

## Problem 1:

- a) i) \* State 0 & 1 communicate with each other, thus they belong to the same class. Call it  $C_1$ .
- \* Same for 2 & 3. Call it  $C_2$ .
- \* 4 communicates only with itself. Call this class  $C_3$ .
- ii) Once in classes  $C_2$  or  $C_3$  leaving is not possible. Thus they are recurrent.
- From  $C_1$  one can reach  $C_2$  or  $C_3$  and never come back. Thus it is transient.

b)  $P^4 = P \times P \times P \times P = \left[ \dots \right]$

$[P^4]_{1,5} = P(X_4 = 4 \mid X_0 = 0)$  i.e. the conditional probability of reaching state 4 in four steps starting from state 0.

- c) Introduce a modified MC, call it  $W_n$ , having the following transition matrix  $Q$  given by:

$$Q_{ij} = P_{ij} \quad i, j \in \{0, 1\}.$$

$$Q_{iA} = P_{i2} + P_{i3} + P_{i4} \quad i, j \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$Q_{AA} = 1$$

Note: A stands for  $\{2, 3, 4\}$ .

Thus  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Then  $P(X_4 = 4, X_k \notin \{2, 3, 4\} \text{ for } k=1, 2, 3 \mid X_0 = 0)$

$$= Q_{00}^3 P_{04} + Q_{01}^3 P_{14} = 0$$

Alternatively, one can argue using a) that the event  $\{X_4 = 4, X_k \notin \{2, 3, 4\} \text{ for } k=1, 2, 3\}$  happens or is equivalent, when  $\{X_0 = 0\}$ , to  $\{X_0 = 0, X_1 = 1, X_2 = 0, X_3 = 1, X_4 = 4\}$ .

Thus  $P(X_4 = 4, X_k \notin \{2, 3, 4\} \text{ for } k=1, 2, 3 \mid X_0 = 0) = P_{01} P_{10} P_{01} P_{14} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot 0 = 0$

d) Using a similar argument as in c), we have:

$$P(X_4=0, X_k \notin \{2,3,4\}, k=1,2,3 | X_0=0) = P_{01} P_{10} P_{01} P_{10} = \frac{1}{16^2} = \frac{1}{256}$$

e) Let  $\mu_i = E[T | X_0=i]$   $i \in S$  and  $T = \min\{n \geq 0: X_n \in \{2,3,4\}\}$

Then if one starts in  $\{2,3,4\}$ , the time it takes to reach  $\{2,3,4\}$  is zero. Thus  $\mu_i = 0 \quad \forall i \in \{2,3,4\}$ .

On the other hand:  $\mu_0 = E[T | X_0=0] = 1 + P_{01} \mu_1 + P_{00} \mu_0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mu_0 = 1 + \frac{1}{4} \mu_1}$$

similarly

$$\mu_1 = E[T | X_0=1] = 1 + P_{11} \mu_1 + P_{10} \mu_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mu_1 = 1 + \frac{1}{4} \mu_0}$$

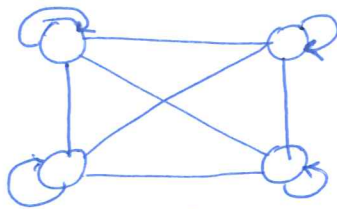
f) We know that  $S = (\mathbf{I} - P_T)^{-1}$

where  $P_T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Thus:  $S = \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1}$

$$\Rightarrow S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{16}{15} & \frac{4}{15} \\ \frac{4}{15} & \frac{16}{15} \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem 2:



a) Since all the nodes have 4 connections, a uniform distribution over these connections implies that:  $q(i,j) = \frac{1}{4} \quad \forall i,j \in \{1,2,3,4\}$

b) We know that such a MC can be constructed and it should have transitions:

$$\begin{cases} P_{ij} = \alpha(i,j) q(i,j) \\ P_{ii} = q(i,i) + \sum_{k \neq i} q(i,k) (1 - \alpha(i,k)) \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha(i,j) = \min\left(\frac{\pi_j}{\pi_i} \frac{q(j,i)}{q(i,j)}, 1\right)$  is the acceptance rate.

Using these ingredients, we find that:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{3}{8} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{12} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{16} & \frac{2}{16} & \frac{3}{16} & \frac{10}{16} \end{bmatrix}$$

c)  $Q = [q(i,j)]_{i,j}$  becomes

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

d) Similar to b) we get

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{2}{9} & \frac{4}{9} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{12} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{13}{24} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{9} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{5}{9} \end{bmatrix}$$