

ECE641-F2020-Final

Q1

2 Points

Rules: I understand that this is an open book exam that shall be done within the allotted time of 180 minutes. I can use my notes, previous posted exams and exam solutions, and web resources. However, I will not communicate with any other person other than the official exam proctors during the exam, and I will not seek or accept help from any other persons other than the official proctors.

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Q2 Reversible Markov Chains

21 Points

Let $\{X_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be a homogeneous Markov chain with states $\{0, \dots, M-1\}$, transition probabilities $P_{i,j}$, and state distribution $P\{X_n = i\} = \pi_i$ for all n .

For the purposes of this problem, we say that X_n is reversible if and only if for all $n > 0$,

$$P\{X_n = i, X_{n-1} = j\} = P\{X_n = j, X_{n-1} = i\}$$

Q2.1

7 Points

Prove the DBE equations are satisfied if and only if X_n is reversible.

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Q2.2

7 Points

Prove that if the DBE equations hold for some π_i and $P_{i,j}$, then the FBE equations must also hold.

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Q2.3

7 Points

Assume that the DBE equations hold and that X_n is reversible, and define $P^\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n$.

Then is it always the case that P^∞ has the following form?

$$P^\infty = \begin{bmatrix} \pi \\ \vdots \\ \pi \end{bmatrix}$$

If so, then prove it is true.

Otherwise, give a counter example.

Enter your answer here

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Q3 Birth Death Processes

28 Points

Let $\{X_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ be a Markov chain with states $\{0, \dots, M-1\}$, transition probabilities $P_{i,j}$, and initial distribution $P\{X_0 = i\} = \tau_i$. Furthermore, let

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$$P_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \lambda & \text{if } j = i + 1 \text{ and } i \geq 0 \\ \mu & \text{if } j = i - 1 \text{ and } i > 0 \\ 1 - \lambda - \mu & \text{if } j = i \text{ and } i > 0 \\ 1 - \lambda & \text{if } j = i \text{ and } i = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $\lambda > 0$, $\mu > 0$, and $\lambda + \mu < 1$.

Q3.1

7 Points

Prove that X_n is a homogeneous Markov chain.

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Q3.2

7 Points

Prove that X_n is an irreducible Markov chain.


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Q3.3

7 Points

Assume that $\lambda < \mu$, then prove that X_n is reversible and find its stationary distribution π_i .


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Q3.4

7 Points

For which values of λ and μ is X_n **not** ergodic?
Justify your answer and provide an intuitive explanation.

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Q4 Markov Random Fields

21 Points

Consider a random field X_s with distribution

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{z} \exp \left\{ - \sum_{\{s,r\} \in P} b_{s,r} \rho(x_s - x_r) \right\}$$

where P is the set of neighboring pixel pairs on a finite rectangular lattice S and neighborhood system ∂s .

Q4.1

7 Points

Calculate the conditional probability $p(x_s | x_r \text{ for } r \neq s)$, and use it to show that X_s is a MRF.

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Q4.2

7 Points

If $\rho(\Delta) = \frac{1}{2}|\Delta|^2$, then what type of prior distribution is this?

Also, what advantages and disadvantages does this choice have?

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Q4.3

7 Points

If $\rho(\Delta) = |\Delta|$, then what type of prior distribution is this?

Also, what advantages and disadvantages does this choice have?

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Q5 EM Algorithm

28 Points

Let $\{X_n\}_{n=1}^N$ be i.i.d. random variables with $P\{X_n = i\} = \pi_i$ for $i \in \{0, \dots, M-1\}$. Also, assume that Y_n are conditionally independent Gaussian random variables given X_n and that the conditional distribution of Y_n given X_n is distributed as $N(\mu_{X_n}, \sigma^2)$. Furthermore, let $\theta = (\pi_0, \mu_0, \dots, \pi_{M-1}, \mu_{M-1})$ parameterize the distribution.

Q5.1

7 Points


What is the name of the distribution of Y_n ?

Enter your answer here

Q5.2

7 Points

If you observe both $\{X_n, Y_n\}_{n=1}^N$, then what is the ML estimate of θ ?

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Q5.3

7 Points

If you observe only $\{Y_n\}_{n=1}^N$, then what is the EM update for computing the ML estimate of θ ?

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Q5.4

7 Points

Does the EM algorithm always converge to a global maximum of the likelihood for this problem?

If so, why? If not, why not?



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