SOLUTION TO PRACTICE PROBLEM

Examine the Casorati matrix:

$$C(k) = \begin{bmatrix} 2^k & 3^k \sin\frac{k\pi}{2} & 3^k \cos\frac{k\pi}{2} \\ 2^{k+1} & 3^{k+1} \sin\frac{(k+1)\pi}{2} & 3^{k+1} \cos\frac{(k+1)\pi}{2} \\ 2^{k+2} & 3^{k+2} \sin\frac{(k+2)\pi}{2} & 3^{k+2} \cos\frac{(k+2)\pi}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Set $k = 0$ and row reduce the matrix to verify that it has three pivot positions and hence is invertible:

$$C(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -13 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Casorati matrix is invertible at $k = 0$, so the signals are linearly independent. Since there are three signals, and the solution space H of the difference equation has dimension 3 (Theorem 17), the signals form a basis for H, by the Basis Theorem.

4.9 APPLICATIONS TO MARKOV CHAINS

The Markov chains described in this section are used as mathematical models of a wide variety of situations in biology, business, chemistry, engineering, physics, and elsewhere. In each case, the model is used to describe an experiment or measurement that is performed many times in the same way, where the outcome of each trial of the experiment will be one of several specified possible outcomes, and where the outcome of one trial depends only on the immediately preceding trial.

For example, if the population of a city and its suburbs were measured each year, then a vector such as

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} .60 \\ .40 \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

could indicate that 60% of the population lives in the city and 40% in the suburbs. The decimals in $\mathbf{x}_0$ add up to 1 because they account for the entire population of the region. Percentages are more convenient for our purposes here than population totals.

A vector with nonnegative entries that add up to 1 is called a **probability vector**. A **stochastic matrix** is a square matrix whose columns are probability vectors. A **Markov chain** is a sequence of probability vectors $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \ldots$, together with a stochastic matrix P, such that

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = P\mathbf{x}_0, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = P\mathbf{x}_1, \quad \mathbf{x}_3 = P\mathbf{x}_2, \quad \ldots$$

Thus the Markov chain is described by the first-order difference equation

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = P\mathbf{x}_k \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$$

When a Markov chain of vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$ describes a system or a sequence of experiments, the entries in $\mathbf{x}_k$ list, respectively, the probabilities that the system is in each of n possible states, or the probabilities that the outcome of the experiment is one of n possible outcomes. For this reason, $\mathbf{x}_k$ is often called a **state vector**.

EXAMPLE 1 In Section 1.10 we examined a model for population movement between a city and its suburbs. See Fig. 1. The annual migration between these two parts of the metropolitan region was governed by the *migration matrix* M:

$$M = \begin{array}{c} \text{From:} \\ \begin{array}{cc} \text{City} & \text{Suburbs} \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} .95 & .03 \\ .05 & .97 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text{To:} \\ \text{City} \\ \text{Suburbs} \end{array}$$

That is, each year 5% of the city population moves to the suburbs, and 3% of the suburban population moves to the city. The columns of M are probability vectors, so M is a stochastic matrix. Suppose the 2000 population of the region is 600,000 in the city and 400,000 in the suburbs. Then the initial distribution of the population in the region is given by $\mathbf{x}_0$ in (1) above. What is the distribution of the population in 2001? In 2002?

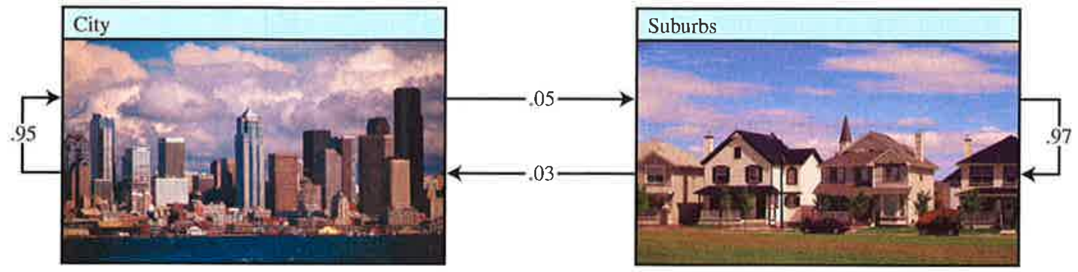

FIGURE 1 Annual percentage migration between city and suburbs.

Solution In Example 3 of Section 1.10, we saw that after one year, the population vector $\begin{bmatrix} 600{,}000 \\ 400{,}000 \end{bmatrix}$ changed to

$$\begin{bmatrix} .95 & .03 \\ .05 & .97 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 600{,}000 \\ 400{,}000 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 582{,}000 \\ 418{,}000 \end{bmatrix}$$

If we divide both sides of this equation by the total population of 1 million, and use the fact that $kM\mathbf{x} = M(k\mathbf{x})$, we find that

$$\begin{bmatrix} .95 & .03 \\ .05 & .97 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} .600 \\ .400 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .582 \\ .418 \end{bmatrix}$$

The vector $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} .582 \\ .418 \end{bmatrix}$ gives the population distribution in 2001. That is, 58.2% of the region lived in the city and 41.8% lived in the suburbs. Similarly, the population distribution in 2002 is described by a vector $\mathbf{x}_2$, where

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = M\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} .95 & .03 \\ .05 & .97 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .582 \\ .418 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .565 \\ .435 \end{bmatrix}$$

EXAMPLE 2 Suppose the voting results of a congressional election at a certain voting precinct are represented by a vector $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$:

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{\% voting Democratic (D)} \\ \text{\% voting Republican (R)} \\ \text{\% voting Libertarian (L)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose we record the outcome of the congressional election every two years by a vector of this type and the outcome of one election depends only on the results of the preceding election. Then the sequence of vectors that describe the votes every two years may be a Markov chain. As an example of a stochastic matrix P for this chain, we take

$$\begin{matrix} & & \text{From:} & & \\ & \text{D} & \text{R} & \text{L} & \text{To:} \end{matrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} .70 & .10 & .30 \\ .20 & .80 & .30 \\ .10 & .10 & .40 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{D} \\ \text{R} \\ \text{L} \end{matrix}$$

The entries in the first column, labeled D, describe what the persons voting Democratic in one election will do in the next election. Here we have supposed that 70% will vote D again in the next election, 20% will vote R, and 10% will vote L. A similar interpretation holds for the other columns of P. A diagram for this matrix is shown in Fig. 2.

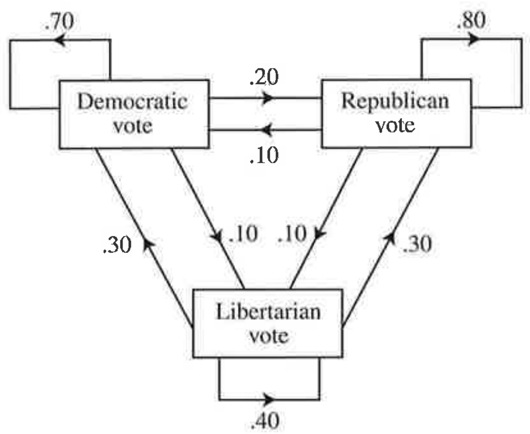

FIGURE 2 Voting changes from one election to the next.

If the "transition" percentages remain constant over many years from one election to the next, then the sequence of vectors that give the voting outcomes forms a Markov

chain. Suppose the outcome of one election is given by

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} .55 \\ .40 \\ .05 \end{bmatrix}$$

Determine the likely outcome of the next election and the likely outcome of the election after that.

Solution The outcome of the next election is described by the state vector $\mathbf{x}_1$ and that of the election after that by $\mathbf{x}_2$, where

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = P\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} .70 & .10 & .30 \\ .20 & .80 & .30 \\ .10 & .10 & .40 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .55 \\ .40 \\ .05 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .440 \\ .445 \\ .115 \end{bmatrix}$$

44% will vote D.
44.5% will vote R.
11.5% will vote L.

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = P\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} .70 & .10 & .30 \\ .20 & .80 & .30 \\ .10 & .10 & .40 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .440 \\ .445 \\ .115 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .3870 \\ .4785 \\ .1345 \end{bmatrix}$$

38.7% will vote D.
47.8% will vote R.
13.5% will vote L.

To understand why $\mathbf{x}_1$ does indeed give the outcome of the next election, suppose 1000 persons voted in the "first" election, with 550 voting D, 400 voting R, and 50 voting L. (See the percentages in $\mathbf{x}_0$.) In the next election, 70% of the 550 will vote D again, 10% of the 400 will switch from R to D, and 30% of the 50 will switch from L to D. Thus the total D vote will be

$$.70(550) + .10(400) + .30(50) = 385 + 40 + 15 = 440 \tag{2}$$

Thus 44% of the vote next time will be for the D candidate. The calculation in (2) is essentially the same as that used to compute the first entry in $\mathbf{x}_1$. Analogous calculations could be made for the other entries in $\mathbf{x}_1$, for the entries in $\mathbf{x}_2$, and so on.

Predicting the Distant Future

The most interesting aspect of Markov chains is the study of a chain's long-term behavior. For instance, what can be said in Example 2 about the voting after many elections have passed (assuming that the given stochastic matrix continues to describe the transition percentages from one election to the next)? Or, what happens to the population distribution in Example 1 "in the long run"? Before answering these questions, we turn to a numerical example.

EXAMPLE 3 Let $P = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .8 & .3 \\ .2 & 0 & .4 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Consider a system whose state is described by the Markov chain $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = P\mathbf{x}_k$, for $k = 0, 1, \ldots$. What happens to the system as time passes? Compute the state vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_{15}$ to find out.

Solution

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = P\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .8 & .3 \\ .2 & 0 & .4 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .5 \\ .3 \\ .2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = P\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .8 & .3 \\ .2 & 0 & .4 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .5 \\ .3 \\ .2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .37 \\ .45 \\ .18 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = P\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .8 & .3 \\ .2 & 0 & .4 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .37 \\ .45 \\ .18 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .329 \\ .525 \\ .146 \end{bmatrix}$$

The results of further calculations are shown below, with entries rounded to four or five significant figures.

$$\mathbf{x}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} .3133 \\ .5625 \\ .1242 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} .3064 \\ .5813 \\ .1123 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_6 = \begin{bmatrix} .3032 \\ .5906 \\ .1062 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_7 = \begin{bmatrix} .3016 \\ .5953 \\ .1031 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_8 = \begin{bmatrix} .3008 \\ .5977 \\ .1016 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_9 = \begin{bmatrix} .3004 \\ .5988 \\ .1008 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{10} = \begin{bmatrix} .3002 \\ .5994 \\ .1004 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} .3001 \\ .5997 \\ .1002 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} .30005 \\ .59985 \\ .10010 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} .30002 \\ .59993 \\ .10005 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{14} = \begin{bmatrix} .30001 \\ .59996 \\ .10002 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{15} = \begin{bmatrix} .30001 \\ .59998 \\ .10001 \end{bmatrix}$$

These vectors seem to be approaching $\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} .3 \\ .6 \\ .1 \end{bmatrix}$. The probabilities are hardly changing from one value of k to the next. Observe that the following calculation is exact (with no rounding error):

$$P\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .8 & .3 \\ .2 & 0 & .4 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .3 \\ .6 \\ .1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .15 + .12 + .03 \\ .09 + .48 + .03 \\ .06 + 0 + .04 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .30 \\ .60 \\ .10 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q}$$

When the system is in state $\mathbf{q}$, there is no change in the system from one measurement to the next.

Steady-State Vectors

If P is a stochastic matrix, then a **steady-state vector** (or **equilibrium vector**) for P is a probability vector $\mathbf{q}$ such that

$$P\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}$$

It can be shown that every stochastic matrix has a steady-state vector. In Example 3, $\mathbf{q}$ is a steady-state vector for P.

EXAMPLE 4 The probability vector $\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} .375 \\ .625 \end{bmatrix}$ is a steady-state vector for the population migration matrix M in Example 1, because

$$M\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} .95 & .03 \\ .05 & .97 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} .375 \\ .625 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .35625 + .01875 \\ .01875 + .60625 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} .375 \\ .625 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q}$$

If the total population of the metropolitan region in Example 1 is 1 million, then $\mathbf{q}$ from Example 4 would correspond to having 375,000 persons in the city and 625,000 in the suburbs. At the end of one year, the migration *out of* the city would be $(.05)(375{,}000) = 18{,}750$ persons, and the migration *into* the city from the suburbs would be $(.03)(625{,}000) = 18{,}750$ persons. As a result, the population in the city would remain the same. Similarly, the suburban population would be stable.

The next example shows how to *find* a steady-state vector.

EXAMPLE 5 Let $P = \begin{bmatrix} .6 & .3 \\ .4 & .7 \end{bmatrix}$. Find a steady-state vector for P.

Solution First, solve the equation $P\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$.

$$P\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$P\mathbf{x} - I\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \qquad \text{Recall from Section 1.4 that } I\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}.$$

$$(P - I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

For P as above,

$$P - I = \begin{bmatrix} .6 & .3 \\ .4 & .7 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -.4 & .3 \\ .4 & -.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find all solutions of $(P - I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$, row reduce the augmented matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -.4 & .3 & 0 \\ .4 & -.3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} -.4 & .3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then $x_1 = \frac{3}{4}x_2$ and x_2 is free. The general solution is $x_2\begin{bmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Next, choose a simple basis for the solution space. One obvious choice is $\begin{bmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ but a better choice with no fractions is $\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ (corresponding to $x_2 = 4$).

Finally, find a probability vector in the set of all solutions of $P\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$. This process is easy, since every solution is a multiple of the $\mathbf{w}$ above. Divide $\mathbf{w}$ by the sum of its entries and obtain

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/7 \\ 4/7 \end{bmatrix}$$

As a check, compute

$$P\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} 6/10 & 3/10 \\ 4/10 & 7/10 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} 3/7 \\ 4/7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 18/70 + 12/70 \\ 12/70 + 28/70 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 30/70 \\ 40/70 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q}$$

The next theorem shows that what happened in Example 3 is typical of many stochastic matrices. We say that a stochastic matrix is **regular** if some matrix power P^k contains only strictly positive entries. For the P in Example 3, we have

$$P^2 = \begin{bmatrix} .37 & .26 & .33 \\ .45 & .70 & .45 \\ .18 & .04 & .22 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since every entry in P^2 is strictly positive, P is a regular stochastic matrix.

Also, we say that a sequence of vectors $\{\mathbf{x}_k : k = 1, 2, \ldots\}$ **converges** to a vector $\mathbf{q}$ as $k \to \infty$ if the entries in the $\mathbf{x}_k$ can be made as close as desired to the corresponding entries in $\mathbf{q}$ by taking k sufficiently large.

THEOREM 18

If P is an $n \times n$ regular stochastic matrix, then P has a unique steady-state vector $\mathbf{q}$. Further, if $\mathbf{x}_0$ is any initial state and $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = P\mathbf{x}_k$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, then the Markov chain $\{\mathbf{x}_k\}$ converges to $\mathbf{q}$ as $k \to \infty$.

This theorem is proved in standard texts on Markov chains. The amazing part of the theorem is that the initial state has no effect on the long-term behavior of the Markov chain. You will see later (in Section 5.2) why this fact is true for several stochastic matrices studied here.

EXAMPLE 6 In Example 2, what percentage of the voters are likely to vote for the Republican candidate in some election many years from now, assuming that the election outcomes form a Markov chain?

Solution For computations by hand, the *wrong* approach is to pick some initial vector $\mathbf{x}_0$ and compute $\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_k$ for some large value of k. You have no way of knowing how many vectors to compute, and you cannot be sure of the limiting values of the entries in the $\mathbf{x}_k$.

The correct approach is to compute the steady-state vector and then appeal to Theorem 18. Given P as in Example 2, form $P - I$ by subtracting 1 from each diagonal entry in P. Then row reduce the augmented matrix:

$$[\,(P - I) \quad \mathbf{0}\,] = \begin{bmatrix} -.3 & .1 & .3 & 0 \\ .2 & -.2 & .3 & 0 \\ .1 & .1 & -.6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall from earlier work with decimals that the arithmetic is simplified by multiplying each row by 10.[1]

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -9/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -15/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The general solution of $(P - I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ is $x_1 = \frac{9}{4}x_3$, $x_2 = \frac{15}{4}x_3$, and x_3 is free. Choosing $x_3 = 4$, we obtain a basis for the solution space whose entries are integers, and from this we easily find the steady-state vector whose entries sum to 1:

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 15 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} 9/28 \\ 15/28 \\ 4/28 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} .32 \\ .54 \\ .14 \end{bmatrix}$$

The entries in $\mathbf{q}$ describe the distribution of votes at an election to be held many years from now (assuming the stochastic matrix continues to describe the changes from one election to the next). Thus, eventually, about 54% of the vote will be for the Republican candidate.

NUMERICAL NOTE

You may have noticed that if $\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = P\mathbf{x}_k$ for $k = 0, 1, \ldots$, then

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = P\mathbf{x}_1 = P(P\mathbf{x}_0) = P^2\mathbf{x}_0,$$

and, in general,

$$\mathbf{x}_k = P^k\mathbf{x}_0 \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \ldots$$

To compute a specific vector such as $\mathbf{x}_3$, fewer arithmetic operations are needed to compute $\mathbf{x}_1$, $\mathbf{x}_2$, and $\mathbf{x}_3$, rather than P^3 and $P^3\mathbf{x}_0$. However, if P is small—say, 30×30—the machine computation time is insignificant for both methods, and a command to compute $P^3\mathbf{x}_0$ might be preferred because it requires fewer human keystrokes.

PRACTICE PROBLEMS

1. Suppose the residents of a metropolitan region move according to the probabilities in the migration matrix of Example 1 and a resident is chosen "at random." Then a state vector for a certain year may be interpreted as giving the probabilities that the person is a city resident or a suburban resident at that time.
   a. Suppose the person chosen is a city resident now, so that $\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. What is the likelihood that the person will live in the suburbs next year?

[1] *Warning:* Don't multiply only P by 10. Instead, multiply the augmented matrix for equation $(P - I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ by 10.

b. What is the likelihood that the person will be living in the suburbs in two years?

2. Let $P = \begin{bmatrix} .6 & .2 \\ .4 & .8 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} .3 \\ .7 \end{bmatrix}$. Is $\mathbf{q}$ a steady-state vector for P?

3. What percentage of the population in Example 1 will live in the suburbs after many years?

4.9 EXERCISES

1. A small remote village receives radio broadcasts from two radio stations, a news station and a music station. Of the listeners who are tuned to the news station, 70% will remain listening to the news after the station break that occurs each half hour, while 30% will switch to the music station at the station break. Of the listeners who are tuned to the music station, 60% will switch to the news station at the station break, while 40% will remain listening to the music. Suppose everyone is listening to the news at 8:15 A.M.

a. Give the stochastic matrix that describes how the radio listeners tend to change stations at each station break. Label the rows and columns.

b. Give the initial state vector.

c. What percentage of the listeners will be listening to the music station at 9:25 A.M. (after the station breaks at 8:30 and 9:00 A.M.)?

2. A laboratory animal may eat any one of three foods each day. Laboratory records show that if the animal chooses one food on one trial, it will choose the same food on the next trial with a probability of 50%, and it will choose the other foods on the next trial with equal probabilities of 25%.

a. What is the stochastic matrix for this situation?

b. If the animal chooses food #1 on an initial trial, what is the probability that it will choose food #2 on the second trial after the initial trial?

3. On any given day, a student is either healthy or ill. Of the students who are healthy today, 95% will be healthy tomorrow. Of the students who are ill today, 55% will still be ill tomorrow.

a. What is the stochastic matrix for this situation?

b. Suppose 20% of the students are ill on Monday. What fraction or percentage of the students are likely to be ill on Tuesday? On Wednesday?

c. If a student is well today, what is the probability that he or she will be well two days from now?

4. The weather in Columbus is either good, indifferent, or bad on any given day. If the weather is good today, there is a 60% chance the weather will be good tomorrow, a 30% chance the weather will be indifferent, and a 10% chance the weather will be bad. If the weather is indifferent today, it will be good tomorrow with probability .40 and indifferent with probability .30. Finally, if the weather is bad today, it will be good tomorrow with probability .40 and indifferent with probability .50.

a. What is the stochastic matrix for this situation?

b. Suppose there is a 50% chance of good weather today and a 50% chance of indifferent weather. What are the chances of bad weather tomorrow?

c. Suppose the predicted weather for Monday is 40% indifferent weather and 60% bad weather. What are the chances for good weather on Wednesday?

In Exercises 5–8, find the steady-state vector.

5. $\begin{bmatrix} .1 & .6 \\ .9 & .4 \end{bmatrix}$ **6.** $\begin{bmatrix} .8 & .5 \\ .2 & .5 \end{bmatrix}$

7. $\begin{bmatrix} .7 & .1 & .1 \\ .2 & .8 & .2 \\ .1 & .1 & .7 \end{bmatrix}$ **8.** $\begin{bmatrix} .7 & .2 & .2 \\ 0 & .2 & .4 \\ .3 & .6 & .4 \end{bmatrix}$

9. Determine if $P = \begin{bmatrix} .2 & 1 \\ .8 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is a regular stochastic matrix.

10. Determine if $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & .2 \\ 0 & .8 \end{bmatrix}$ is a regular stochastic matrix.

11. a. Find the steady-state vector for the Markov chain in Exercise 1.

b. At some time late in the day, what fraction of the listeners will be listening to the news?

12. Refer to Exercise 2. Which food will the animal prefer after many trials?

13. a. Find the steady-state vector for the Markov chain in Exercise 3.

b. What is the probability that after many days a specific student is ill? Does it matter if that person is ill today?

14. Refer to Exercise 4. In the long run, how likely is it for the weather in Columbus to be good on a given day?

15. **[M]** The Demographic Research Unit of the California State Department of Finance supplied data for the following migration matrix, which describes the movement of the United States population during 1989. In 1989, about 11.7% of the total population lived in California. What percentage of the total population would eventually live in California if the listed migration probabilities were to remain constant over many years?

From: CA	From: Rest of U.S.	To:
.9821	.0029	California
.0179	.9971	Rest of U.S.

16. **[M]** In Detroit, Hertz Rent A Car has a fleet of about 2000 cars. The pattern of rental and return locations is given by the fractions in the table below. On a typical day, about how many cars will be rented or ready to rent from the Downtown location?

Cars Rented from: City Airport	Downtown	Metro Airport	Returned to:
.90	.01	.09	City Airport
.01	.90	.01	Downtown
.09	.09	.90	Metro Airport

17. Let P be an $n \times n$ stochastic matrix. The following argument shows that the equation $P\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$ has a nontrivial solution. (In fact, a steady-state solution exists with nonnegative entries. A proof is given in some advanced texts.) Justify each assertion below. (Mention a theorem when appropriate.)

a. If all the other rows of $P - I$ are added to the bottom row, the result is a row of zeros.

b. The rows of $P - I$ are linearly dependent.

c. The dimension of the row space of $P - I$ is less than n.

d. $P - I$ has a nontrivial null space.

18. Show that every 2×2 stochastic matrix has at least one steady-state vector. Any such matrix can be written in the form $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\alpha & \beta \\ \alpha & 1-\beta \end{bmatrix}$, where α and β are constants between 0 and 1. (There are two linearly independent steady-state vectors if $\alpha = \beta = 0$. Otherwise, there is only one.)

19. Let S be the $1 \times n$ row matrix with a 1 in each column,

$$S = [\,1 \quad 1 \quad \cdots \quad 1\,]$$

a. Explain why a vector $\mathbf{x}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a probability vector if and only if its entries are nonnegative and $S\mathbf{x} = 1$. (A 1×1 matrix such as the product $S\mathbf{x}$ is usually written without the matrix bracket symbols.)

b. Let P be an $n \times n$ stochastic matrix. Explain why $SP = S$.

c. Let P be an $n \times n$ stochastic matrix, and let $\mathbf{x}$ be a probability vector. Show that $P\mathbf{x}$ is also a probability vector.

20. Use Exercise 19 to show that if P is an $n \times n$ stochastic matrix, then so is P^2.

21. **[M]** Examine powers of a regular stochastic matrix.

a. Compute P^k for $k = 2, 3, 4, 5$, when

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} .3355 & .3682 & .3067 & .0389 \\ .2663 & .2723 & .3277 & .5451 \\ .1935 & .1502 & .1589 & .2395 \\ .2047 & .2093 & .2067 & .1765 \end{bmatrix}$$

Display calculations to four decimal places. What happens to the columns of P^k as k increases? Compute the steady-state vector for P.

b. Compute Q^k for $k = 10, 20, \ldots, 80$, when

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} .97 & .05 & .10 \\ 0 & .90 & .05 \\ .03 & .05 & .85 \end{bmatrix}$$

(Stability for Q^k to four decimal places may require $k = 116$ or more.) Compute the steady-state vector for Q. Conjecture what might be true for any regular stochastic matrix.