

IISER Pune - Course Content

Semester	AUG 2025
Open to Semester	5,7,9,11,31,33
Course Code	DS3324
Course title	Markov Chain and its Application
Nature of Course	LE - Lecture
Credit	4
Coordinator and participating faculty (if any)	Dr. Anup Biswas
Pre-requisites	None
Objectives	This course is intended to introduce elementary probability theory and stochastic processes – without Kolmogorov's mathematical model of probability theory. Only the aspects related to the distributions or laws of random variables and Markov chains will be discussed. It will be helpful for students who want to see the applications of probability theory in fields such as genetics, engineering, management science, physical and social sciences, and operation research. Special emphasis is given to topics of discrete and continuous time Markov chain
Course content	<p>Preliminary notions: Discrete and continuous distributions in one dimension, Expectation of a distribution using the distribution function. Independence of events and distributions. Conditional distribution: Multi-dimensional distribution, Conditional expectation of one component given the realizations of others, Conditional probability, Baye's theorem Applications: Uniform priors, Poly's urn model, Bose-Einstein statistics, the k-record values of discrete random variables. Markov chain - Discrete Time: Chapman Kolmogorov equations, classification of states, limiting probabilities, Applications – Gambler's ruin problem, Branching processes, time reversible Markov chain. The exponential distribution and the Poisson process: counting processes, interarrival and waiting time distribution, conditional distribution of arrival times, non-homogeneous</p>

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	<p>Poisson process. Continuous-time Markov chain: explosions, Reuter's criteria for non-explosions, Kolmogorov's backward and forward equations, Birth and death processes, limiting probabilities, and time reversibility. Queueing theory: a single server exponential queueing system, queueing system with bulk service, open/closed system, the system M/G/1.</p>
Evaluation / Assessment	Quiz 30%, Mid Sem 30%, End sem 40%
Suggested readings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. William Feller, An introduction to the probability theory and its applications, Volume 1, Wiley India. 2. Sheldon M. Ross, Introduction to probability models, Academic Press. 3. Geoffrey R. Grimmett and David R. Stochastic processes, Oxford University press. 4. Dimitri P. Bertsekas and John N. Tsitsiklis, Introduction to Probability, Athena Scientific. 5. Introduction to Stochastic Processes: P. G. Hoel, S. C. Port and C.J. Stone (1986) Waveland Press Inc.
When Next	Not Known
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