

13 Feb. 2024

So far: transition matrix  $\rightarrow$  steady-state dist

Today: Given a steady-state distribution, can we find a transition matrix?

EXAMPLE: steady-state vector  $\vec{v} = \left\langle \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle^T$

States:  $S_1, S_2, S_3$  with probabilities  $p_1 = \frac{1}{6}, p_2 = \frac{1}{3}, p_3 = \frac{1}{2}$

IDEA: ① Select a  $3 \times 3$  proposal matrix  $Q$   
*symmetric*

$$\text{let } Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

lowercase  $p$

② Given states  $S_i$  and  $S_j$  with  $i \neq j$ , define transition probability  $P_{i,j} = \text{Prob.}[j \rightarrow i]$  by:

• If  $p_j < p_i$ , then let  $P_{i,j} = Q_{i,j} = \frac{1}{3}$

• If  $p_j \geq p_i$ , then let  $P_{i,j} = \frac{p_i}{p_j} Q_{i,j}$

③ Define  $P_{j,j} = 1 - \sum_{k \neq j} P_{k,j}$   $\leftarrow$  ensure that columns sum to 1

Back to our example:

• Column  $j=1$ :

$i=2$ :  $p_1 = \frac{1}{6}, p_2 = \frac{1}{3}$ :  $p_1 < p_2$ , so  $P_{2,1} = Q_{2,1} = \frac{1}{3}$

$i=3$ :  $p_1 = \frac{1}{6}, p_3 = \frac{1}{2}$ :  $p_1 < p_3$ , so  $P_{3,1} = Q_{3,1} = \frac{1}{3}$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{9} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{2}{9} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Column:  $j=2$ :

$$i=1: p_2 = \frac{1}{3}, p_1 = \frac{1}{6}: p_2 > p_1 \text{ so } P_{1,2} = \frac{p_1}{p_2} Q_{1,2} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$i=3: p_2 = \frac{1}{3}, p_3 = \frac{1}{2}: p_2 < p_3 \text{ so } P_{3,2} = Q_{3,2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

• Column:  $j=3$ :

$$i=1: p_3 = \frac{1}{2}, p_1 = \frac{1}{6}: p_3 > p_1 \text{ so } P_{1,3} = \frac{p_1}{p_3} Q_{1,3} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{18} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$i=2: p_3 = \frac{1}{2}, p_2 = \frac{1}{3}: p_3 > p_2 \text{ so } P_{2,3} = \frac{p_2}{p_3} Q_{2,3} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{9}$$

## PRACTICE:

① Find a transition matrix with steady-state distribution.

$$\vec{v} = \left\langle \frac{3}{10}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{9} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{9} & \frac{2}{15} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

② Find another, different matrix with the same steady-state distribution.

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{13}{18} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{5}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1}{15} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

GOAL: Simulate a Markov chain on a large state space without having to store a transition matrix

We will know long-term frequencies of each state'

EXAMPLE: frequencies  $\vec{v} = \langle 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 \rangle$   
(ten states)

Simulate chain of 1,000,000 steps

want distrib. to be like:

