

### Performance Evaluation of Computer Systems

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#### Performance Modeling and Design of Computer Systems

#### **8- DISCRETE-TIME MARKOV CHAINS**

### 1-Introduction

- Interarrivals and service times: exponential
  - Exponential distribution is memoryless
    - Markovian process
  - Can be modeled by Markov chains
- Markov chains:
  - Discrete-time Markov chains
    - Event can only occur at the end of a time step
  - Continuous-time Markov chains
    - Event can occur at any moment in time

#### 2- DTMC

**Definition 8.1** A *DTMC* (discrete-time Markov chain) is a stochastic process  $\{X_n, n = 0, 1, 2, ...\}$ , where  $X_n$  denotes the state at (discrete) time step n and such that,  $\forall n \ge 0, \forall i, j$ , and  $\forall i_0, ..., i_{n-1}$ ,

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

where  $P_{ij}$  is independent of the time step and of past history.

### 2- DTMC

- Markovian property
- Stationary property
  - Transition probability is independent of time
  - Transition probability matrix
    - Is a matrix P, whose (i,j)th entry, P<sub>ij</sub>, represents the probability of moving to state j on the next transition, given that the current state is i.
    - $\sum_{j} P_{ij} = 1, \forall i$

#### 3- Finite state DTMCs

- Example: Repair facility problem
  - Machine is either working or in the repair center



#### 4- n-step transition probability

- Example: Repair facility problem
  - By induction:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a\\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{P}^n = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b+a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a-a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b}\\ \frac{b-b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a+b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

– What is the meaning of each entry?  $P_{ij}^{n} = \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} P_{ik}^{n-1} P_{kj}$ 

#### 4- n-step transition probability

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbf{P}^n = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \\ \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

Limiting probability

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^n = \left(\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbf{P}^n\right)_{ij}$$

- Why rows are same?

• Starting state does not matter

#### 4- n-step transition probability

#### Definition 8.4 Let

$$\pi_j = \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^n.$$

 $\pi_j$  represents the *limiting probability* that the chain is in state j (independent of the starting state i). For an M-state DTMC, with states  $0, 1, \ldots, M - 1$ ,

$$\vec{\pi} = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_{M-1}), \text{ where } \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \pi_i = 1$$

represents the *limiting distribution* of being in each state.

In this chapter we assume that the limiting probabilities exist

#### 5- Stationary equations

**Definition 8.5** A probability distribution  $\vec{\pi} = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_{M-1})$  is said to be *stationary* for the Markov chain if

$$\vec{\pi} \cdot \mathbf{P} = \vec{\pi}$$
 and  $\sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \pi_i = 1.$ 

**Theorem 8.6 (Stationary distribution** = Limiting distribution) Given a finitestate DTMC with M states, let

$$\pi_j = \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^n > 0$$

*be the limiting probability of being in state j and let* 

$$\vec{\pi} = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_{M-1}), \text{ where } \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \pi_i = 1$$

be the limiting distribution. Assuming that the limiting distribution exists, then  $\vec{\pi}$  is also a stationary distribution and no other stationary distribution exists.

- Proof
  - Assume  $\{\pi_j, j = 0, 1, 2, ..., M 1\}$  is the limiting distribution.
  - Part 1:  $\{\pi_j, j = 0, 1, 2, ..., M 1\}$  is a stationary distribution

$$\pi_{j} = \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^{n+1} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} P_{ik}^{n} \cdot P_{kj}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ik}^{n} P_{kj} = \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} \pi_{k} P_{kj}$$

- Part 2: Any stationary distribution must equal the limiting distribution
  - Let  $\vec{\pi}'$  be any stationary probability distribution

– We will prove that 
$$\vec{\pi}' = \vec{\pi}$$

• Assume that we start at time 0 with distribution  $\vec{\pi}'$ 

$$\pi'_{j} = \mathbf{P} \{ X_{0} = j \} = \mathbf{P} \{ X_{n} = j \}$$

$$\pi'_{j} = \mathbf{P} \{X_{n} = j\}, \quad \forall n$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \mathbf{P} \{X_{n} = j \mid X_{0} = i\} \cdot \mathbf{P} \{X_{0} = i\}, \quad \forall n$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} P_{ij}^{n} \pi'_{i}, \quad \forall n.$$

$$\pi'_{j} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \pi'_{j} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} P_{ij}^{n} \pi'_{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^{n} \pi'_{i}$$
$$= \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \pi_{j} \pi'_{i} = \pi_{j} \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \pi'_{i} = \pi_{j}$$

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- Definition 8.7: A Markov chain for which the limiting probabilities exist is said to be stationary or in steady state if the initial state is chosen according to the stationary probabilities
- So we can obtain the limiting distribution by solving the stationary equations.

### 7- Examples

• Repair facility problem



- It costs \$300 every day of repair
- What will be the annual repair bill?

### 7- Examples

- Answer:
  - We should derive the limiting distribution  $\vec{\pi} = (\pi_W, \pi_B)$
  - To get  $\vec{\pi}$  we solve the stationary equations
    - $\pi_W = \pi_W \cdot .95 + \pi_B \cdot .4$
    - $\pi_B = \pi_W \cdot .05 + \pi_B \cdot .6$
    - $\pi_W + \pi_B = 1$
    - If  $\vec{\pi} = \vec{\pi} \cdot P$  results in M equations, only M-1 equations are linearly independent.
  - $\pi_B$  = 1/9 , expected daily cost=\$33.33
  - Annual cost of more than \$12000

#### 8- Infinite state DTMCs

$$\vec{\pi} = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \pi_2, \ldots)$$



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#### 9- Infinite state stationary result

**Theorem 8.8 (Stationary distribution = Limiting distribution)** Given an infinite-state DTMC, let

$$\pi_j = \lim_{n \to \infty} P_{ij}^n > 0$$

be the limiting probability of being in state j and let

$$\vec{\pi} = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \pi_2, \ldots)$$
 where  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \pi_i = 1$ 

be the limiting distribution. Assuming that the limiting distribution exists, then  $\vec{\pi}$  is also a stationary distribution and no other stationary distribution exists.

- Example: Queuing system with unbounded queue
  - With probability p one job arrives
  - With probability q one job departs
  - What is the average number of jobs in the system?



• Let r = p(1-q) and s = q(1-p)

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• The transition probability matrix is infinite

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1-r & r & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ s & 1-r-s & r & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & s & 1-r-s & r & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & s & 1-r-s & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

• Stationary equations

$$\pi_1 = \frac{r}{s} \pi_0$$
$$\pi_2 = (\frac{r}{s})^2 \pi_0$$

. . .

$$\pi_i = (\frac{r}{s})^i \pi_0$$
$$-\sum_i \pi_i = 1 \text{ so } \pi_0 = 1 - \frac{r}{s}$$
$$-\pi_i = \left(\frac{r}{s}\right)^i \cdot \left(1 - \frac{r}{s}\right)$$

• Let N denote the number of jobs in the system

$$-E[N] = \pi_0 \cdot 0 + \pi_1 \cdot 1 + \cdots -\rho = \frac{r}{s}$$
$$E[N] = 1\rho(1-\rho) + 2\rho^2(1-\rho) + 3\rho^3(1-\rho) + \cdots = (1-\rho)\rho \frac{d}{d\rho} (1+\rho+\rho^2+\rho^3+\rho^4+\cdots) = \frac{\rho}{1-\rho}$$