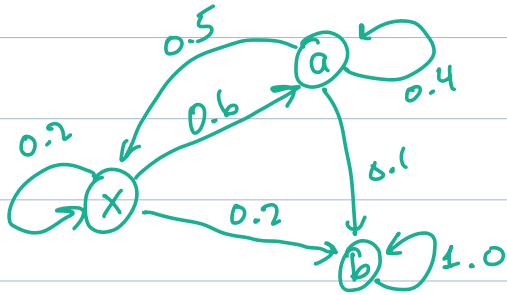


# Markov chains and MCMC



$$\Omega = \{x, a, b\}$$

$$D = (V, A, P) \quad V = \Omega$$

$$A = \{(x, y) : P(x, y) > 0\}$$

Markov chain:

$\Omega$  - state space (finite)

$$P: \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

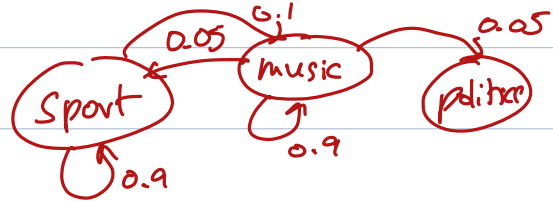
$$\forall x \in \Omega: \sum_{y \in \Omega} P(x, y) = 1$$

Random walk:  $\{X_0, X_1, \dots\} \subseteq \Omega$

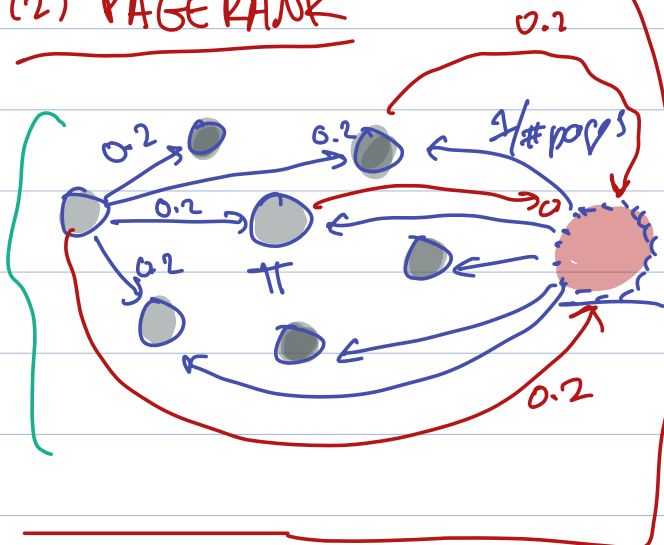
$$P[X_{t+1} = y \mid X_t = x] = P(x, y)$$

## Applications:

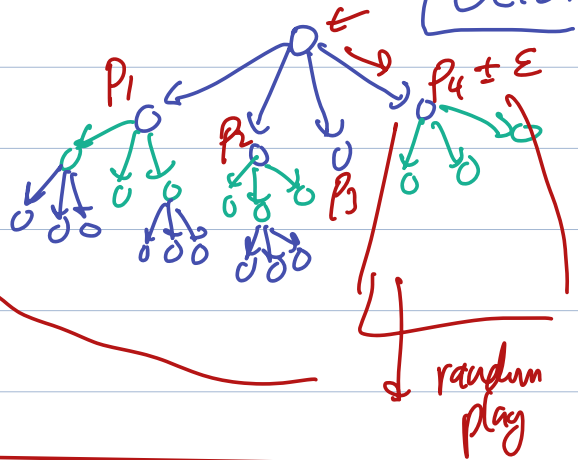
(1) Hidden Markov model



(2) PAGERANK

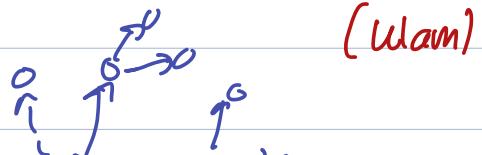


(3) Alpha GO



1	2	3	...	50
0	0	0	...	0
7	15	1	...	2
	2			13

(4) Nuclear bombs



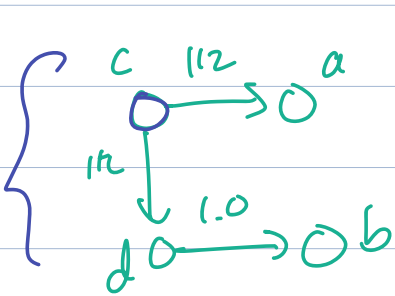
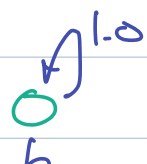
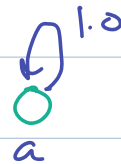
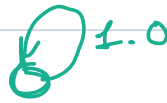
$$0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0$$

Def: A prob. distribution  $\pi$  on  $\Omega$  is called the stationary distribution if

$$P_t(x, y) \rightarrow \pi(y) \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty \quad \forall x, y \in \Omega$$

$$\parallel$$

$$P[X_t = y | X_0 = x]$$

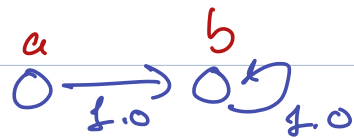


$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} a: 1:a \\ b: 1:b \\ c: \frac{1}{2}:a, \frac{1}{2}:b \\ d: 1:b \end{array} \right.$$

Def: A Markov chain is reducible if its digraph is not strongly connected.

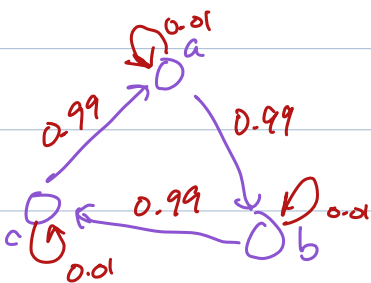
(Irreducible opposite of reducible)

Def: Periodic:



$$\pi(b) = 1$$

$$\pi(a) = 0$$



$$\gcd(\{t: P_t(a, a) > 0\}) = 3$$

A Markov chain is aperiodic if

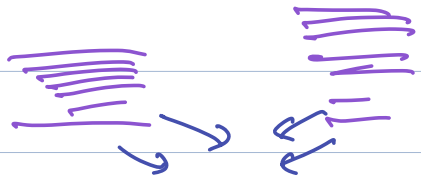
$$\gcd(\{t: P_t(x, y) > 0\}) = 1 \quad \forall x, y \in \Omega$$

Fundamental thm of Markov chains: If  $P$  is aperiodic and irreducible, then  $P$  has a unique stationarity distribution.

- What is  $\pi$ ?

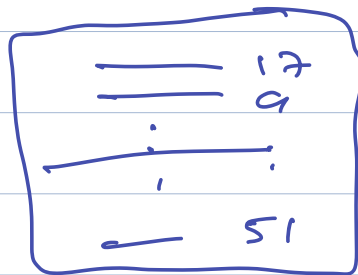
$$(P_t(x, \cdot) \approx \pi)$$

- How long does it take for  $P_t(x, y) \approx \pi(y)$   $\forall y \in \Omega$ ?



7 riddle shuffles

52!



Def: If  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are two prob. distr,

then

$$d_{TV}(\mu, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in \Omega} |\mu(x) - \nu(x)|$$

$$(\text{=} \max_{E \subseteq \Omega} |\mu(E) - \nu(E)|)$$

$$T_{\text{mix}} := \min \{ t : d_{TV}(\pi, P_t(x, \cdot)) \leq \frac{1}{4} \forall x \in \Omega \}$$

$$P_t(x, \cdot) \rightarrow \pi \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

$$d_{TV}(P_t(x, \cdot), \pi) \rightarrow 0 \forall x \in \Omega$$

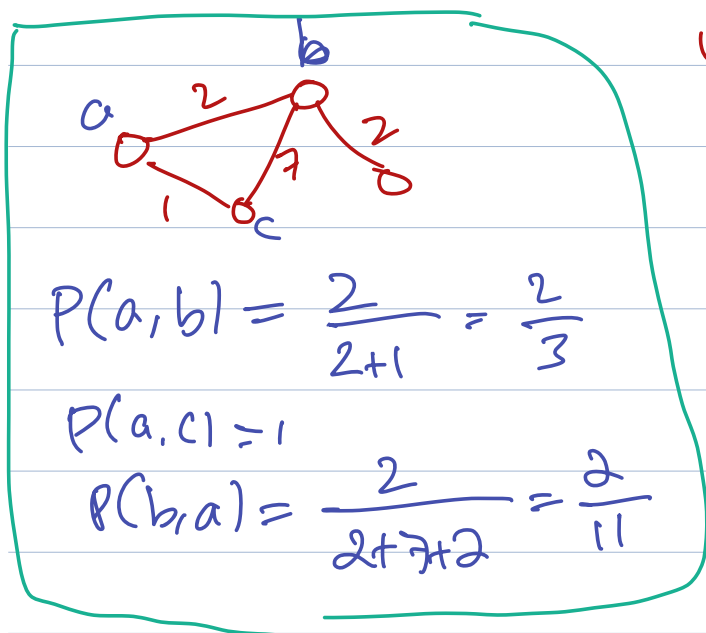
(for any  $c \geq 1$ )

Fact: After  $t = c \cdot T_{\text{mix}}$  steps,

$$\text{dtr}(\mathbb{P}_t(x, \cdot)) \leq e^{-c} \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

Symmetric chains:  
("Reversible" chains)

$$P(x, y) = P(y, x)$$



$$P(a, b) = \frac{2}{2+1} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$P(a, c) = 1$$

$$P(b, a) = \frac{2}{2+2+2} = \frac{2}{11}$$

$$\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$P_{ij} := P(i, j)$$

$P$  is real, sym.  $n \times n$  matrix

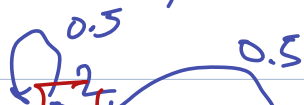
$$v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

$v_i = \text{prob mass on } i$

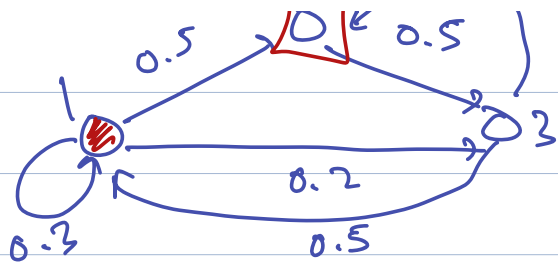
$$\begin{cases} v \in \mathbb{R}^n & v_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i \\ v_1 + \dots + v_n = 1 \end{cases}$$

$v$  prob distr. Then  $v^T P$  is the distr after one step.

$$v = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$$



$$v = (1, 0, 0)$$



one step of RW:

$$(0.3, 0.5, 0.2)$$

two steps of RW:

$$0.3 (0.3, 0.5, 0.2) +$$

$$0.5 (0, 0.5, 0.5) +$$

$$0.2 (0.5, 0.5, 0)$$

$$= (0.19, 0.5, 0.31)$$

$$(v^T P)_i = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j \cdot P_{ji}$$

$$\boxed{v^T P^k} \quad (v^T P^k)_i = \mathbb{P}[X_k = i \mid X_0 \sim v]$$

$$\pi^T P = \pi^T \quad \text{left ev.}$$

$$\pi^T P^k = \pi^T \quad \text{w/ eigenvalue 1}$$

Eigenvalues of  $P$  lie in  $[-1, 1]$

$$\dots \leq \lambda_2 < 1 = \lambda_1$$

← spectral gap

st. distr.  $\pi$

$$v^T P^k$$

Reversible Markov chains

mix. time  $\iff$  eigenvalues

$$V = \alpha_1 u^{(1)} + \dots + \alpha_n u^{(n)}$$

$$\alpha_1 u^{(1)} + \alpha_2 \lambda_2^k u^{(2)} + \dots + \alpha_n \lambda_n^k u^{(n)}$$

$\xrightarrow{\pi}$   $\xleftarrow{\pi}$