

# **FINAL EXAM**

**Spring Semester**

**17 August 2020**

**Length of the exam : 3h00 (from 16h15 to 19h15)**

Attempt all the questions

First write your name, given names and section :

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Section : \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Exercice</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	
2	
3	
4	
<b>Total points :</b>	

1)

- a) For a Markov chain on  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$   $q_{i, i+1} = q_i = i^2$ . Is the chain explosive? Justify.
- b) An irreducible discrete time Markov chain on  $I = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  has invariant distribution  $(1/4, 1/8, 3/8, 1/4)$ . Give the expected number of visits to state 3 by the Markov chain starting at 1, before returning to 1. If we replace the assumption of irreducibility by that of aperiodicity, is the result still true?
- c) Give an example of a continuous time Markov chain  $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  with an invariant distribution  $\pi$  which is not invariant for the jump chain.
- d) For a discrete time Markov chain, if state  $i$  leads to state  $j$  and  $i$  has period 1, must  $j$  also have period 1? Justify or provide a common example.
- e) A continuous time Markov chain on  $I = \{1, 2, 3\}$  evolves as follows:  $\forall i \in I$  while in state  $i$ , the chain waits an exponential time of mean  $i + 1$  and then selects a 'new' site (which could be  $i$ ) uniformly among  $I$  (so all sites have probability  $1/3$  of being selected). The chain restarts at the new site and the waiting and jumping begins again. All waiting times and states are conditionally independent. Give  $Q$  for the Markov chain.
- f) Give an example of a finite state irreducible nonreversible Markov chain.
- g) A Poisson process of rate 1,  $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ , with  $X_0 = 0$  has  $X_2 = 4$ . What is the conditional probability that  $X_1 = 4$ ? How does this change if the rate is changed to 3.
- h) For two independent exponential r.v.s.  $X, Y$  of parameter  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  respectively, let  $U = \min\{X, Y\}$   $V = \max\{X, Y\}$ . What is the law of  $U$ ? Are  $U$  and  $V - U$  independant?
- i) Let  $\lambda$  be a probability on  $I = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ . Let transition probability  $P$  satisfy  $P_{ij} = \lambda_j \forall i, j$ . Give a necessary and sufficient condition for the chain to be irreducible. With this condition is it aperiodic? Reversible with respect to  $\lambda$ ?





2)

Consider a discrete time Markov chain with transition matrix on  $I = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/4 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 1/4 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- a) Find the probability of reaching 4 starting from 2 for the Markov chain.
- b) Let  $h(x) = E(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} I_{X_n=1} \mid X_0 = x)$   
Calculate  $h(2)$
- c) For an irreducible Markov chain on (finite or countable) state space  $I$ , let  $i$  and  $j$  be distinct sites and define  

$$h(x) = E\left(\sum_{n=0}^{T_j} I_{X_n=i} \mid X_0 = x\right)$$

where  $T_j = \inf\{n \geq 0 : X_n = j\}$

  - (i) Show  $h(x) < \infty \quad \forall x \in I$ . Is this so if the chain is no longer irreducible?
  - (ii) Give a characterization (via a system of equations) for  $h$  without proof.





3)

Consider a Markov chain  $X$  on  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

$$\text{with } P_{i \rightarrow i+1} = \left(\frac{i}{i+1}\right)^2 \quad P_{i \rightarrow 1} = 1 - \left(\frac{i}{i+1}\right)^2$$

- a) Show the chain is irreducible. Is it periodic?
- b) Show the chain is positive recurrent and give the stationary distribution  $\pi$ . Is the chain reversible for  $\pi$ ?
- c) What can you say about the number of times that the chain has visited 5 by time  $10^6$  if  $X_1 = 1$ .
- d) If we change  $P_{i \rightarrow i+1}$  to  $\left(\frac{i}{i+1}\right)^\alpha$  and  $P_{i \rightarrow 1} = 1 - \left(\frac{i}{i+1}\right)^\alpha$ , where  $\alpha > 0$ , for which  $\alpha$  is the chain recurrent, for which does it have an invariant distribution?





4)

Let  $(N_t)_{t \geq 0}$  be a rate  $\lambda$  Poisson process starting at 0.

Let  $\{K_i\}_{i=1}$  be *i.i.d.* Bernoulli( $p$ ) *r.v.s* (independant of  $N$ ). If the jump times of  $N$  are at  $\{0 < t_1 < t_2 \dots\} = T$ ,

let  $V = \{t_i : K_i = 1\}$

and let  $(N^1)_{t \geq 0}$  be the process on  $\mathcal{N} \cup \{0\}$  that start at 0 and jumps (by 1) at times in  $V$

Define  $(N^2_t)_{t \geq 0}$  by  $N^2_t = N_t - N^1_t$

- a) What are distributions of  $N^1$  and  $N^2$  Are they independant ?
- b) Using part a) show that if  $e_1, e_2, \dots$  are *i.i.d.*  $\mathcal{E}xp(\lambda)$  and  $K_1, K_2 \dots$  are *i.i.d.* Bernoulli ( $p$ ) then  $\sum_{i=1}^{M_1} e_i$  is  $\mathcal{E}xp(\lambda p)$  for  $M_1 = \inf\{n \geq 1 : K_n = 1\}$ . If  $M_2 = \inf\{n \geq 1 : K_n = 0\}$  are  $\sum_{i=1}^{M_1} e_i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{M_2} e_i$  independent ?
- c) For  $N(t)$  consider  $S_i = t_{3i}$  for  $i = 1, 2 \dots$  where again  $t_i$  are jump times of  $N$ . What is the asymptotic distribution of  $S_{j(t)+1} - S_{j(t)}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  where  $j(t) = \max\{j : S_j \leq t\}$



