

7.1 Discrete Markov chains

Let S be a ^{finite} set of states

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, m\}$$

Let $X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots$ be a
seq. of r.v.s taking values in S .

Consider

X_n = state of Process at time n .

We Define Transition Probabilities

$$P_{ij} = P(X_{n+1}=j \mid X_n=i) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{any } i, j \in S \\ \text{and any} \\ n \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

note:

- R.H.S does not depend on $n \geq 0$

Markov Property

$$P(X_{n+1}=j \mid X_n=i, X_{n-1}=i_{n-1}, \dots, X_0=i_0)$$

$$= P(X_{n+1}=j \mid X_n=i)$$

$$= P_{ij}$$

for all $i, j \in S, n \geq 0$.

i.e. The memory of a Markov Process goes back only one step in time.

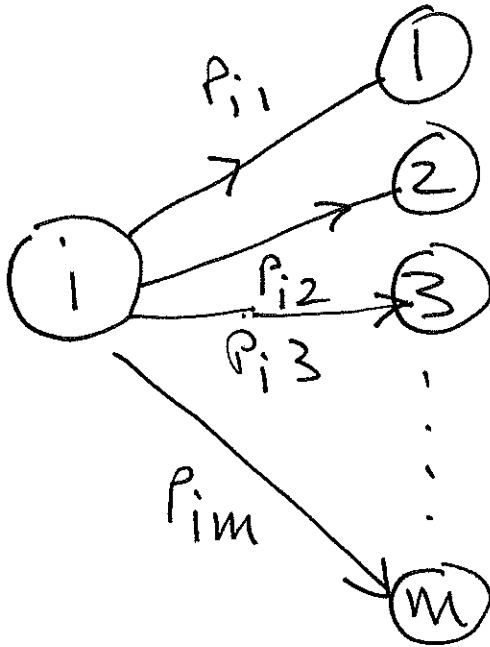
- State Space S
- Transition Probabilities
- Markov Property

Constitute a Markov Chain Model.

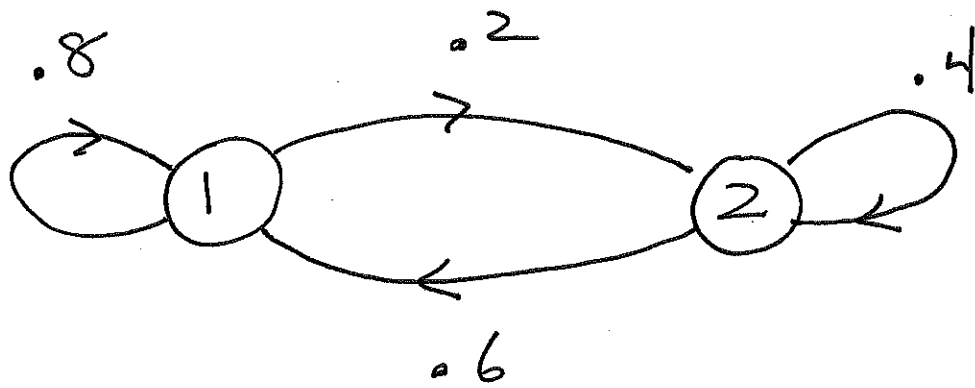
Note

- necessarily

$$\sum_{j=1}^m p_{ij} = 1 \text{ for all } i \in S.$$



Ex. $m=2$, $S=\{1, 2\}$



i.e. $P_{11}=.8, P_{12}=.2, P_{21}=.6, P_{22}=.4$

Suppose $X_0=1$. Find $P(X_2=2)$

By total Prob. Thm.:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_2=2) &= P(X_2=2|X_1=1) \cdot P(X_1=1) \\
 &\quad + P(X_2=2|X_1=2) \cdot P(X_1=2) \\
 &= P_{12} \cdot P(X_1=1) + P_{22} \cdot P(X_1=2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_1=1) &= P(X_1=1|X_0=1) \cdot \overbrace{P(X_0=1)}^1 \\
 &\quad + P(X_1=1|X_0=2) \cdot \overbrace{P(X_0=2)}^0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= P_{11} \cdot 1 = P_{11}$$

also

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_1=2) &= P(X_1=2|X_0=1) \cdot \overbrace{P(X_0=1)}^1 \\
 &\quad + P(X_1=2|X_0=2) \cdot \overbrace{P(X_0=2)}^0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= P_{12}$$

Thus

$$P(X_2=2) = P_{12} \cdot P_{11} + P_{22} \cdot P_{12}$$

$$= P_{11} \cdot P_{12} + P_{12} \cdot P_{22}$$

$$= (.8)(.2) + (.2)(.4) = \boxed{.24}$$

Similarly

$$P(X_2=1) = \dots = P_{11}P_{11} + P_{12}P_{21}$$

$$= (.8)^2 + (.2)(.6)$$

$$= \boxed{.76}$$

[8]

In a similar manner, if $X_0 = 2$,

Then

$$P(X_2=1) = P_{21}P_{11} + P_{22}P_{21} = [.72]$$

and

$$P(X_2=2) = P_{21}P_{12} + P_{22}P_{22} = [.28]$$

We can summarize all calculations
be the Transition Probability Matrix.

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} .8 & .2 \\ .6 & .4 \end{pmatrix}$$

observe that

$$R^2 = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} p_{11}p_{11} + p_{12}p_{21} & p_{11}p_{12} + p_{12}p_{22} \\ p_{21}p_{11} + p_{22}p_{21} & p_{21}p_{12} + p_{22}p_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} .76 & .24 \\ .72 & .28 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, the ij^{th} entry in R^2 is the Probability of going from state i to state j in 2 steps.

Defn

A Probability Matrix is a square (i.e. $n \times n$) matrix in which each row sums to 1.

i.e. if $A = (a_{ij})$ ($1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n$),
then

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} = 1 \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

Exercise

Prove that the Product of two Probability Matrices is another Probability Matrix.

Defn

The n -step transition probabilities
are

$$r_{ij}(n) = P(X_n = j | X_0 = i)$$

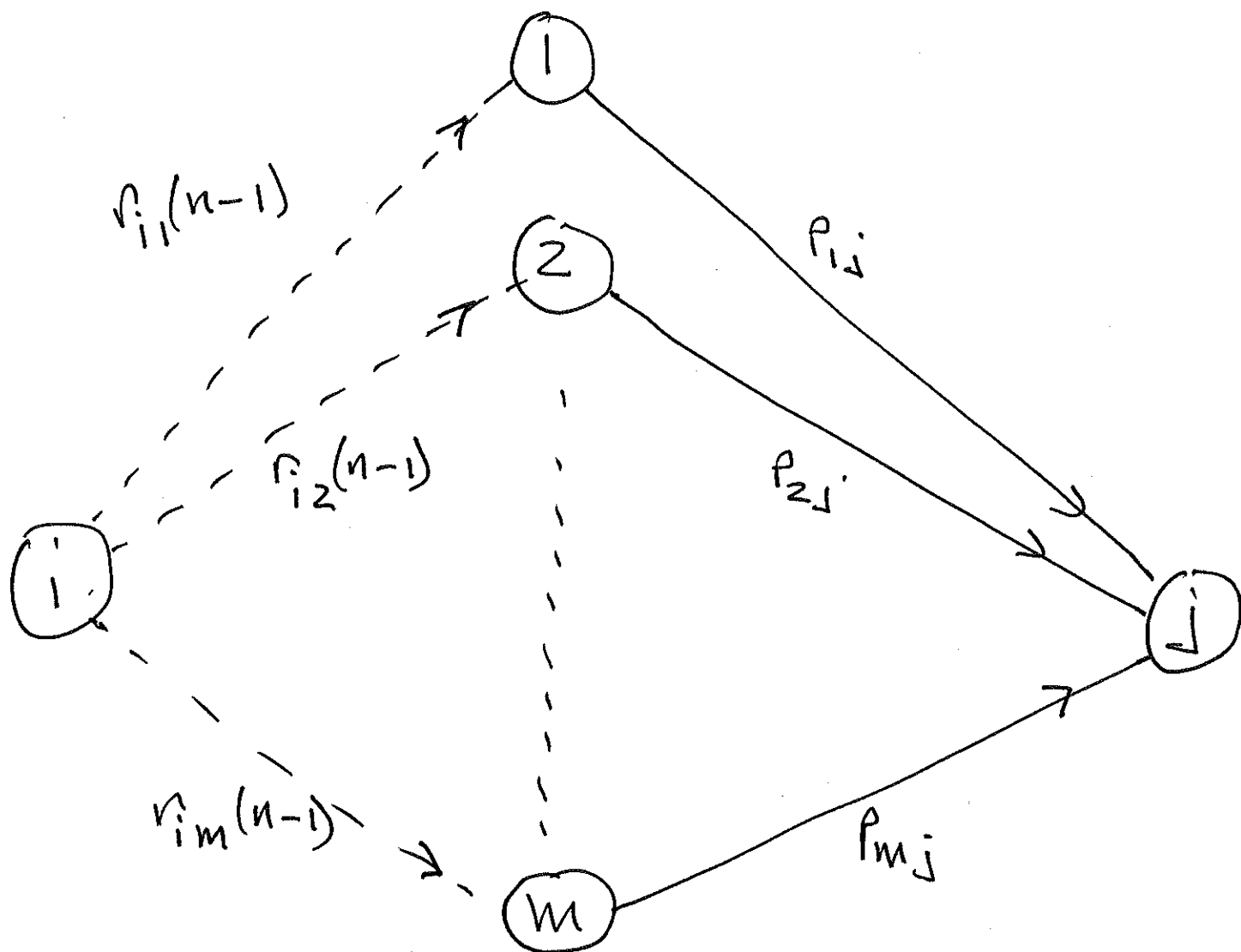
note: For any $k \geq 0$: $r_{ij}(n) = P(X_{n+k} = j | X_k = i)$

note: $r_{ij}(1) = p_{ij}$

Let $n \geq 2$. Then we have

$$r_{ij}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^m r_{ik}(n-1) \cdot p_{kj} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all } i, j \in S \\ \text{all } n \geq 2 \end{array} \right.$$

Chapman-Kolmogorov equations



Matrix version of C-K Eqs

$$\left(r_{ij}(n) \right)_{(i,j \in S)} = R^{n-1} \cdot R = R^n$$

Ex. Previous

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} .8 & .2 \\ .6 & .4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R^2 = \begin{pmatrix} .76 & .24 \\ .72 & .28 \end{pmatrix}$$

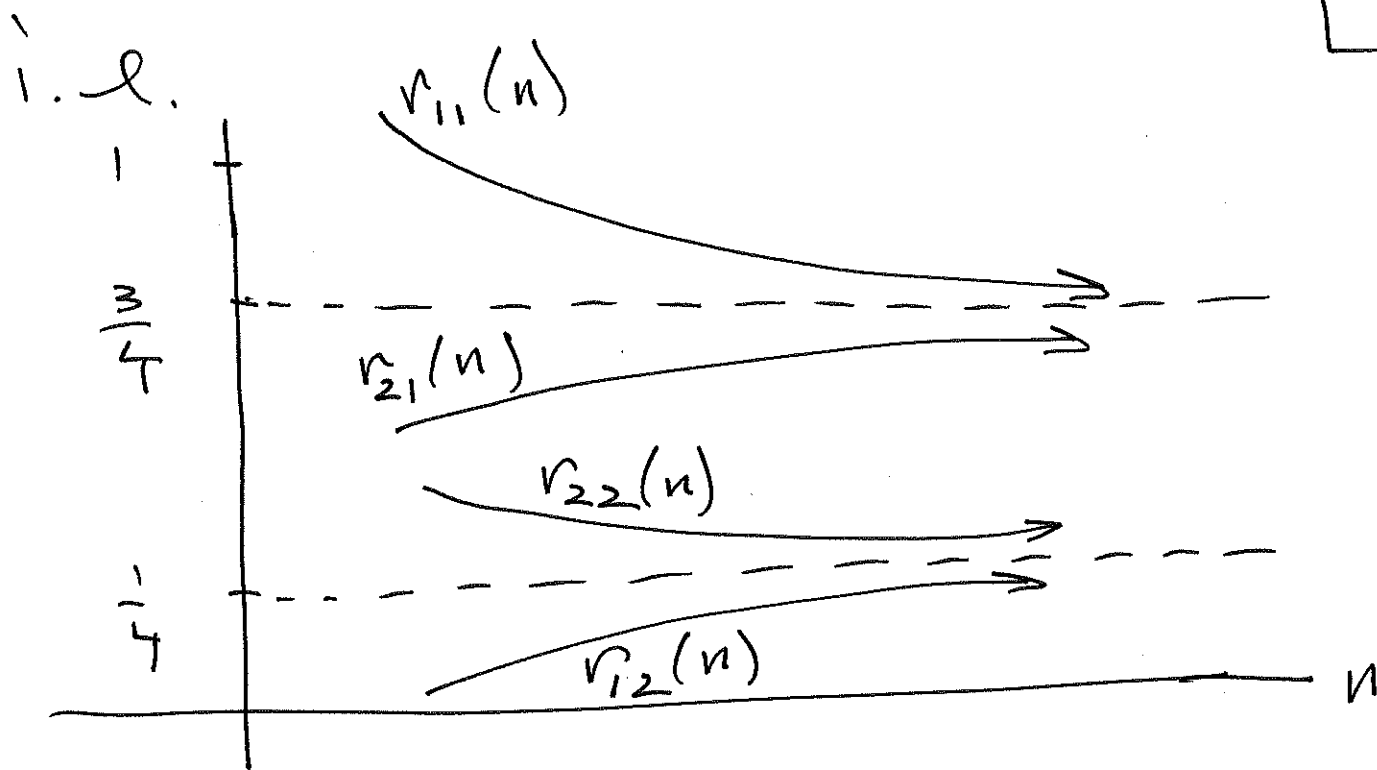
$$R^3 = \dots = \begin{pmatrix} .752 & .248 \\ .744 & .256 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vdots$$

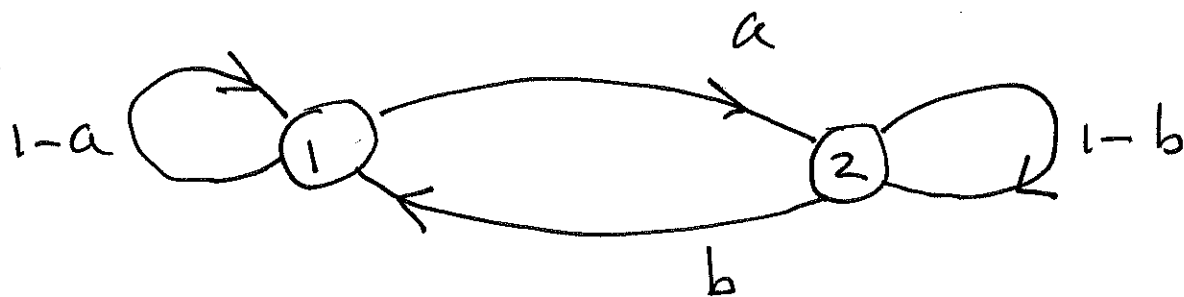
$$R^{10} = \begin{pmatrix} .7500000256 & .2499999744 \\ .7499999232 & .2500000768 \end{pmatrix}$$

In fact

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R^n = \begin{pmatrix} .75 & .25 \\ .75 & .25 \end{pmatrix}$$



Ex.



Here $a, b \in (0, 1)$, so

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{pmatrix}$$

One can show

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R^n = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \\ \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \end{pmatrix}$$

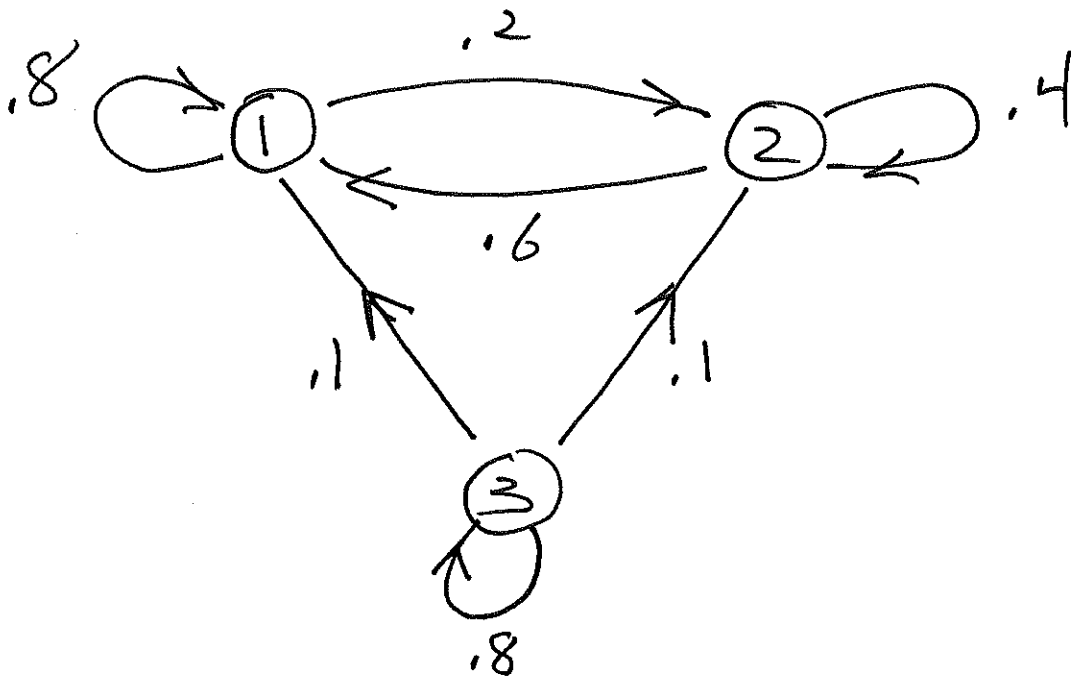
hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n = 1) = \frac{b}{a+b}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(X_n = 2) = \frac{a}{a+b}$$

regardless of X_0 .

Ex. $m=3$, $\mathcal{Q}=\{1, 2, 3\}$



Thus

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} .8 & .2 & 0 \\ .6 & .4 & 0 \\ .1 & .1 & .8 \end{pmatrix}$$

One can show

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R^n = \begin{pmatrix} .75 & .25 & 0 \\ .75 & .25 & 0 \\ .75 & .25 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence

$$P(X_n = 1) \longrightarrow \frac{3}{4}$$

$$P(X_n = 2) \longrightarrow \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(X_n = 3) \longrightarrow 0$$

as
 $n \rightarrow \infty$

Regardless of initial state.

7.2 classification of states

Defn

state j is accessible from state i iff

$$r_{ij}(n) > 0 \text{ for some } n \geq 1$$