.

- We have seen that a DTMC has a sojourn time

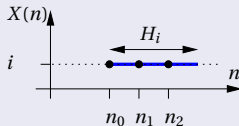
$$H_i(n) = P(H_i = n) = p_{ii}^{n-1} (1 - p_{ii}), n \geq 1$$

- Which is **geometrically** distributed.
- We need to prove that the geometric distribution satisfies the memoryless property (aka Markov property).



# Definition of a DTMC

## The geometric distribution satisfies the Markov property (1)



### Proof

- Markov property:

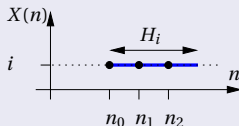
$$P(X(n_2) = i \mid X(n_1) = i, X(n_0) = i) = P(X(n_2) = i \mid X(n_1) = i)$$

- Thus, the Markov property **in terms of the sojourn time** can be written as:

$$P(H_i > n_2 - n_0 \mid H_i > n_1 - n_0) = P(H_i > n_2 - n_1)$$

# Definition of a DTMC

## The geometric distribution satisfies the Markov property (2)



$$P(H_i > n_2 - n_0 \mid H_i > n_1 - n_0) = P(H_i > n_2 - n_1)$$

- Since

$$P(H_i > k) = 1 - P(H_i \leq k) = 1 - \sum_{n=1}^k p^{n-1}(1-p) = 1 - (1-p) \frac{1-p^k}{1-p} = p^k$$

- We have:

$$P(H_i > n_2 - n_0 \mid H_i > n_1 - n_0) = \frac{P(H_i > n_2 - n_0, H_i > n_1 - n_0)}{P(H_i > n_1 - n_0)} =$$

$$\frac{P(H_i > n_2 - n_0)}{P(H_i > n_1 - n_0)} = \frac{p^{n_2 - n_0}}{p^{n_1 - n_0}} = p^{n_2 - n_1} = P(H_i > n_2 - n_1) \quad \square$$