

## Q1. Markov Chain

(a) Transition matrix  $Q$

$$\text{State} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

Transition Probabilities:

From state 1 :  $P(1 \rightarrow 1) = 0.5$

$$P(1 \rightarrow 2) = 0.5$$

From state 2:

$$P(2 \rightarrow 1) = 0.25$$

$$P(2 \rightarrow 3) = 0.75$$

From state 3:

$$P(3 \rightarrow 3) = 0.75$$

$$P(3 \rightarrow 4) = 0.25$$

From state 4:

$$P(4 \rightarrow 3) = 0.25$$

$$P(4 \rightarrow 4) = 0.75$$

Now

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0 & 0.75 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.75 & 0.25 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.25 & 0.75 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Recurrent & transient states:

① State 1 & 2

- $1 \leftrightarrow 2$  (they communicate with each other)
- From state 1, you can return to state 1
- From state 2, you can return to state 2 via state 1.
- Thus, states 1 & 2 form a recurrent class.



(2) State 3 & 4

- $3 \leftrightarrow 4$  (they can communicate)
- From state 3, you can return to state 3.
- From state 4, you can return to state 4.
- ~~From~~ Thus, states 3 & 4 are recurrent

(c) Stationary distribution

Stationary distribution satisfies:  $\pi(1) = \pi$  &  $\sum \pi_i = 1$

(1) For recurrent class {1, 2, 3}

let  $\pi_1$  &  $\pi_2$  be probabilities for state 1 & 2

eqns

$$\pi_1 = 0.5\pi_1 + 0.25\pi_2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\pi_2 = 0.5\pi_1 + 0\pi_2 \Rightarrow \boxed{\pi_2 = 0.5\pi_1} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

By substitution from (2) in (1)

$$\pi_1 = 0.5\pi_1 + 0.25 \times 0.5\pi_1 \Rightarrow \pi_1 = 0.625\pi_1$$

⇒  $\pi_1 = 0$  [this isn't valid].

We note that:

$$\boxed{\pi_1 + \pi_2 = 1}$$

$$\boxed{\pi_2 = 0.5\pi_1}$$

Adding the above 2 ⇒

$$\boxed{\pi_1 = \frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\boxed{\pi_2 = \frac{1}{3}}$$

Thus, one stationary distribution is:

$$\boxed{\pi^{(1)} = \left( \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 0, 0 \right)}$$

Similarly, for recurrent class

$$\pi_3 = 0.75\pi_3 + 0.25\pi_4$$

$$\pi_4 = 0.25\pi_3 + 0.75\pi_4$$

$$\text{as } \pi_3 + \pi_4 = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{\pi_3 = \pi_4 = 0.5}$$



$$\pi(1) = (0, 0, 0.5, 0.5)$$

(Q3)

Cat chain:

Cat moves 2 rooms (~~Room 1~~ & Room 2)

It moves to other room with probability 0.8, & it stays in the same room with probability 0.2.

long-run

$\pi_c(1) =$  ~~the~~ probability, cat is in room 1

$$\pi_c(2) = 1 - \pi_c(1)$$

Transition matrix  $P_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.8 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$

Stationary distribution  $\pi_c = [\pi_1, \pi_2]$

$$\pi_c P_c = \pi_c, \quad \pi_1 + \pi_2 = 1$$

from eq/s:

$$\pi_1 = 0.2\pi_1 + 0.8\pi_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\pi_1 = \pi_2 = 0.5}$$

$$\pi_c = [0.5, 0.5]$$

Mouse distribution

$$\pi_m = [\pi_1, \pi_2]$$

$$P_m = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.3 \\ 0.6 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\pi_1 = 0.7\pi_1 + 0.6\pi_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \pi_m = \left[ \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right]$$

$$\pi_1 + \pi_2 = 1$$

(b) 4 possible joint states;  $(1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2)$

Let  $Z_n$  be the joint state of (cat room, mouse room)

$\Rightarrow Z_n$  is a Markov chain with 4 states, as transition to next state depends on previous one.

Q5(a)

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Is the stock price recurrent?

We model this as a Markov chain with discrete steps

$$120 + 0.01 \times k, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- (i) 0.10 probability of moving up by 0.01
- (ii) 0.85 probability of staying at current price
- (iii) 0.05 probability of moving down by 0.01

This is a random walk with a bias upward because the upward movement probability (0.10) is greater than downward movement probability (0.05). Since the walk is on an infinite countable space with ~~as~~ asymmetric transition probabilities.

The chain isn't symmetric; positive drift.

Ans: Stock price isn't recurrent. It is transient.



(b) A stationary distribution for a Markov chain exists only if the chain is positive recurrent.

Since, chain is "transient" the ~~stock~~ stock tends to drift upward indefinitely.

~~##~~ No, a stationary distribution doesn't exist.

(c) American Option Simulation

Stock touches ₹130 (Strike price = 125) before 1:00 pm  
profit = 5

(10:00 am to 1:00 pm)

Time = 3 hrs = 10800 seconds

Step size = 5 seconds  $\Rightarrow$  No of steps =  $\frac{10800}{5} = 2160$

Starting price = ₹120

Target price = ₹130

Each step Up with probability = 0.1 (75c ₹0.01)  
Same with probability = 0.85  
Down with probability = 0.05