

**Department of Systems Engineering**  
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**SYST 302: Systems Methodology  
and Design II #9**

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# **Outline**

- **Concepts and Introduction**
- **Markov Chain**
- **State Transition**
- **Markov Chain and Reliability**

# Markov Process and Markov Chain

**Markov Processes:** if the future of the random process given the present is independent of the past, i.e.,

with  $t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_k < t_{k+1}$

Discrete state:  $P(a \leq x_{k+1} \leq b | x_k, x_{k-1}, \dots, x_1) = P(a \leq x_{k+1} \leq b | x_k)$

Continuous state:  $f_{x_{k+1}}(x_{k+1} | x_k, x_{k-1}, \dots, x_1) = f_{x_{k+1}}(x_{k+1} | x_k)$

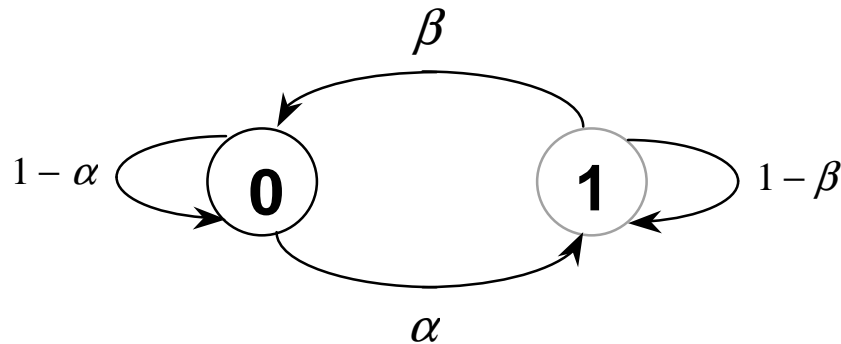
This is known as conditional independence; the values of  $x_{k+1}$  is conditionally independent of  $x_{k-1}, \dots, x_1$  given  $x_k$

**Markov Chain:** a discrete state Markov process, for time-invariant Markov chains, we have

Transition Probabilities :  $P_{ij} = P(x_{k+1} = j | x_k = i)$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq N$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

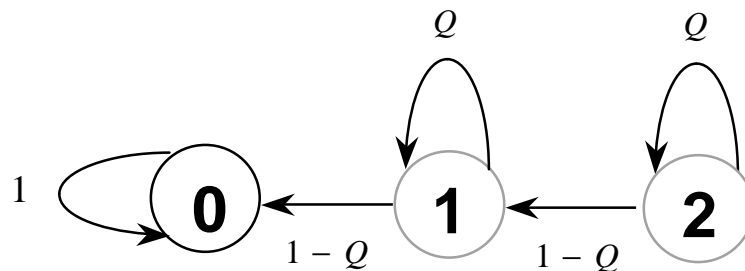
# State Transition Diagram

## Two-state Markov chain



$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \alpha & \alpha \\ \beta & 1 - \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

## Three-state Markov chain



$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 - Q & Q & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - Q & Q \end{bmatrix}$$

# Transition Probability Matrix

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \cdots & p_{1N} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \cdots & p_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{N1} & p_{N2} & \cdots & p_{NN} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } \sum_{j=1}^N p_{ij} = 1$$

Note that probability theory requires that the rows of  $P$  sum to 1.0; this is called a *stochastic matrix*.

$\Rightarrow$  (1)  $\lambda(P)$  are all real, (2)  $\lambda_{\max}(P) = 1$

# The n-step Transition Probability

## 2-step transition probability

$$\begin{aligned} P_{ij}(2) &\equiv P(x_{k+2} = j | x_k = i) = \sum_{m=1}^N P(x_{k+2} = j, x_{k+1} = m | x_k = i) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^N P(x_{k+2} = j | x_{k+1} = m, x_k = i) P(x_{k+1} = m | x_k = i) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^N P(x_{k+2} = j | x_{k+1} = m) P(x_{k+1} = m | x_k = i) \equiv \sum_{m=1}^N P_{jm}(1) P_{mi}(1) \Rightarrow P(2) = P(1)P(1) = P^2 \end{aligned}$$

## For n-step transition, icbest

$$P(n) = P^n \Rightarrow \pi(n) = \pi(n-1)P = \pi(n-2)P \cdot P = \dots = \pi(0)P^n,$$

where  $\pi(0) = [\pi_{01}, \pi_{02}, \dots, \pi_{0N}]$  is the initial state probability (pmf)

# Classes of States

We say that **state  $j$  is accessible from state  $i$**  if for some  $n \geq 0$ ,  $P_{ij}(n) > 0$ , that is, if there is a sequence of transitions from  $i$  to  $j$  that has nonzero probability. We say that **state  $i$  and  $j$  communicate** if they are accessible to each other.

We say that two states belong to the same **class** if they communicate.

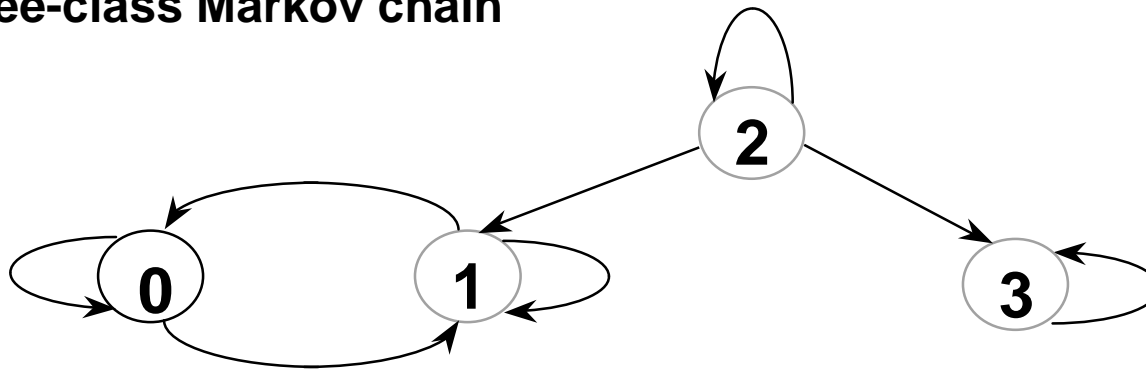
A Markov chain that consists of a single class is called **irreducible**.

A state  $i$  is said to be **recurrent** if the process returns to the state with probability 1, otherwise, it is said to be **transient**.

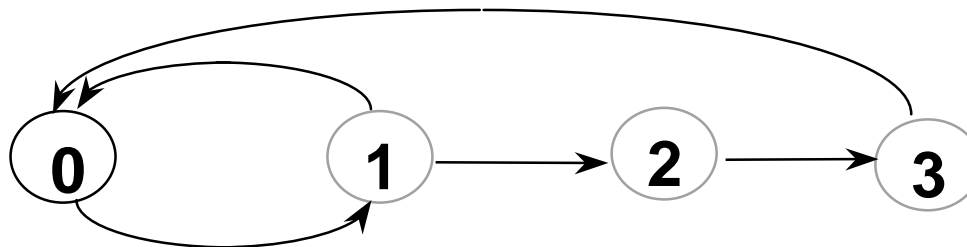
A state  $i$  is said to have **period  $d$**  if it can only recur at times that are multiples of  $d$ , if  $d = 1$ , it is called **aperiodic**.

# Some Markov Chains

A three-class Markov chain



Periodic Markov chain





# Limiting Probabilities

**Limiting Theorem:** for an irreducible, aperiodic, recurrent Markov chain, the state probability will reach a steady (equilibrium) state pmf  $\pi_s$  obtained as:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi(n) = \pi(n-1)P_{ij} \Rightarrow \pi_s = \pi_s P$$

$$\Rightarrow P' \pi_s' = \pi_s' \Rightarrow (P' - I) \pi_s' = 0$$

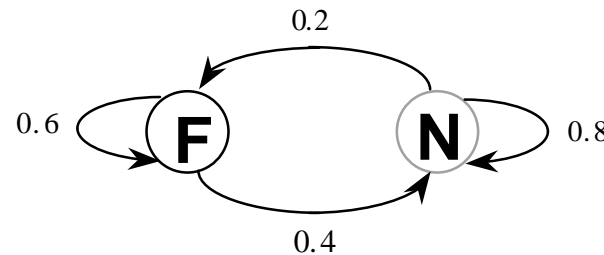
which indicates that  $\lambda = 1$  is one of the eigenvalues of  $P$ , and the corresponding *normalized* eigenvector is the steady state of the Markov chain

**Note that the steady state does not depend on the initial state**

# Steady State Example

**Power station load:** on any given day, the station could be on full load or not, denoted as F and N respectively, and the load varies such that it can be represented as a Markov process with the transition matrix

$$P = \begin{array}{c|cc} & F & N \\ \hline F & 0.6 & 0.4 \\ N & 0.2 & 0.8 \end{array}$$



$$\pi(n) = \pi(n-1)P = \pi(n-2)P \cdot P = \dots = \pi(0)P^n$$

$$\text{but } P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.4 \\ 0.2 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}, P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.44 & 0.56 \\ 0.28 & 0.72 \end{bmatrix}, P^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.376 & 0.624 \\ 0.312 & 0.688 \end{bmatrix}, P^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3504 & 0.6496 \\ 0.3248 & 0.6752 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3402 & 0.6598 \\ 0.3299 & 0.6701 \end{bmatrix}, P^6 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3361 & 0.6639 \\ 0.3320 & 0.6680 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, P^n = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3333 & 0.6667 \\ 0.3333 & 0.6667 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ for } n > 11$$

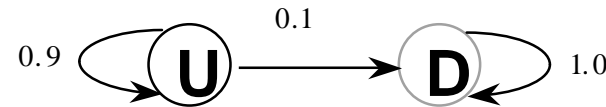
$$\Rightarrow \pi(n) = \pi(0)P^n = [1/3, 2/3]$$

$$\text{In fact, } (P - I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.4 & 0.2 \\ 0.4 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = [1/3, 2/3]' \text{ (eigenvector for } \lambda = 1)$$

# Transient Behavior

**System failure without repair:** on any given day, the system could be either up or down, denoted as U and D respectively, and assuming it behaves according to the Markov process with the transition matrix:

$$P = \begin{array}{c|cc} & U & D \\ \hline U & 0.9 & 0.1 \\ D & 0.0 & 1.0 \end{array}$$



$$\pi(n) = \pi(n-1)P = \pi(n-2)P \cdot P = \dots = \pi(0)P^n$$

$$\text{but } P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0.1 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}, P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.81 & 0.19 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, P^n = \begin{bmatrix} (0.9)^n & 1 - (0.9)^n \\ 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi(n) = \pi(0)P^n = [\pi_{01}(0.9)^n, \pi_{01}(1 - (0.9)^n) + \pi_{02}] \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi(n) = [0, 1]$$

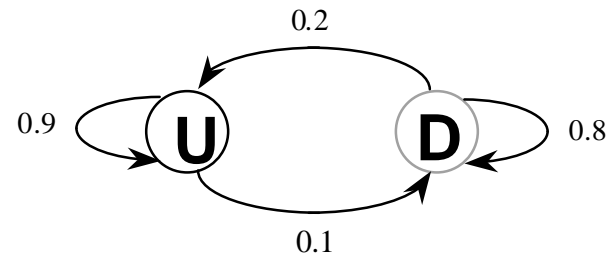
$$\text{In fact, } (P' - I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.1 & 0.0 \\ 0.1 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = [0, 1]'$$

In general, the steady state may not be unique, i. e., may depend on the initial state

# Markov Chain for Reliability Analysis

Markov Chain can be considered as the system availability (steady state probability)

$$P = \begin{array}{c|cc} & U & D \\ \hline U & 0.9 & 0.1 \\ D & 0.2 & 0.8 \end{array}$$



$$\pi(n) = \pi(n-1)P = \pi(n-2)P \cdot P = \dots = \pi(0)P^n$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi(n) = \pi(0)P^n = [0.667, 0.333]$$

$$R = \pi_F(n) = 0.667$$

# Reliability Analysis Example

## State Space: (system with standby component)

(1, 1) - one component working, one in standby

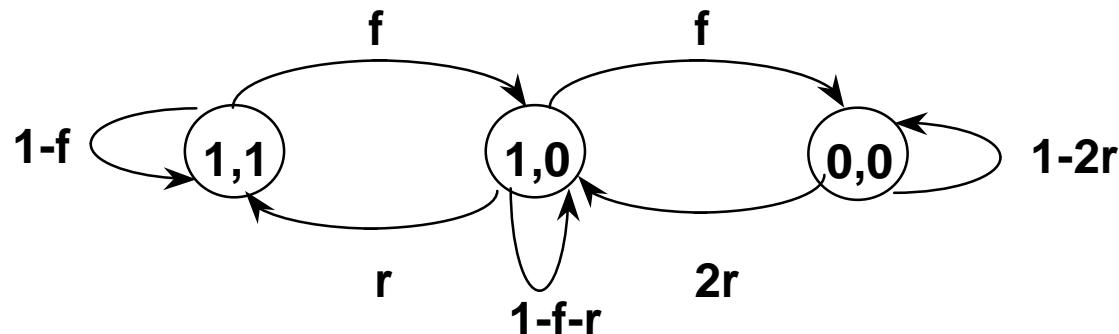
(1, 0) - one component working, one down and being repaired

(0, 0) - both components down and being repaired.

## Transition Probabilities:

$f$ : the probability of either of these components will fail in a unit time period while operational

$r$ : the probability that a component that has failed will be repaired in a unit time period, when both components fail, double the crew and consequently double the repair probability to  $2r$



# System Availability

Transition Matrix:  $\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-f & f & 0 \\ r & 1-f-r & f \\ 0 & 2r & 1-2r \end{bmatrix}$

If our uncertainty about the state of the system reaches an equilibrium, then

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_{eq} = [\pi_{11} \quad \pi_{10} \quad \pi_{00}] = [\pi_{11} \quad \pi_{10} \quad \pi_{00}] \begin{bmatrix} 1-f & f & 0 \\ r & 1-f-r & f \\ 0 & 2r & 1-2r \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\pi_{11} = (1-f)\pi_{11} + r\pi_{10} \Rightarrow \pi_{11} = \pi_{10}r / f$$

$$\pi_{10} = f\pi_{11} + (1-f-r)\pi_{10} + 2r\pi_{00}$$

$$\pi_{00} = f\pi_{10} + (1-2r)\pi_{00} \Rightarrow \pi_{00} = \pi_{10}f / 2r$$

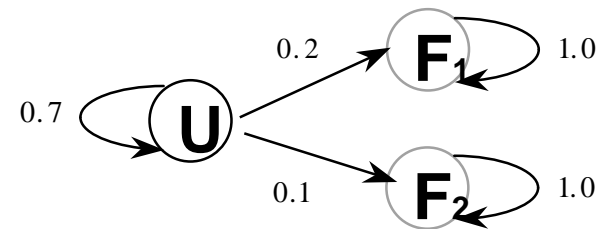
$$\pi_{11} = 2r^2 / (f^2 + 2rf + 2r^2), \pi_{10} = 2rf / (f^2 + 2rf + 2r^2), \pi_{00} = f^2 / (f^2 + 2rf + 2r^2)$$

$$\text{System availability} = \pi_{11} + \pi_{10} = (2r^2 + 2rf) / (f^2 + 2rf + 2r^2)$$

# Limiting Behavior

Consider a system with two failure modes and no repair capability as shown in the figure below with the transition probability matrix:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\pi(n) = \pi(0)P^n$$

$$\text{but } P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}, P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.49 & 0.34 & 0.17 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, P^{25} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 0.667 & 0.333 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi(n) = \pi(0)P^n = [0, \frac{2}{3}\pi_{01} + \pi_{02}, \frac{1}{3}\pi_{01} + \pi_{03}]$$

$$\text{In fact, } (P' - I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.3 & 0.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.2 & 0.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = [0, 1, 0]' \text{ or } \mathbf{x} = [0, 0, 1]'$$

The steady state can be any point on a line segment depending on the initial state pmf