

Exercise 6.6.2

Let $\{Z_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ be a CTMC given by $Z_t = X_t^1 + X_t^2$. Here $\{X_t^1\}_{t \geq 0}$ and $\{X_t^2\}_{t \geq 0}$ are independent CTMCs with the common generator:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda \\ \mu & -\mu \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the example on p. 329-331, we know the transition probability matrix $P^*(t)$ for $\{X_t^1\}$ and $\{X_t^2\}$.

$$P^*(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \mu/(\lambda+\mu) & \lambda/(\lambda+\mu) \\ \mu/(\lambda+\mu) & \lambda/(\lambda+\mu) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \lambda/(\lambda+\mu) & -\lambda/(\lambda+\mu) \\ -\mu/(\lambda+\mu) & \mu/(\lambda+\mu) \end{pmatrix} e^{-(\lambda+\mu)t}$$

To construct $P(t)$, we note that

$$\{Z_t = 2 \mid Z_0 = 0\} = \{X_t^1 = 1, X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0\},$$

$$\{Z_t = 1 \mid Z_0 = 0\} = \{X_t^1 = 1, X_t^2 = 0 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0\}$$

$$\cup \{X_t^1 = 0, X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0\}, \text{ and}$$

$$\{Z_t = 0 \mid Z_0 = 0\} = \{X_t^1 = 0, X_t^2 = 0 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0\}.$$

Therefore,

$$P_{02}(t) = P(Z_t = 2 \mid Z_0 = 0)$$

$$= P(X_t^1 = 1, X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0)$$

$$(\text{indep.}) = P(X_t^1 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0) P(X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^2 = 0)$$

$$= P_{01}^*(t) P_{01}^*(t) = P_{01}^*(t)^2.$$

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Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{01}(t) &= P(Z_t = 1 \mid Z_0 = 0) \\
 &= P(X_t^1 = 1, X_t^2 = 0 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0) \\
 &\quad + P(X_t^1 = 0, X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0, X_0^2 = 0) \\
 (\text{indep.}) &= P(X_t^1 = 1 \mid X_0^1 = 0) P(X_t^2 = 0 \mid X_0^2 = 0) \\
 &\quad + P(X_t^1 = 0 \mid X_0^1 = 0) P(X_t^2 = 1 \mid X_0^2 = 0) \\
 &= P_{01}^*(t) P_{00}^*(t) + P_{00}^*(t) P_{01}^*(t) \\
 &= 2 P_{00}^*(t) P_{01}^*(t).
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$P_{00}(t) = P_{00}^*(t)^2.$$

Collecting all the terms and putting them into a matrix:

$$P(t) = \begin{pmatrix} P_{00}^*(t)^2 & 2 P_{00}^*(t) P_{01}^*(t) & P_{01}^*(t)^2 \\ 2 P_{10}^*(t) P_{00}^*(t) & 2 (P_{00}^*(t) P_{11}^*(t) + P_{10}^*(t) P_{01}^*(t)) & 2 P_{01}^*(t) P_{11}^*(t) \\ P_{10}^*(t)^2 & 2 P_{10}^*(t) P_{11}^*(t) & P_{11}^*(t)^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We shall not write out all elements, but we shall give an example.

$$P_{00}(t) = P_{00}^*(t)^2 = \left(\mu / (\lambda + \mu) + \lambda / (\lambda + \mu) e^{-(\lambda + \mu)t} \right)^2.$$