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Math 225 lecture 5 sept 15th 2023

Goal: Students should be able to list characteristics of a Markov matrix, probability vector, and steady state vector. In addition to being able to find a steady state vector.

Class Q: What makes a vector "steady state" for a Markov process?

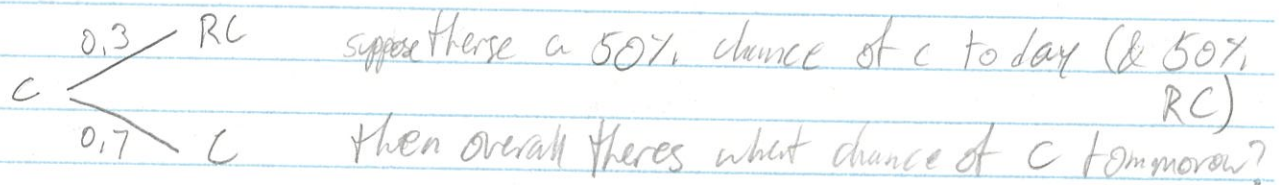
application of diagonalization, Markov process

Ex: this time of year its cold (C) or really colder (RC)

lets assume C today means tomorrow will be C 70% of the time & RC the other 30%.

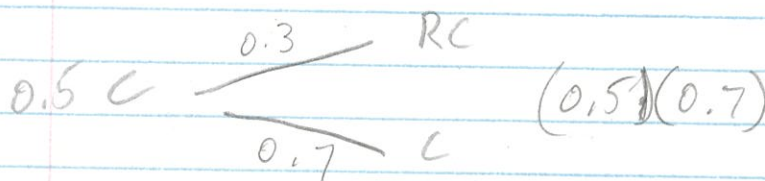
similarly if RC today tomorrow will be C 20% of the time and RC the other 80%.

visually if its C today what is the weather tomorrow?



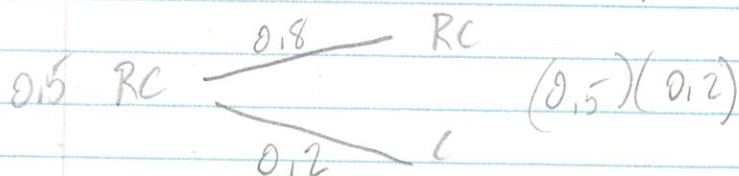
today

tomorrow



+

= 0.45 or 45% chance of C tomorrow



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There must be a better way! use linear algebra

let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$ this is a "Markov matrix" i.e. a square matrix with entries ≥ 0 and whose columns sum to one

Notation: a vector $V = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ \vdots \\ p_n \end{bmatrix}$ is called a probability vector

if i) $p_i \geq 0$ ii) $p_1 + \dots + p_n = 1$ meaning a Markov matrix is a matrix with columns which are probability vectors.

let $V_0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ be the initial probabilities. (i.e. prob of weather today $x_1\%$, C $x_2\%$, B)

$A V_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3x_1 + 0.2x_2 \\ 0.7x_1 + 0.8x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ which is also a probability vector which is the prob. of the weather tomorrow!

this leads us to $A^k V_0 =$ probability of weather in k days given V_0 today
hard to compute? \rightarrow use eigen basis/diagonalization

suppose we write $V_0 = C_1 W_1 + C_2 W_2$ for W_1, W_2 eigen vectors of A with eigen values λ_1, λ_2

* then $A^k V_0 = A^k (C_1 W_1 + C_2 W_2) = C_1 A^k W_1 + C_2 A^k W_2 = C_1 \lambda_1^k W_1 + C_2 \lambda_2^k W_2$

What are the eigen values of A ? $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$

$$P(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} 0.7 - \lambda & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.8 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.56 - 1.5\lambda + \lambda^2 - 0.06 \\ = \lambda^2 - \frac{3}{2}\lambda + \frac{1}{2} = (\lambda - 1)\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ \therefore \lambda = 1, \lambda = \frac{1}{2}$$

by last class all distinct eigen values \Rightarrow all alg mults = 1 \Rightarrow all geo mults = 1
 $\Rightarrow A$ is diagonalizable

by diagonalization theorem

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$$E_1 = \text{null}(A - I) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{REF}} \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

making $\begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} = W_1$ an eigen vector & a basis for E_1

$$E_{1/2} = \text{null}(A - \frac{1}{2}I) = \text{null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad \text{by inspection } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is}$$

an eigen vector and a basis of $E_{1/2}$

$\therefore P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 1 \\ 0.3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ diagonalizes A & $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of eigen vectors.

lets compute specific examples $k=1, k=2, k=\text{big}$
beginning with $v_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (it is C today)

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

2-ways

$$A^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = A A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 \\ 0.3 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.55 \\ 0.45 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{or } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad c_1 = 2 \quad c_2 = 0.6$$

$$A^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = A^2 \left(2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = 2 A^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 A^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 \\ 0.6 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0.15 \\ -0.15 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.55 \\ 0.45 \end{bmatrix}$$

same
as
expected

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$$A^k \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2 A^k \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 A^k \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = 2 (1)^k \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

if k is "B.g" \Rightarrow limit as $k \rightarrow \infty$ which gives $2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.6 \left(\frac{1}{2^k}\right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$
 this 40% chance C
 & 60% chance PC
 is called a "steady state"

$$\text{we see this as } A \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 \\ 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 \\ 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{was it a fluke? try } v_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 2 A^k \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.1 A^k \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 2 (1)^k \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} + 0.1 \left(\frac{1}{2^k}\right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{try a few more if you'd like!} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 \\ 0.6 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 \\ 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

we again reach the same steady state!

basic properties of Markov matrices

- ① it has $\lambda = 1$ as an eigen value and $|\lambda_i| < 1$ for all other e. vals λ_i
- ② if v_0 is a probability vector then $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k v_0$ converges to a vector w s.t.

- i) w is an evec of A with e. val 1
- ii) w is a probability vector
- iii) w does not depend on the starting choice of v_0

Such a vector w is called the steady state vector

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In summary

- A $n \times n$ matrix is called a Markov matrix if
 - i) all of its entries are ≥ 0 (sometimes we can relax this to ≥ 0)
 - ii) the sum of the entries of each column is 1. i.e. each column is a probability vector
- Markov matrices have a steady state vector w which is
 - i) probability
 - ii) an eigenvector of A with eigen value 1
 - iii) equal to $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k v_0$ for any probability vector v_0

It is possible to prove these facts. The proofs make use of diagonalization, and essentially amount to repeating our previous example in more generality. With a few additional small arguments.

If you're interested we can go over them in office hours or you can see