

C3. Markov Processes

Notes originally prepared by Judy-anne Osborn.
Editing, expansion and additions by Malcolm Brooks.

This material is not covered in the textbook by Epp. Check books on Finite Mathematics or Discrete Mathematics in the Library, e.g. *Finite Mathematics* By Maki & Thompson Chapter 8

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- We often don't make a sharp distinction between **proportions** and **probabilities** as you will see in the examples.

This works well for large samples but you may need to be careful with small samples.

Introductory example

adapted from 'Finite Mathematics', Maki & Thompson

A freelance computer network consultant, let's call her Cathy, is employed in weekly contracts. Each week she is either:

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- (a) If she's employed this week, then next week she'll be employed with probability 0.8 and unemployed with probability 0.2.
- (b) If she's unemployed this week, then next week she'll be employed with probability 0.6 and unemployed with probability 0.4.

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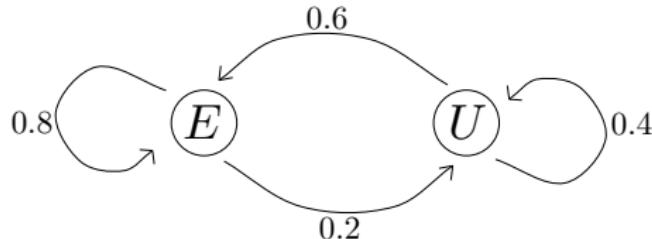
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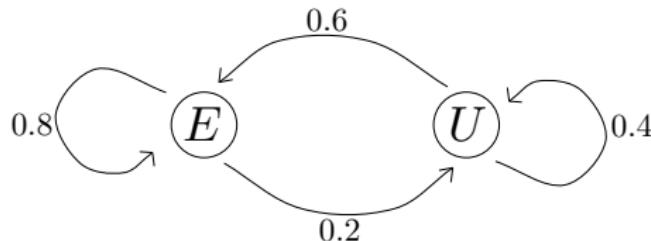
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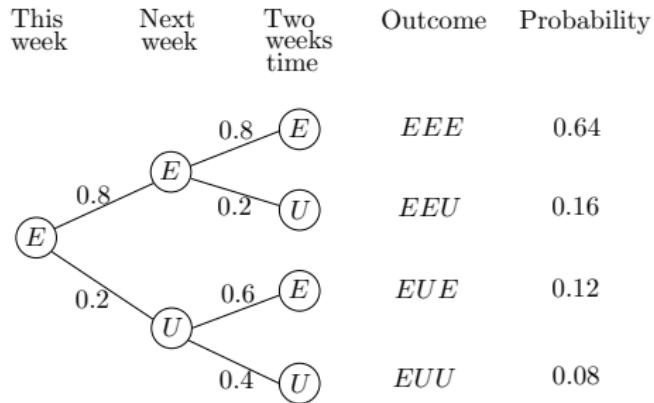
It is a property of a Markov Process that the probability of stepping from one state to another *only depends on the current state*.

Two time-steps

If Cathy is employed this week, what is the probability that she will be employed two weeks from now?

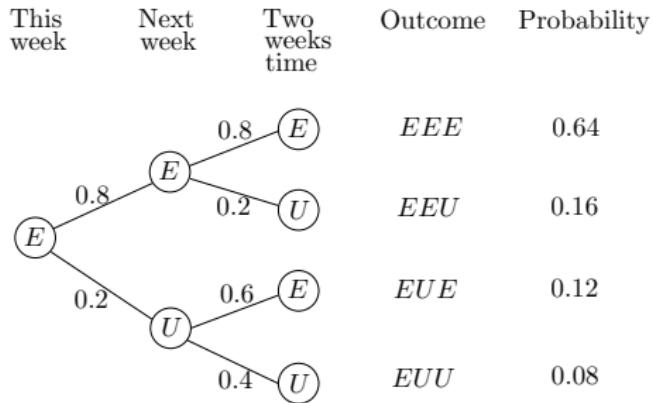
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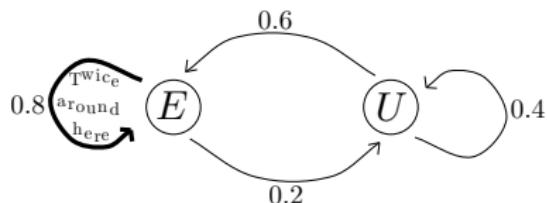
From the tree diagram, the probability that Cathy will be employed two weeks from now is

$$\Pr(\text{EEE or EUE}) = \Pr(\text{EEE}) + \Pr(\text{EUE}) = 0.64 + 0.12 = 0.76.$$

Two time-steps on the transition diagram

Starting employed, then employment after two weeks can be shown on the transition diagram as

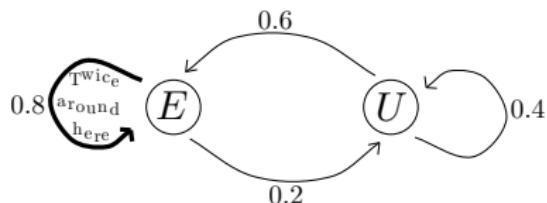
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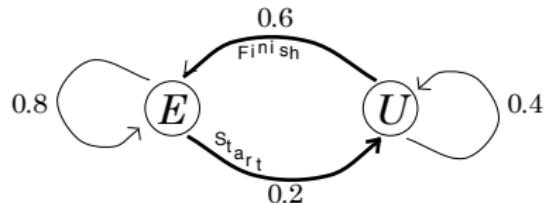
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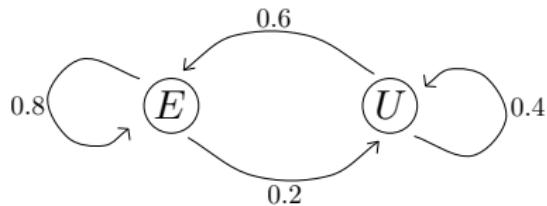


or



Transition Matrix

The information in Cathy's transition diagram



can be encoded in the **transition matrix**

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} E & U \\ E & U \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.2 \\ 0.6 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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100% employed and 0% unemployed, or
0% employed and 100% unemployed.

Transpose of the Transition Matrix

Recall that the transition (transfer) matrix is

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We will need

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It is very important to remember that it is always the *transpose* of the transition matrix that is used in calculations.

Using Matrices and State Vectors

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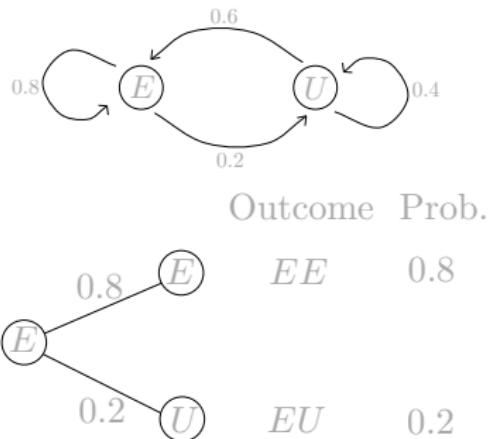
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This can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{T}' \mathbf{x}_0$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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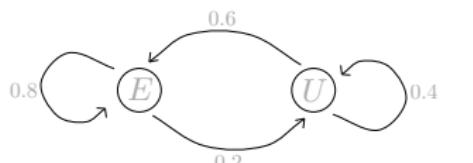
This can be calculated by:

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{T}' \mathbf{x}_1$$

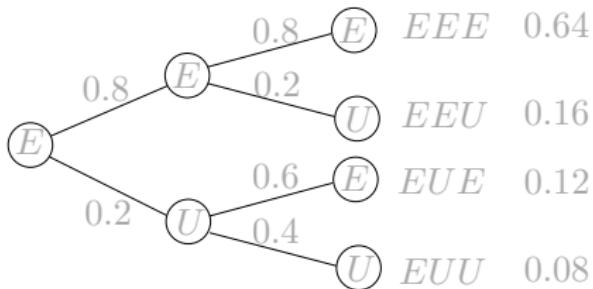
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.64 + 0.12 \\ 0.16 + 0.08 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.76 \\ 0.24 \end{bmatrix}$$



Outcome Prob.



n time-steps

Continuing: $\mathbf{x}_3 = T' \mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.76 \\ 0.24 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.752 \\ 0.248 \end{bmatrix}$

$\mathbf{x}_4 = T' \mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.752 \\ 0.248 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7504 \\ 0.2496 \end{bmatrix}$

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$$\text{Thus: } \mathbf{x}_1 = T' \mathbf{x}_0$$

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$$(T')^2 = T'T' = \begin{bmatrix} 0.76 & 0.72 \\ 0.24 & 0.28 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(T')^3 = T'(T')^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.752 & 0.744 \\ 0.248 & 0.256 \end{bmatrix}$$

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So:

$$(T')^n \simeq \begin{bmatrix} 0.75 & 0.75 \\ 0.25 & 0.25 \end{bmatrix} \text{ for large values of } n.$$

The significance of $(T')^n$ for large n

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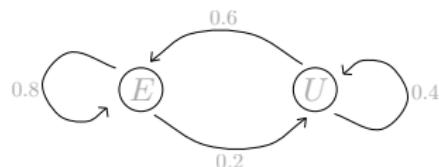
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So, irrespective of the initial state, in the long term the state vector becomes approximately $\begin{bmatrix} 0.75 \\ 0.25 \end{bmatrix}$. This means

No matter what, eventually Cathy will be employed 75% of the time.

The Steady State Vector

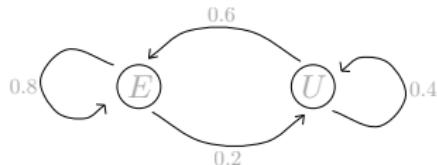
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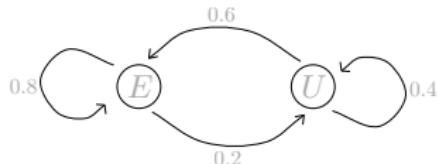


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$$(T')^n \mathbf{u} \simeq \mathbf{v}$$

for any initial state vector \mathbf{u} .

The steady state vector is an eigenvector

The steady state vector has the property that multiplication by the transposed transition matrix does not change it, e.g. for Cathy:

$$T' \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.75 \\ 0.25 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.60 + 0.15 \\ 0.15 + 0.10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.75 \\ 0.25 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{v}.$$

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Courses in linear algebra cover more about eigenvectors and also numbers called **eigenvalues**.

A steady state vector has an associated eigenvalue of 1.

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A (discrete) **Markov process** is a system that, at each of a sequence of time steps, can be in exactly one of a finite number k of states, with the probability of the system being in any particular state at time step $n \geq 1$ being dependent only on

- (i) its state at the $(n - 1)$ -th time step, and
- (ii) a fixed stochastic matrix $T \in M_k(Q_+)$ called the **transition matrix** of the process.

Some Definitions (continued)

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Some Definitions (continued)

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Proofs of (ii) and (iii): These are simple corollaries to (i).

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- Because of this, Markov processes are said to “have no memory”.

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- There are more direct methods of finding steady state vectors, and we demonstrate these in the next example.

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Probabilities of weather tomorrow are:

		fine	cloudy	rain
		0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Given that the weather today is:	fine	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
	cloudy	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
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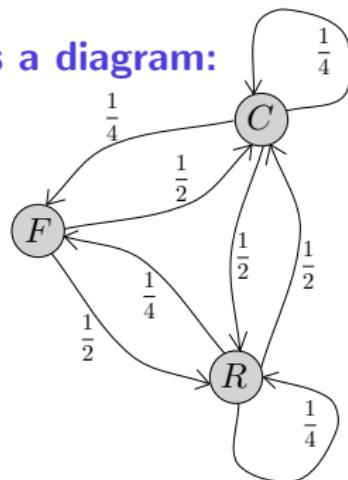
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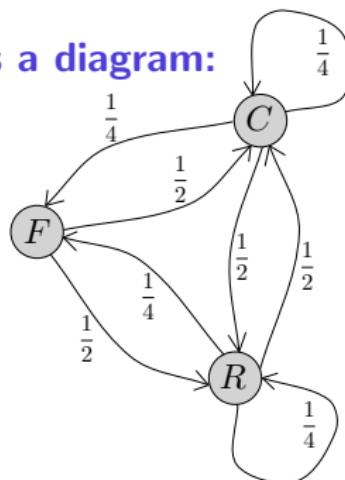
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As a matrix:

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} & F & C & R \\ F & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ C & 1/4 & 1/4 & 1/2 \\ R & 1/4 & 1/2 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

As a diagram:



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- Then, according to the Markov process theorem:

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = T' \mathbf{x}_n$$

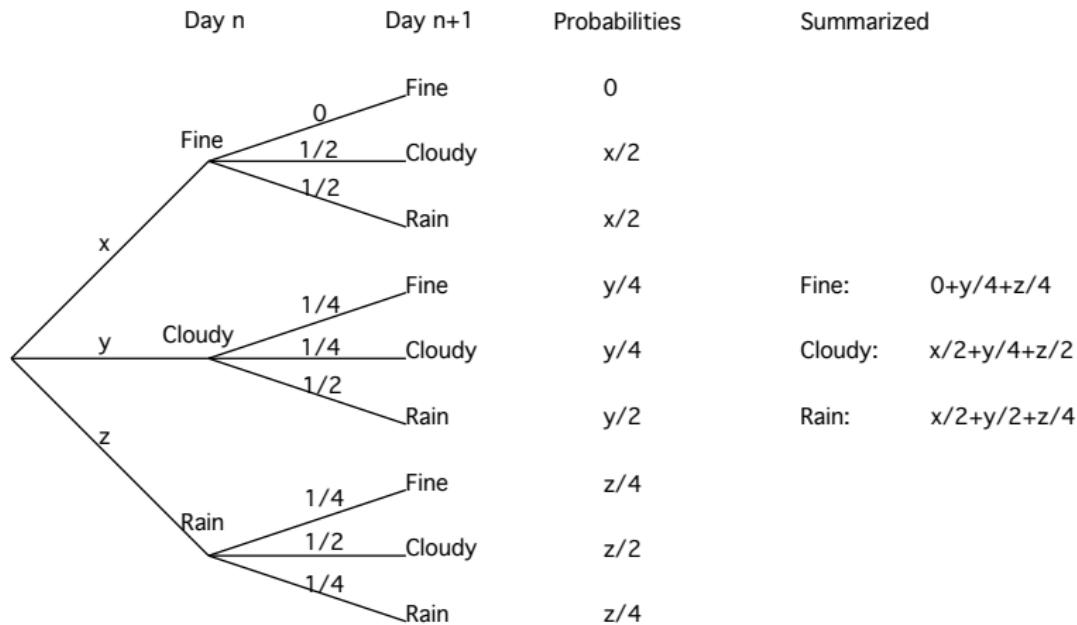
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (1/4)y + (1/4)z \\ (1/2)x + (1/4)y + (1/2)z \\ (1/2)x + (1/2)y + (1/4)z \end{bmatrix}$$

Next day in Oz, via probability tree

Let's check that the probabilities obtained using the transition matrix agree with those obtained using a probability tree:

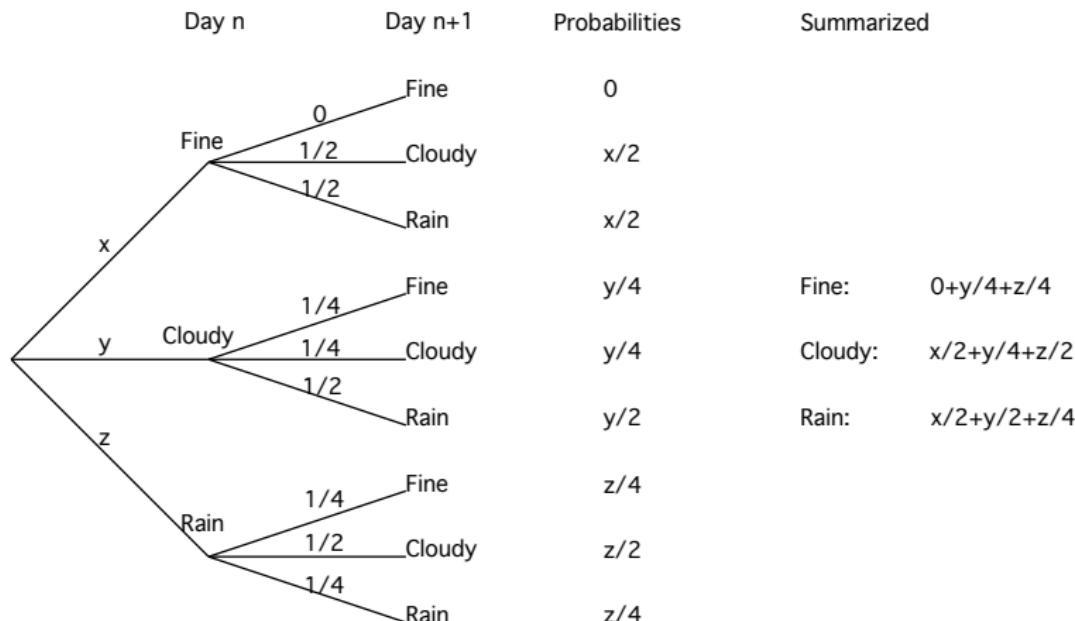
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Yes, the state vector \mathbf{x}_{n+1} and probability tree agree.



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Perhaps decimals would be more illuminating?

Days 1 through 10 in Oz

Computer calculations give:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ .5 \\ .5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} .250 \\ .375 \\ .375 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} .18750 \\ .40625 \\ .40625 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} .2031250 \\ .3984375 \\ .3984375 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} .199218750 \\ .400390625 \\ .400390625 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_6 = \begin{bmatrix} .1999511719 \\ .4000244141 \\ .4000244141 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_7 = \begin{bmatrix} .19995511719 \\ .4000244141 \\ .4000244141 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_8 = \begin{bmatrix} .2000122070 \\ .3999938965 \\ .3999938965 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_9 = \begin{bmatrix} .1999969438 \\ .4000015260 \\ .4000015260 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{10} = \begin{bmatrix} .2000007629 \\ .3999996185 \\ .3999996185 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A steady state for the weather in Oz

These values seem to
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$$S = \begin{bmatrix} .2 \\ .4 \\ .4 \end{bmatrix},$$

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To check that this S really is a steady state vector, we calculate

$$T'S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.25 & 0.25 \\ 0.50 & 0.25 & 0.50 \\ 0.50 & 0.50 & 0.25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 + 0.1 \\ 0.1 + 0.1 + 0.2 \\ 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Therefore

$$T'S = S. \quad \checkmark$$

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(In other words we have reached a stage where the probabilities don't change from day to day any more.)

Notice that we can rearrange this equation in the form

$$T'S - S = 0.$$

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Finally using a distributive law, we can re-write it as:

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or, less conveniently but more robustly,
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$$T' - I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using Gauss-Jordan elimination

First re-write in augmented form as:

$$[T' - I | 0]$$

and then row-reduce to solve for the unknowns in S .

Since

$$T' - I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

our augmented matrix is

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -3/4 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Row reducing,

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -3/4 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_2 = (-4/5)R_2$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1 & -3/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -3/2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_2 = 2R_2 \quad R'_3 = 2R_3 \quad \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/4 & -1/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_1 = -R_1$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 0 & -5/4 & 5/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 5/4 & -5/4 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_2 = R_2 + R_1 \quad R'_3 = R_3 + R_1 \quad \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_1 = R_1 + (1/4)R_2$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 0 & -5/4 & 5/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_3 = R_3 + R_2 \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{This column tells us we need a parameter} \end{matrix}$$

Let $z = t$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$

So our original matrix equation is equivalent to

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix};$$

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that is, to just the two equations

$$x - (1/2)z = 0$$

$$y - z = 0.$$

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leading to the solution $x = (1/2)t$

$$y = t$$

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– the same as we found before by exponentiating and guessing.

A short cut

A short cut to this process is to take the augmented matrix $[T' - I | 0]$ as below,

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -3/4 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

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throw away the last row and replace it with $[1\dots1|1]$, as in

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$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

and solve this new system to directly obtain the unique solution for S .

After row-reducing the new system we find that

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1/5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2/5 \end{array} \right]$$

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Can you figure out *why* this short cut works?

Solving by Computer (using Reshish)

The system of equations

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -3/4 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

is entered into the
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Matrix input X

Complex numbers (more) i

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Very detailed solution

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Note that I have chosen to use “fractional” coefficients, to ensure an exact solution.

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Fractional ▼

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Very detailed solution

Here is how Reshish responds:

Show solution

Solution set:

$$x_1 = 1/5$$

$$x_2 = 2/5$$

$$x_3 = 2/5$$

Back to the first example

We have seen that to find the steady state vector S for a Markov process with transition matrix T we need to solve the linear system that results from replacing the last equation in

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For Cathy's employment process we had

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.2 \\ 0.6 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and, by a 'guess and check' method, we discovered that

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.75 \\ 0.25 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solution by matrix inverse

Because T is 2×2 , and we have a formula for the inverse of a 2×2 matrix, we can find Cathy's steady state vector directly, without Gaussian elimination or computer. There are three steps:

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$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0.6 \\ 0.2 & -0.6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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2. Replace the second equation by $x + y = 1$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0.6 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution by matrix inverse (conclusion)

3. Solve this system using matrix inverse:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.2 & 0.6 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{-0.2 - 0.6} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.6 \\ -1 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{-0.8} \begin{bmatrix} -0.6 \\ -0.2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6/8 \\ 2/8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.75 \\ 0.25 \end{bmatrix}$$

New Example — Colours of flowers

A species of flower (carnations say) has three colour varieties.

The relevant genetics are as shown in the table:

Colour	Genotype
Red	RR
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What will be the long term proportions of the three varieties?

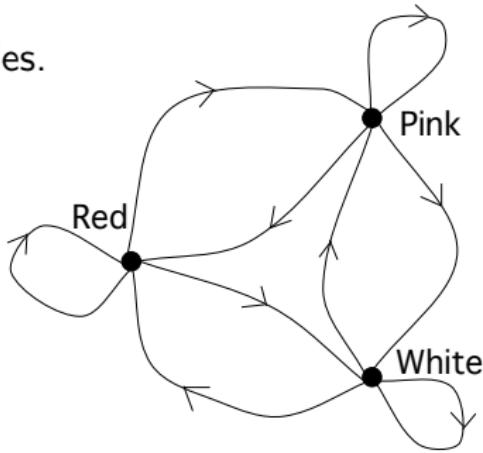
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Can you work them out?



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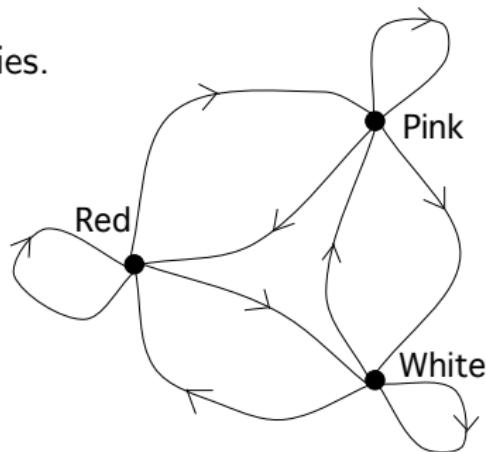
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First, we need the transition probabilities.
Can you work them out?

The transition matrix is

$$T = \begin{matrix} & \text{Red} & \text{Pink} & \text{White} \\ \text{Red} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{Pink} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.25 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{White} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} .$$



Finding the steady state

(a) $[T' - I|0]$ is

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -0.5 & 0.25 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.25 & -0.5 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

(b) Replacing the bottom row with all 1's gives

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -0.5 & 0.25 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Finding the steady state (cont.)

(c) Row reduction gives

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -0.5 & 0.25 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/4 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_3 = (1/4)R_3$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_1 = 2R_1 \quad R'_2 = 2R_2$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/4 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_2 = R_2 + 2R_3$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.5 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_2 = R_2 + R_1 \quad R'_3 = R_3 + R_1$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/4 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_1 = R_1 + (1/2)R_2$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R'_3 = R_3 + 3R_2$$

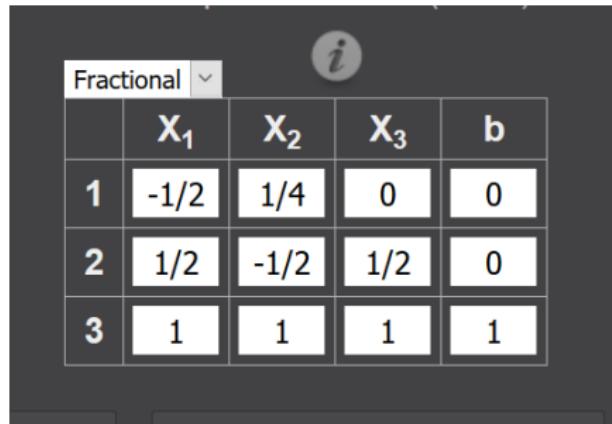
yielding $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$.

Finding the steady state by computer

Alternatively, we can solve the system using the computer.

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The screenshot shows a software interface for solving systems of linear equations. At the top, there is a dropdown menu labeled "Fractional" with a downward arrow. To its right is a circular icon containing the letter "i". Below this is a 3x5 matrix table. The columns are labeled X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , and b . The rows are numbered 1, 2, and 3. The entries in the matrix are as follows:

	X_1	X_2	X_3	b
1	-1/2	1/4	0	0
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3	1	1	1	1

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3	1	1	1	1

Solution set:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= 1/4 \\x_2 &= 1/2 \\x_3 &= 1/4\end{aligned}$$

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Hence there is a unique steady state vector of

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Hence there is a unique steady state vector of

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

So the species has a steady state in which 25% of the flowers are coloured red, 50% pink, and 25% white.

	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	b
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Checking the answer

The steady state vector S must be an eigenvector of T' .

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Let's check:

$$\begin{aligned} T'S &= \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1/8 + 1/8 \\ 1/8 + 1/4 + 1/8 \\ 1/8 + 1/8 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

So yes, $T'S = S$. ✓

Will a Markov process always get to a steady state?

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Not necessarily!

Example: chemical compounds in transition

Consider a chemical compound whose molecule can exist in any one of five states, termed A, B, C, D and E .

Example: chemical compounds in transition

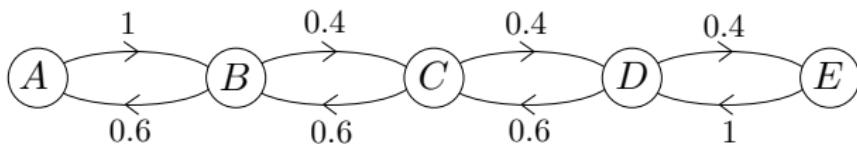
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Each molecule frequently undergoes transitions from one state to another, always to an ‘adjacent’ state, according to the probabilities shown in the transition diagram.

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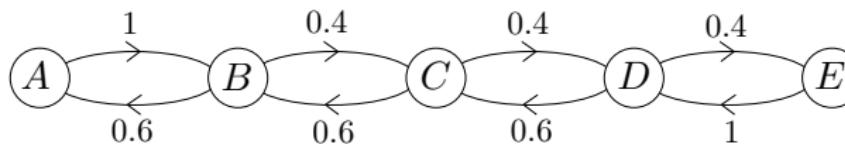
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Each molecule frequently undergoes transitions from one state to another, always to an ‘adjacent’ state, according to the probabilities shown in the transition diagram.



The transition matrix for this Markov Process is

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} & \curvearrowleft & A & B & C & D & E \\ A & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ B & \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0 & 0.4 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ C & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.6 & 0 & 0.4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ D & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0.6 & 0 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \\ E & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

A beaker full of chemical

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- But let's see what we can figure out without those tools.

Chemical example — investigating with a computer

Suppose the beaker only contains form 'A' to start with, i.e.

$\mathbf{x}_0 = [1, 0, 0, 0, 0]'$. Then by computer to 6dp we find:

$$\mathbf{x}_{100} = (T')^{100} \mathbf{x}_0$$

$$= [0.415383, 0.000000, 0.461538, 0.000000, 0.123077]'$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{101} = T' \mathbf{x}_{100}$$

$$= [0.000000, 0.692308, 0.000000, 0.307692, 0.000000]'$$

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:

:

It appears to alternate!

However starting with a beaker half full of A and half of B, i.e.
 $\mathbf{x}_0 = [0.5, 0.5, 0, 0, 0]'$, and again using formulae

$$\mathbf{x}_n = (T')^n \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_{n+1} = T' \mathbf{x}_n$$

repeatedly we get

$$\mathbf{x}_{100} = [0.207692, 0.346154, 0.230769, 0.153846, 0.061539]'$$

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So this Markov Process is different to those we used to model employment, weather in Oz, and flower-colours because

eventual behaviour depends on where you start!

Steady state(s) for a beaker of chemical?

We can solve for the steady state to find out if it is unique.

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We need to solve

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for $S = [x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5]'$ subject to additional constraint

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 1.$$

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$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 1.$$

We use the 'short cut' method:

- (a) First construct $[T' - I|0]$.
- (b) Then replace the last row with all 1's.
- (c) Then solve by Gaussian elimination or computer.

Steady state(s) for a beaker of chemical?

(a) $[T' - I | 0]$ is

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

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(b) Replace the last row with all 1's

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -2.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_1 = -R_1 \\ R'_2 = (-5/2)R_2 \\ R'_3 = (-5/2)R_3 \\ R'_4 = (-5/2)R_4 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.6 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_2 = R_2 + R_1 \\ R'_5 = R_5 + R_1 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 10/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_4 = R_4 + (5/2)R_5 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.4 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3.4 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_3 = R_3 + R_2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 15/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 10/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_3 = R_3 + (3/2)R_4 \end{matrix}$$

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$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 45/130 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 15/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 10/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_2 = R_2 + (3/2)R_3 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 16.25 & 1 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_5 = R_5 + (16.25)R_3 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 27/130 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 45/130 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 15/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 10/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_1 = R_1 + (5/3)R_2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4/65 \end{array} \right] \begin{matrix} R'_5 = (4/65)R_5 \end{matrix}$$

Steady state for a beaker of chemical - by computer

Decimal

	X_1	X_2	X_3	X_4	X_5	b
1	-1	0.6	0	0	0	0
2	1	-1	0.6	0	0	0
3	0	0.4	-1	0.4	0	0
4	0	0	0.4	-1	1	0
5	1	1	1	1	1	1

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Solution set:

$X_1 = 27/130$
 $X_2 = 9/26$
 $X_3 = 3/13$
 $X_4 = 2/13$
 $X_5 = 4/65$

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$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= 27/130 \\x_2 &= 9/26 \\x_3 &= 3/13 \\x_4 &= 2/13 \\x_5 &= 4/65\end{aligned}$$

This confirms the **unique** steady-state solution found by row reduction on the previous slide:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 27/130 \\ 45/130 \\ 15/65 \\ 10/65 \\ 4/65 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2077 \\ 0.3462 \\ 0.2308 \\ 0.1538 \\ 0.0615 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Steady state for a beaker of chemical - by computer

Decimal

	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	b
1	-1	0.6	0	0	0	0
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So the steady-state proportions of the five forms of the chemical are:

- A: 20.77%, B: 34.62%,
- C: 23.08%, D: 15.38%,
- E: 6.15%.

A steady state for a beaker of chemical - conclusion

We found that **provided** the beaker reaches a **steady-state**, then proportions of the various forms of the chemical remain stable at

$A : 20.77\%$, $B : 34.62\%$, $C : 23.08\%$, $D : 15.38\%$, $E : 6.15\%$.

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END OF SECTION C3