

Consider only cases where Q_{ij} changes
 The test can be modelled as a gambler's ruin problem with $2M+1$ states with

$$p = \frac{P_1(1-P_2)}{P_1(1-P_2) + P_2(1-P_1)}$$

is the probability of increase

$q = 1-p$
 Hence, M is reached first with probability

$$\frac{1 - (\frac{q}{p})^M}{1 - (\frac{q}{p})^{2M}} = \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{q}{p})^M} = P(D_1 \text{ best in test})$$

$N = 2M+1$ states

$$D_1, \dots, M-1, M, \quad M+1, \dots, 2M+1$$

\downarrow
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feb. 6-10:26

4.6 Mean time spent in transient states

Remark: recurrent state: revisited infinitely often
 transient state: revisited finite number of times.
 Assume finite number of states, X_n Markov chain
 Let $T = \{i \rightarrow i\}$ be the set of transient states

$$P_T = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & \dots & P_{1k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P_{k1} & \dots & P_{kk} \end{pmatrix}$$

Not possible that $\sum_{j=1}^k P_{ij} = 1$ for all i .
 Consider situation where i and j transient
 Let S_{ij} be the expected number of periods that X_n is in j given $X_0 = i$
 Conditioning on the initial transition, which can be to a recurrent state

$$S_{ij} = \delta_{ij} + \sum_k P_{ik} S_{kj} \quad \text{where } \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$= \delta_{ij} + \sum_{k \in T} P_{ik} S_{kj}$$

since $S_{ij} = 0$ if k is recurrent because X_n cannot move from a recurrent to a transient state so the expected number of such transitions is 0.

On matrix form the identities can be written as
 $S = I + P_T S$ where $S = (S_{ij})_{i,j=1}^k$

feb. 6-10:38

$S = I + P_T S$ can be written as $(I - P_T)S = I$
 Note that since I is non-singular, then $I - P_T$ and S must also be non-singular. Therefore $(I - P_T)^{-1}$ exists
 and $S = (I - P_T)^{-1}$

Let $f_{ij} = P(X_n = j \text{ some } n > 0 | X_0 = i)$.
 Also an expression for f_{ij} can be found by conditioning on the being in j sometime.

$$S_{ij} = E[\text{time in } j | X_n = j \text{ some } n > 0, X_0 = i] f_{ij} + E[\text{time in } j | X_n \neq j \text{ all } n > 0, X_0 = i] (1 - f_{ij})$$

$$= (\delta_{ij} + S_{jj}) f_{ij} + \delta_{ij} (1 - f_{ij})$$

where S_{jj} is the expected number of additional periods spent in j given that X_n ever enters j .

Remark $(\delta_{ij} + S_{jj}) f_{ij} = \begin{cases} (1 + S_{ii}) f_{ii} & i=j \\ S_{jj} f_{jj} & i \neq j \end{cases}$

Solving gives $f_{ij} = \frac{S_{ij} - \delta_{ij}}{S_{jj}} \quad i, j = 1, \dots, k$

feb. 6-10:41

4.7 Branching processes

Given a population of individuals producing offspring. Each individual produces a number of offspring independently of the number others produce.
 Let Z be the random variable describing number of offspring
 $P(Z=j) = P_j$ where $P_j < 1$ all j .
 and X_n be the number of individuals in the n th generation. Then $X_n = \sum_{i=1}^{X_{n-1}} Z_i$ where X_0 is the initial number of individuals.
 X_n is a Markov chain and $P_{00} = 1$ so 0 is recurrent also $P_{i0} = P_i^0$ so if $P_0 > 0$ there is a positive probability that a generation with i individuals will die out
 A set of transient states $\{1, \dots, k\}$ will be visited only a finite number of times. Hence, if $P_0 > 0$ either the chain will die out or move to ∞ .

feb. 6-11:35

Assume $(X_0 = i)$ and let $\mu = E(Z)$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(Z)$

$$E[X_n] = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{X_{n-1}} Z_i\right] = E\left[E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{X_{n-1}} Z_i \mid X_{n-1}\right]\right]$$

$$= E[X_{n-1} E(Z)] = \mu E[X_{n-1}]$$

Combining the recursion

$$E(X_n) = \mu^n E(X_0) = \mu^n$$

Similarly for $\text{Var}(X_n)$.
 Use $\text{Var}(X_n) = E[\text{Var}(X_n | X_{n-1})] + \text{Var}[E(X_n | X_{n-1})]$
 where $\text{Var}(X_n | X_{n-1}) = \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{X_{n-1}} Z_i \mid X_{n-1}\right) = \sigma^2 X_{n-1}$
 $E[X_n | X_{n-1}] = \mu X_{n-1}$

so we get the recursion

$$\text{Var}(X_n) = E[\sigma^2 X_{n-1}] + \text{Var}(\mu X_{n-1})$$

$$= \sigma^2 \mu^{n-1} + \mu^2 \text{Var}(X_{n-1})$$

feb. 6-11:48

Solving the recursion

$$\text{Var}(X_n) = \sigma^2 [\mu^{n-1} + \mu^{n-2} + \dots + \mu^{2n-2}] + \mu^{2n} \text{Var}(X_0)$$

Hence $\text{Var}(X_n) = \begin{cases} \sigma^2 \mu^{n-1} \frac{1-\mu^n}{1-\mu} & \mu \neq 1 \\ n \sigma^2 & \mu = 1 \end{cases}$

So $\text{Var}(X_n) \rightarrow \begin{cases} \infty & \mu > 1 \\ 0 & \mu < 1 \end{cases}$

feb. 6-11:56