

**TOPICS IN PROBABILITY THEORY AND  
STOCHASTIC PROCESSES**

**Home Work 4, due on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25,**

**Instructor: Prof. Artem Zvavitch**

**Problem 1.** Consider an organization of  $N$  employees ( $N$  is a HUGE number!). Each employee has one of three possible job classifications and changes classifications (independently) according to a Markov chain with transition probabilities

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} .7 & .2 & .1 \\ .2 & .6 & .2 \\ .1 & .4 & .5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

What percentage of employees are in each classification?

**Problem 2.** For the Markov chain with states 1, 2, 3, 4 whose transitional probability

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} .4 & .2 & .1 & .3 \\ .1 & .5 & .2 & .2 \\ .3 & .4 & .2 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

find  $f_{i3}$  (probability that Markov chain EVER make transition from  $i$  to 3) and  $s_{i3}$  (expected number of times in state 3, given that we started from  $i$ ), for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

**Problem 3.** In a branching process having  $X_0 = 1$  and  $\mu < 1$  show that the expected number of individuals ever exist in this population is given by  $\mu/(1 - \mu)$ . What of  $X_0 = n$ ?

**Problem 4.** Please find  $\pi_0$  for the branching processes when

- $P_0 = 1/4, P_2 = 3/4$ .
- $P_0 = 1/4, P_1 = 1/2, P_2 = 1/4$ .
- $P_0 = 1/6, P_1 = 1/2, P_2 = 1/3$ .