



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
Chains

Stochastic Network Modeling (SNM)

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Parts

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- 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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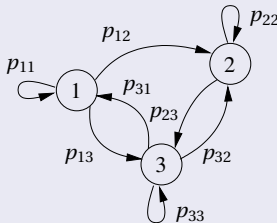
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Definition of a DTMC

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 ∞), 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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probabilities

State Probabilities

Chapman-Kolmogorov
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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:

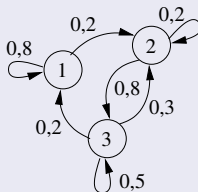
$$\sum_j p_{ij} = \sum_j P(X(n) = j \mid X(n-1) = i) = \sum_j \frac{P(X(n-1) = i \mid X(n) = j) P(X(n) = j)}{P(X(n-1) = i)} = \frac{P(X(n-1) = i)}{P(X(n-1) = i)} = 1$$

- \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 ν bps.



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

- The **average transmission rate** (throughput), ν_a , is:

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

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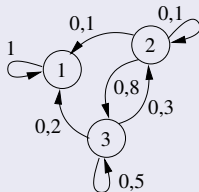
Steady State

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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.



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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**.