

# Probability for Data Science - Formula Sheet 3

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## Discrete Markov Chains

- Markov prop. :  $P(X_{n+1} | X_n, X_{n-1}, \dots, X_0) = P(X_{n+1} | X_n)$
  - $P(X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n, X_{n-1}, \dots, X_0) = P(X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n)$  (1-step memory)
  - $P(X_0 = x_0, X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n) = P(X_n | X_{n-1})P(X_{n-1} | X_{n-2}) \dots P(X_1 | X_0)P(X_0)$  (follow the path)
- n-step P:**  $\mathbb{P}^n$   
 $\sum \text{row} = 1$ , always
- Classification of States:**
  - \* **Irreducible:** (MC composed by one class)
  - \* **Aperiodic:**  $\gcd(\text{cycle lengths}) = 1$  *within class*
  - Recurrent: Visited infinitely often (when i enter a recurrent class I never leave)
  - Transient: Visited finitely often (when i enter a transient class I can leave it)
  - \* **Positive Recurrent / ergodic:** finite mean return time or finite number of states
- First Step Analysis:**  $P_i =$   
 Prob. of reaching a state from  $i$ , solving  $P_i = \sum_j P_{ij} P_j$  with boundary conditions ( $P_{goal} = 1, P_{abs.} = 0$ ).
- Stationary dist / prop. of time:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P_{ij}^n = \pi_j$  for all  $i, j \in S$

$$\begin{cases} \pi = \pi \cdot P \\ \sum_{i \in S} \pi_i = 1 \end{cases}$$

## Continuous Markov Chains

- Birth-Death Process:** Special case with rates:  
 $q_{i,i+1} = \lambda_i, \quad q_{i,i-1} = \mu_i, \quad q_{ii} = -(\lambda_i + \mu_i)$
- Stationary Distribution** (Birth-Death Process):

$$\pi_0 = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu_1} + \frac{\lambda_0 \lambda_1}{\mu_1 \mu_2} + \dots}$$

$$\pi_n = \frac{\lambda_0 \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_{n-1}}{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_n} \pi_0$$

- Holding time params.**  $v_0, v_1 \dots \sim \min(\exp(\lambda_1), \exp(\lambda_2) \dots)$   
 Mean time in state  $i = \frac{1}{v_i}$
- Jump Chain =  $P_{i,j} \rightarrow P(T_a < T_b)$
- Generator matrix :  
 $q_{ii} = -v_i$  diagonals  
 $q_{ij} = v_i P_{i,j}$  for  $j \neq i$

## Poisson Process

- $(N(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a Poisson Process with rate  $\lambda$  if:
  - no. of arrivals:  $N(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda t)$     Inter-arrival times:  $T_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$
- Properties:**
  - $P(N(t+s) - N(s) = k) = P(N(t) = k) \quad P(T > t+s | T > s) = P(T > t)$
  - $N(t) - N(s) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda(t-s))$
  - The no. of arrivals in **disjoint** intervals are independent.
  - if  $N_1(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_1 t)$  and  $N_2(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_2 t) \rightarrow N_1(t) + N_2(t) \sim \text{Pois}((\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t)$
  - Filtered PP: e.g., 'special' calls occur with  $P = p \rightarrow \lambda_{\text{special}} = (p \cdot \lambda)$
- Probability Distributions:**

$$P(N(t) = k) = \frac{(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t}}{k!}, \quad k \geq 0$$
- Interarrival Distribution:**

$$P(T > t) = e^{-\lambda t}, \quad T \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$