

08/30/19

AMS 131 Lecture 15

The set of values a Markov chain can take on is called its state space S , finite or infinite

(Can also have Markov chains unfolding in continuous time, ex: X_t = stock price at time t
 t = time)

1. (X_1, X_2, \dots) finite Markov chain \rightarrow

$$P(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n) = P(X_1 = x_1) \cdot P(X_2 = x_2 | X_1 = x_1) \\ \cdot P(X_3 = x_3 | X_2 = x_2) \dots \\ \cdot P(X_n = x_n | X_{n-1} = x_{n-1})$$

Suppose you have a finite Markov chain with k possible states numbered $1, \dots, k$

(k integer ≥ 2) $\rightarrow \{P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i) \mid i=1, \dots, k \ n=1, 2, \dots$
is called the transition distribution of the M.C.

If $P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i)$ is the same for all n , the transition distribution is said to be stationary (time-homogeneous)

\rightarrow if so, $P_{ij} \triangleq P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i)$ completely characterize the Markov chain's behavior

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \text{to state} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{from} \\ \text{state} \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & \dots & P_{1k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ P_{k1} & P_{k2} & \dots & P_{kk} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \text{transition} \\ \text{matrix } P \end{matrix}$$

row must add up to 1 \rightarrow chain goes somewhere
all elements $0 < P_{ij} < 1$ (probabilities)

A square matrix $k \times k$ with non-negative entries and all row sums = 1 is a stochastic matrix.

Gene inheritance is Markovian, the genetic makeup for you is only determined by your parents, ancestors are irrelevant because they essentially make up your parents.

Say a gene of interest has alleles A and a ,

then a state in the Markov chain is in the form:

{ allele 1 from parent 1, allele 2 from parent 1, allele 1 from parent 2, allele 2 from parent 2 }

ex: $\{Aa, Aa\}$

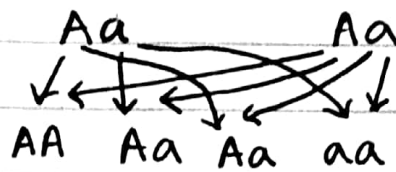
ignoring order (not important in inheritance): 6 states

$\{AA, AA\}, \{AA, Aa\}, \{AA, aa\}, \{Aa, Aa\}, \{Aa, aa\}, \{aa, aa\}$

one possible

inheritance

sequence



offspring gets A or a from each parent (independent), each with probability $\frac{1}{2}$

transition matrix

from \ to	$\{AA, AA\}$	$\{AA, Aa\}$	$\{AA, aa\}$	$\{Aa, Aa\}$	$\{Aa, aa\}$	$\{aa, aa\}$
$\{AA, AA\}$	1	0	0	0	0	0
$\{AA, Aa\}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	0
$\{AA, aa\}$	0	0	0	1	0	0
$\{Aa, Aa\}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{16}$
$\{Aa, aa\}$	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
$\{aa, aa\}$	0	0	0	0	0	1

Random walk: you're watching a particle move on the integers $S = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ over time

• wherever it is at time n it moves

left 1 unit with prob p_1

stays with prob p_2

right 1 unit with prob p_3

$$0 < p_i < 1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 p_i = 1$$

this is a Markov chain because its future position only depends on where it is, not its previous.

Lecture 15 (cont.)

from	to	...	-2	-1	0	1	2	...	transition
...	matrix
-2	...	p_2	p_3	0	0	0	...		
-1	...	p_1	p_2	p_3	0	0	...		
0	...	0	p_1	p_2	p_3	0	...	= <u><u>P</u></u>	
1	...	0	0	p_1	p_2	p_3	...		
2	...	0	0	0	p_1	p_2	...		
...		

band matrix: only nonzero entries are on the main diagonal and one diagonal away from the main

- 3 diagonals: tri-diagonal

all the main diagonal entries are the same p_2

one above: p_3 , one below: p_1

Start the random walk, at 0 let it go, where is it likely to be at time n , n large

Suppose: $(p_1, p_2, p_3) = (0.1, 0.3, 0.6)$

will eventually drift to $+\infty$

$(0.5, 0.25, 0.25)$ drift to $-\infty$

$(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}) = ?$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, each integer is visited infinitely many times and the expected time for it to return to 0 is also infinite \rightarrow "too much freedom"

We can restrict the bounds to: for $Z \geq 1$

$$S = \{-k, -k+1, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, k-1, k\}$$

at the boundary



$k-1$ k $k+1$ not possible

so we can wrap around: if you move to $(k+1)$, go to $-k$ and if move to $-(k+1)$, go to k

transition matrix, $k=2$

	-2	-1	0	1	2	to
-2	p_2	p_3	0	0	p_1	
-1	p_1	p_2	p_3	0	0	
from 0	0	p_1	p_2	p_3	0	
1	0	0	p_1	p_2	p_3	
2	p_3	0	0	p_1	p_2	

another idea is
to make the
boundaries
impossible to
cross, hard stop.

$$P_{ij}^{(m)} = P(\text{chain moves from } i \text{ to } j \text{ in } m \text{ steps}) \\ = P(X_{n+m} = j \mid X_n = i)$$

finite Markov chain with stationary transition distributions and transition matrix $P \rightarrow P_{ij}^{(m)}$ is the (i, j) entry of the matrix $P_{ij}^{(m)}$, which is called the m -step transition matrix.

$\{AA, AA\}$ and $\{aa, aa\}$ has the property that once the chain is in that state, it cannot go anywhere else - state i when $p_{ii} = 1$
any state with $p_{ii} = 1$, is called an absorbing state

In the genetic chain, 1, 2, 4 have positive probability of moving to state 1 in 2 steps, and the same for moving to state 6 in 2 steps.

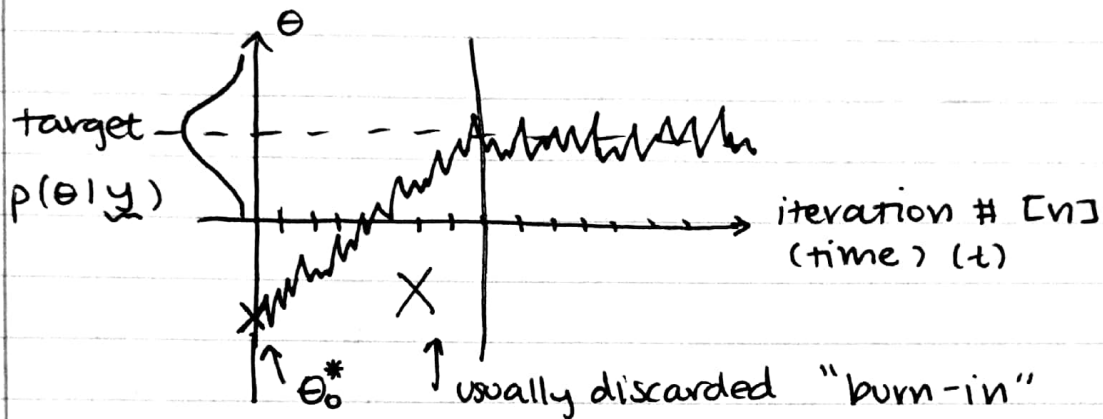
Markov chains that settle down to a single, stable, long run distribution (equilibrium distribution) are called steady state (stationary dist). ← confusing with time-homogeneous

Where should the Markov chain start?

- either initialize it at a deterministic value or make a random draw from the initial distribution

Lecture 15 (cont.)

Any vector \underline{v} of non negative numbers that add up to 1 is called a probability vector - any such vector whose components specify that a Markov chain will be in each possible state at time 1 is the initial distribution of the chain.



After 1 time step (iteration) the probability dist. over the Markov chain's possible states is \underline{v} , after 2 iterations, the chain's dist is: $\underline{v} P$, after $(m+1)$, $\underline{v} P^m$, looking for it to converge to a unique dist. as $m \rightarrow \infty$, resulting in its equilibrium distribution

$$\text{If we choose } \underline{v} P = \underline{v}, \text{ then } \underline{v} P^2 = (\underline{v} P) P = \underline{v} P = \underline{v}$$

$$\underline{v} P^3 = (\underline{v} P^2) P = \underline{v} P = \underline{v}$$

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \underline{v} P^m = \underline{v}$$

Markov chain with transition matrix $P \rightarrow$ only probability vector \underline{v} such that $\underline{v} P = \underline{v}$ is an equilibrium dist. for the chain

- under additional conditions on P , such an eq. dist. will be unique

$\sum_{k=1}^n P_k = \sum_{k=1}^n$ eigen-analysis of P

$A_{k,k} x_k = \lambda_k x_k$ } both "right"
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{an eigenvector} \\ \leftarrow \text{an eigenvalue} \end{array} \right\}$

"left" eigenvector $v^T P = \lambda v^T$ ← eigenvalue of P

Given a square matrix $P_{k,k}$, any vector $v_{R,k}$ satisfying $\sum_{k=1}^n P_{k,i} v_{R,i} = \lambda_{R,k} v_{R,k}$ is called a right eigenvector of P

with eigen value $\lambda_{R,k}$ and any vector $v_{L,k}$ satisfying $\sum_{k=1}^n v_{L,k} P_{k,i} = \lambda_{L,i} v_{L,i}$ is called a left eigenvector with eigenvalue $\lambda_{L,i}$

So given a transition matrix $P_{k,k}$ for a Markov chain, an equilibrium dist. can be found by computing the left eigenvector $v_{L,k}$ where the eigenvalue is 1. notice if:

$$v_{L,k} P_{k,k} = v_{L,k} \quad \text{then} \quad (v_{L,k} P_{k,k})^T = v_{L,k}^T$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n P_{k,i}^T v_{L,i} = \sum_{k=1}^n v_{L,i}^T P_{k,i}$$

so we can eigendecompose P^T instead of P

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ correspond to the absorbing states (of genetics problem), this suggests there's a family of eq. dist. of the form:

$$(p, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1-p)^T \quad \text{for } 0 \leq p \leq 1$$

If you can find an integer $m \geq 1$ such that every element of P^m is strictly positive, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n$ is a matrix with all rows equal to the unique stationary dist. v and no matter what the initial dist. is, its dist after n steps converges to v as $n \rightarrow \infty$

Case study: stock options

Companies can give signing bonuses often in the form of stock options: an opportunity to buy N shares of the company one year from now at a (known) price, S

If you think the stock will rise = sell at profit.

X = price of stock 1 yr from now. ←

↳ for now, discrete with two values: not known
 $X_1 < S$ and $X_2 > S$ let:

$p = P(X = X_2)$ the prob that stock value will rise

I = value of option for one share at $\$S$

If ($X = X_1 < S$), option is worthless and $I = 0$

If ($X = X_2 > S$) then the option is worth

$$(X_2 - S) \text{ thus } I = h(X) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } X = X_1 \\ (X_2 - S) & X_2 \end{cases}$$

• Can compare stock option to investing in a bond that pays $\alpha\%$ / year →

• A fair measure of the worth of the option would be the present value of I , defined to be the number c such that $E(I) = (1 + \alpha) \cdot c$

$$E(I) = 0 \cdot (1 - p) + (X_2 - S)p = (X_2 - S)p$$

$$(1 + \alpha) \cdot c = (X_2 - S)p \quad \text{comparing}$$

$$\text{need } \rightarrow \quad c = \left(\frac{X_2 - S}{1 + \alpha} \right) p \quad \text{stock options to bonds}$$

assume the present value of X is equal in expectation to the current value of the stock.

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{buying 1 share} \\ \text{and hold 1 yr.} \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{investing same} \\ \text{amount into bond} \end{array} \right)$$

$$E(X) = (1 + \alpha) \cdot S$$

$$\text{but } E(X) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} P \cdot X_2 + (1 + \alpha)X_1 \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (1 + \alpha) \cdot S$$

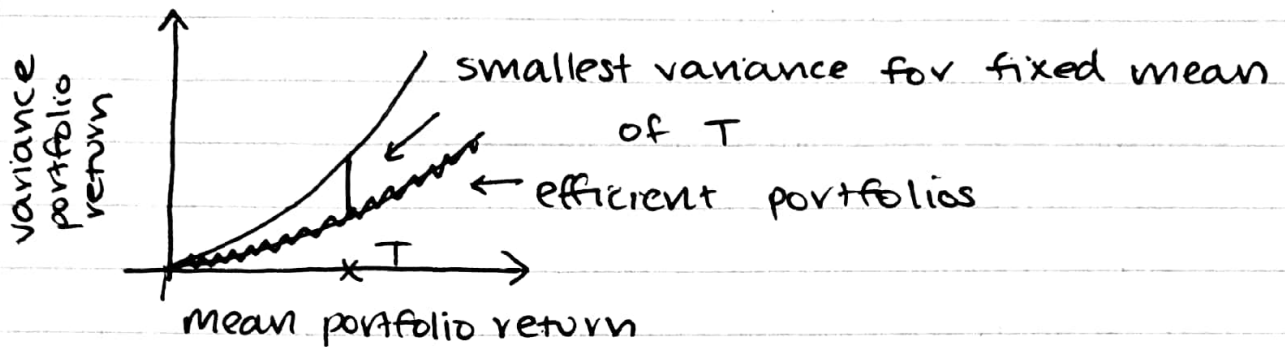
$$P = \frac{X_1 - (1 + \alpha) \cdot S}{X_1 - X_2} = \frac{(1 + \alpha)S - X_1}{X_2 - X_1}$$

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Lecture 16 (cont.)

How should you optimally make this trade off?
optimize over (U, V)

1. optimize $pU + (1-p)V$ ↙ or vice versa
2. optimize on U subject to constraint on V



Suppose you set target T for your expected return
 $E(\text{return}) = T$ with smallest variance = best
↳ minimal variance portfolios are efficient

for fixed: P_A, P_C, T, I, r , $\underbrace{M_A, M_C, \sigma_A^2, \sigma_C^2}_{\text{need to speculate}}$
find (S_A, S_C, S_B) to

$$\text{MINIMIZE } V = S_A^2 \sigma_A^2 + S_C^2 \sigma_C^2 \text{ subject to}$$
$$E = S_A M_A + S_C M_C + r S_B = T \text{ and}$$
$$S_A P_A + S_C P_C + S_B = I$$

instead of first derivatives, use Lagrange multipliers

$$I = \$100,000 \quad T = \$7,000 \quad (7\% \text{ reasonable return})$$

$$V = 2.55 \times 10^7 \text{ } \$^2, \quad SD \approx \$5050$$

If dist. of return follows
bell curve, only 8% chance
of losing money.

