

## Stochastic Process

**Def : A stochastic process is a family of random variables  $X(t)$**

$X$  : state space

$X(\cdot)$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$  can be discrete (countable) or continuous (uncountable)

$t$  : time index, can be discrete or continuous

$X : \{ X(t), t \in T \}$  is called a stochastic process

### Four types of stochastic process

(1) discrete state, discrete time

- ex : number of mails received on the  $n$ th day of the year

$X(t)$  : 第  $t$  天收到的 mail 數

(2) discrete state, continuous time

- ex : number of WWW access during  $(0, t)$

$X(t)$  :  $(0, t)$  時間內有多少 access request

(3) continuous state, discrete time

- ex : period of time you played BBS on the  $n$ th day of the year

$X(t)$  : 第  $t$  天用 BBS 的時間

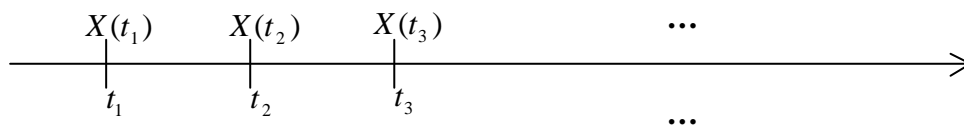
(4) continuous state, continuous time

- ex : periods of time that a WWW server is busy during  $(0, t)$

$X(t)$  :  $(0, t)$  時間內 server busy 的時間

### Relations of $X(t)$ and $X(t)$

$X(t)$  : stochastic process



Define  $F_x(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = P(X(t_1) \leq x_1, X(t_2) \leq x_2, \dots, X(t_i) \leq x_i)$ ,  $\bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ ,

$\bar{t} = (t_1, t_2, \dots)$

- if  $X$  is stationary :  $F_x(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = F_x(\bar{x}, \bar{t} + \bar{\mathbf{t}})$ ,  $\bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ ,  $\bar{t} = (t_1 + \mathbf{t}, t_2 + \mathbf{t}, \dots)$

- if  $X$  is independent :  $f_x(\bar{x}, \bar{t}) = f_x(x_1, t_1) * f_x(x_2, t_2) * \dots$

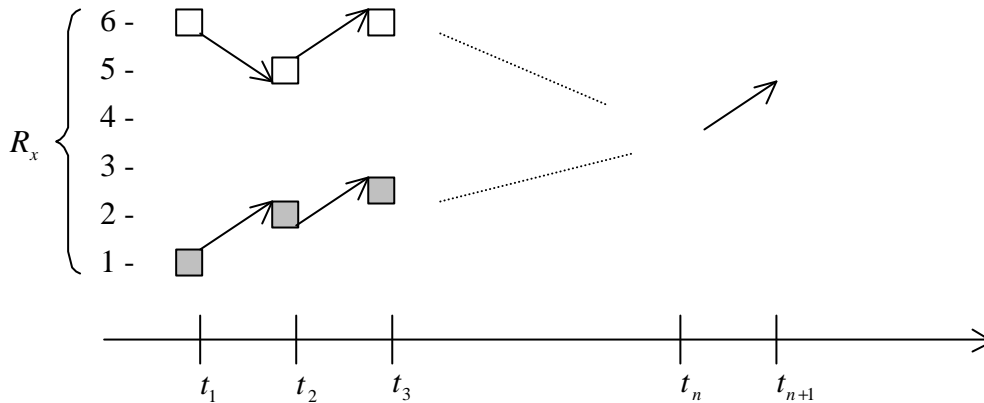
### Markov Process

future evolution of stochastic process depends only on current state

**Def:** A discrete state Markov Process forms a Markov Chain (MC) if the probability of the next state depends only on current state

$$X = \{ X(t_1), X(t_2), \dots \} = \{ x_1, x_2, \dots \}$$

$$P(X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n, X_{n-1} = x_{n-1}, \dots, X_1 = x_1) = P(X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} | X_n = x_n)$$



**Modeling using MC (Markov Chain)**

- State : notation of a system state with transitions among states  
ex : number of jobs queued, number of available resources

All relevant past history of system (for predicting future) must be contained in current state descriptor

- time : discrete time v.s continuous time  
discrete time : transitions between states occur only at discrete time  
continuous time : transitions between states occur at any time

**Discrete time MC**

- a discrete state, discrete time random process
- system has a possible set of countable states  $\{ x_1, x_2, \dots \}$
- all past history summarized in current state
- transitions between states take place only at discrete time  $(t_1, t_2, \dots)$
- given MC is at state I, the probability the next state will be j is  
 $P[X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i] = P_{ij}$ ,  $P = [P_{ij}]$  is called transition probability matrix

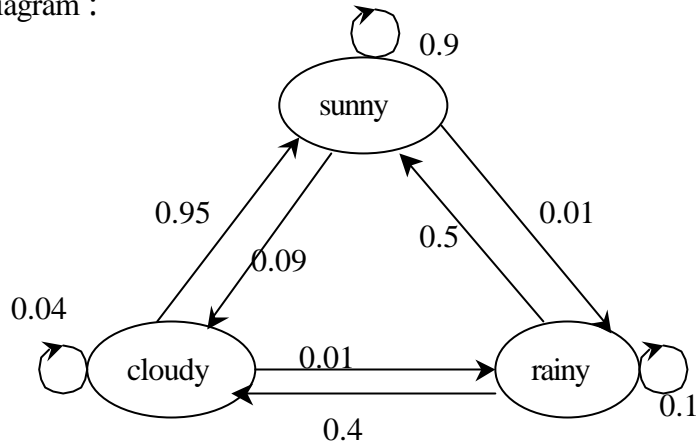
**Example1 : weather**

suppose tomorrow's weather only depends on today's weather

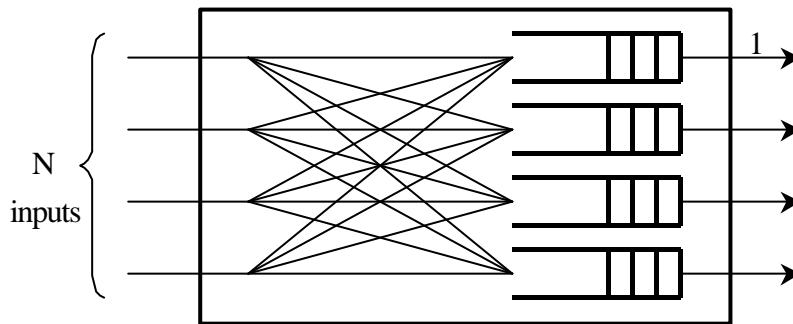
State = (sunny, cloudy, rainy)

$$P = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} S & C & R \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} S \\ C \\ R \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0.9 & 0.09 & 0.01 \\ 0.95 & 0.04 & 0.01 \\ 0.5 & 0.4 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}, \text{ if } \sum_{all j} P_{ij} = 1, P \text{ is called a "stochastic" matrix}$$

State Diagram :



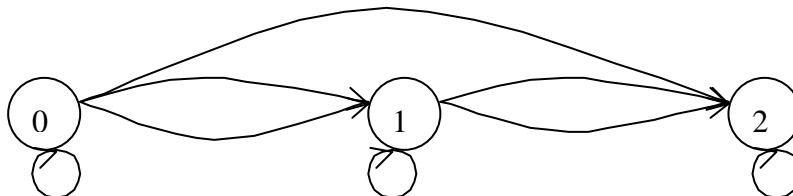
**Example2** : slotted concentrator with buffer (ATM )



- Model output port1, N input ports, each port has an arrival with destination port1 with probability  $p$  during a slot time
- All cells transmitted at an output port during each slot if there is any queued cells

Question : what is the expected delay ?

- time : discrete
- state descriptor : queue length (number of cells in output buffer),  
 $R_x = \{0,1,2,\dots\}$



$$P_{ij} = P(i + (\# \text{ of arrival}) - (\# \text{ of transition}) = j \mid i \text{ cells in buffer})$$

$$\text{ex : } P_{01} = \binom{N}{1} P(1-P)^{N-1}$$

**Def :** m-setp transition probability

$$P_{ij}^{(m)} = p(X_{n+m} = j | X_n = i)$$

$$P_{ij}^{(1)} = P_{ij}$$

$$P_{ij}^{(m)} = \sum_k P_{ik}^{(m-1)} P_{kj} \quad (\text{forward chapman - kolmogov})$$

$$= \sum_k P_{ik} P_{kj}^{(m-1)} \quad (\text{backward chapman - kolmogov})$$

$$P_{ij}^{(m+n)} = \sum_k P_{ik}^{(m)} P_{kj}^{(n)}$$

$$P = [P_{ij}] \text{ implies } P^{(m)} = m - \text{step transition probability} = [P_{ij}^{(m)}]$$

**Def :** Irreducible MC

A Markov Chain is irreducible if every state is reachable from any other state

i.e  $P_{ij}^{(m)} > 0$  for some  $m, i, j \in I$

**Recurrence**

$f_j$  = prob [ever returning to state j, given the system is in state j now]

$f_j^{(n)}$  = prob [first return to state j after n steps]

$$\text{ex : } f_{jj}^1 = P_{jj}$$

$$f_j = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_j^i$$

- if  $f_j = 1$ , state j is recurrent, state j will be visited infinitely often if system runs forever
- if  $f_j < 1$ , state j is transient, each time we visite j, never return with probability  $1 - f_j$
- probability of return exactly n times =  $f_j^{n-1} (1 - f_j)$
- $E[\text{# of returns to j}] = \frac{1}{1 - f_j}$
- A MC is recurrent iff all states are recurrent

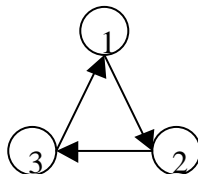
$$M_j = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n * f_j^{(n)}$$

- if  $M_j < \infty$ , state j is non - null recurrent
- if  $M_j = \infty$ , state j is null - recurrent

**Periodicty**

If we can only return to state j after  $r, 2r, 3r, \dots$  transitions ( $r > 1$ ), state j is periodic

ex :



**Def :** Ergodic

A irreducible MC with all states are periodic, non – null recurrent is ergodic