# Stochastic Matrices and the Perron–Frobenius Theorem\*

#### René Thiemann

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#### Abstract

Stochastic matrices are a convenient way to model discrete-time and finite state Markov chains. The Perron–Frobenius theorem tells us something about the existence and uniqueness of non-negative eigenvectors of a stochastic matrix.

In this entry, we formalize stochastic matrices, link the formalization to the existing AFP-entry on Markov chains, and apply the Perron–Frobenius theorem to prove that stationary distributions always exist, and they are unique if the stochastic matrix is irreducible.

## Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Stochastic Matrices	2
3	Stochastic Vectors and Probability Mass Functions	3
4	Stochastic Matrices and Markov Models	5
5	Eigenspaces	6
6	Stochastic Matrices and the Perron–Frobenius Theorem	7

## 1 Introduction

In their AFP entry Markov Models [2], Hölzl and Nipkow provide a framework for specifying discrete- and continuous-time Markov chains.

In the following, we instantiate their framework by formalizing rightstochastic matrices and stochastic vectors. These vectors encode probability

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mass functions over a finite set of states, whereas stochastic matrices can be utilized to model discrete-time and finite space Markov chains.

The formulation of Markov chains as matrices has the advantage that certain concepts can easily be expressed via matrices. For instance, a stationary distribution is nothing else than a non-negative real eigenvector of the transition matrix for eigenvalue 1. As a consequence, we can derive certain properties on Markov chains using results on matrices. To be more precise, we utilize the formalization of the Perron–Frobenius theorem [1] to prove that a stationary distribution always exists, and that it is unique if the transition matrix is irreducible.

## 2 Stochastic Matrices

We define a type for stochastic vectors and right-stochastic matrices, i.e., non-negative real vectors and matrices where the sum of each column is 1. For this type we define a matrix-vector multplication, i.e., we show that A\*v is a stochastic vector, if A is a right-stochastic matrix and v a stochastic vector.

```
theory Stochastic-Matrix
  imports Perron-Frobenius.Perron-Frobenius-Aux
begin
definition non-neg-vec :: 'a :: linordered-idom ^n'n \Rightarrow bool where
  non-neg-vec A \equiv (\forall i. A \ \ i \geq 0)
definition stoch-vec :: 'a :: comm-ring-1 ^{\sim} 'n \Rightarrow bool where
  stoch\text{-}vec\ v = (sum\ (\lambda\ i.\ v\ \$\ i)\ UNIV = 1)
definition right-stoch-mat :: 'a :: comm-ring-1 ^{^{\circ}}'n ^{^{\circ}}'m \Rightarrow bool where
  right-stoch-mat a = (\forall j. stoch-vec (column j a))
\mathbf{typedef} \ 'i \ st\text{-}mat = \{ \ a :: \ real \ ^{\prime}i \ ^{\prime}i. \ non\text{-}neg\text{-}mat \ a \wedge \ right\text{-}stoch\text{-}mat \ a \}
  morphisms st-mat Abs-st-mat
  \langle proof \rangle
setup-lifting type-definition-st-mat
typedef 'i \text{ st-vec} = \{ v :: real ^ 'i. non-neg-vec v \land stoch-vec v \}
  morphisms st-vec Abs-st-vec
  \langle proof \rangle
setup-lifting type-definition-st-vec
lift-definition transition-vec-of-st-mat :: 'i :: finite st-mat \Rightarrow 'i \Rightarrow 'i st-vec
  is \lambda a i. column i a
  \langle proof \rangle
```

```
lemma non-neg-vec-st-vec: non-neg-vec (st-vec v)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma non-neg-mat-mult-non-neg-vec: non-neg-mat a \Longrightarrow non-neg-vec \ v \Longrightarrow
  non-neq-vec (a *v v)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma right-stoch-mat-mult-stoch-vec: assumes right-stoch-mat a and stoch-vec
shows stoch\text{-}vec (a *v v)
\langle proof \rangle
lift-definition st-mat-times-st-vec :: 'i :: finite st-mat \Rightarrow 'i st-vec \Rightarrow 'i st-vec
  (infixl \langle *st \rangle 70) is (*v)
  \langle proof \rangle
lift-definition to-st-vec :: real \ ^{\circ} 'i \Rightarrow 'i st-vec is
  \lambda x. if stoch-vec x \wedge non-neg-vec x then x else (\chi i. if i = undefined then 1 else
\theta
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma right-stoch-mat-st-mat: right-stoch-mat (st-mat A)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma non-neg-mat-st-mat: non-neg-mat (st-mat A)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma st-mat-mult-st-vec: st-mat A * v st-vec X = st-vec (A * st X) \langle proof \rangle
lemma st-vec-nonneg[simp]: st-vec x \ i \ge 0
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma st-mat-nonneg[simp]: st-mat x $ i $h j \ge 0
  \langle proof \rangle
end
```

## 3 Stochastic Vectors and Probability Mass Functions

We prove that over a finite type, stochastic vectors and probability mass functions are essentially the same thing: one can convert between both representations.

```
theory Stochastic-Vector-PMF
imports Stochastic-Matrix
HOL-Probability.Probability-Mass-Function
begin
```

```
lemma sigma-algebra-UNIV-finite[simp]: sigma-algebra (UNIV :: 'a :: finite set)
UNIV
\langle proof \rangle
definition measure-of-st-vec' :: 'a st-vec \Rightarrow 'a :: finite set \Rightarrow ennreal where
  measure-of-st-vec' x I = sum (\lambda i. st-vec x \$ i) I
lemma positive-measure-of-st-vec'[simp]: positive A (measure-of-st-vec' x)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma measure-space-measure-of-st-vec': measure-space UNIV UNIV (measure-of-st-vec'
  \langle proof \rangle
context begin
setup-lifting type-definition-measure
lift-definition measure-of-st-vec :: 'a st-vec \Rightarrow 'a :: finite measure is
  \lambda x. (UNIV, UNIV, measure-of-st-vec' x)
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma sets-measure-of-st-vec[simp]: sets (measure-of-st-vec x) = UNIV
  \langle proof \rangle
\mathbf{lemma} \ \mathit{space-measure-of-st-vec}[\mathit{simp}] \colon \mathit{space} \ (\mathit{measure-of-st-vec} \ x) = \ \mathit{UNIV}
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma emeasure-measure-of-st-vec[simp]: emeasure (measure-of-st-vec x) I =
  sum (\lambda i. st-vec x \$ i) I
  \langle proof \rangle
lemma prob-space-measure-of-st-vec: prob-space (measure-of-st-vec x)
  \langle proof \rangle
end
lift-definition st-vec-of-pmf :: 'i :: finite pmf \Rightarrow 'i st-vec is
  \lambda \ pmF. \ vec\text{-}lambda \ (pmf \ pmF)
\langle proof \rangle
{f context}\ pmf-as-measure
begin
lift-definition pmf-of-st-vec :: 'a :: finite st-vec \Rightarrow 'a pmf is measure-of-st-vec
\langle proof \rangle
lemma st-vec-st-vec-of-pmf[simp]:
  st\text{-}vec \ (st\text{-}vec\text{-}of\text{-}pmf \ x) \ \$ \ i = pmf \ x \ i
  \langle proof \rangle
```

```
\begin{array}{l} \textbf{lemma} \ pmf\text{-}pmf\text{-}of\text{-}st\text{-}vec[simp]\text{:} \ pmf\ (pmf\text{-}of\text{-}st\text{-}vec\ x)\ i = st\text{-}vec\ x\ \ i \\ \ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}
```

### 4 Stochastic Matrices and Markov Models

We interpret stochastic matrices as Markov chain with discrete time and finite state and prove that the bind-operation on probability mass functions is precisely matrix-vector multiplication. As a consequence, the notion of stationary distribution is equivalent to being an eigenvector with eigenvalue 1.

```
theory Stochastic-Matrix-Markov-Models
imports
  Markov-Models. Classifying-Markov-Chain-States
  Stochastic-Vector-PMF
begin
definition transition-of-st-mat :: 'i st-mat \Rightarrow 'i :: finite \Rightarrow 'i pmf where
  transition-of-st-mat a i = pmf-as-measure.pmf-of-st-vec (transition-vec-of-st-mat
a i
lemma st-vec-transition-vec-of-st-mat[simp]:
  st\text{-}vec (transition-vec-of-st-mat A a) i = st\text{-}mat A 
  \langle proof \rangle
locale transition-matrix = pmf-as-measure +
 fixes A :: 'i :: finite st-mat
begin
sublocale MC-syntax transition-of-st-mat A \langle proof \rangle
lemma measure-pmf-of-st-vec[simp]: measure-pmf (pmf-of-st-vec x) = measure-of-st-vec
 \langle proof \rangle
lemma pmf-transition-of-st-mat[simp]: pmf (transition-of-st-mat A a) i = st-mat
A  \$  i  \$  a
 \langle proof \rangle
lemma\ bind-is-matrix-vector-mult:\ (bind-pmf\ x\ (transition-of-st-mat\ A)) =
  pmf-as-measure.pmf-of-st-vec (A *st st-vec-of-pmf x)
\langle proof \rangle
```

```
lemmas stationary-distribution-alt-def = stationary-distribution-def [unfolded bind-is-matrix-vector-mult]

lemma stationary-distribution-implies-pmf-of-st-vec: assumes stationary-distribution N shows \exists \ x. \ N = pmf-of-st-vec x \langle proof \rangle

lemma stationary-distribution-pmf-of-st-vec: stationary-distribution (pmf-of-st-vec x) = (A *st \ x = x) \ \langle proof \rangle
end end
```

## 5 Eigenspaces

Using results on Jordan-Normal forms, we prove that the geometric multiplicity of an eigenvalue (i.e., the dimension of the eigenspace) is bounded by the algebraic multiplicity of an eigenvalue (i.e., the multiplicity as root of the characteristic polynomial.). As a consequence we derive that any two eigenvectors of some eigenvalue with multiplicity 1 must be scalar multiples of each other.

```
theory Eigenspace
imports
Jordan-Normal-Form.Jordan-Normal-Form-Uniqueness
Perron-Frobenius.Perron-Frobenius-Aux
begin
hide-const (open) Coset.order
```

The dimension of every generalized eigenspace is bounded by the algebraic multiplicity of an eigenvalue. Hence, in particular the geometric multiplicity is smaller than the algebraic multiplicity.

```
lemma dim-gen-eigenspace-order-char-poly: assumes jnf: jordan-nf A n-as shows dim-gen-eigenspace A lam k \leq order lam (char-poly A) \langle proof \rangle
```

Every eigenvector is contained in the eigenspace.

```
lemma eigenvector-mat-kernel-char-matrix: assumes A: A \in carrier-mat n n and ev: eigenvector A v lam shows v \in mat-kernel (char-matrix A lam) \langle proof \rangle
```

If the algebraic multiplicity is one, then every two eigenvectors are scalar multiples of each other.

```
lemma unique-eigenvector-jnf: assumes jnf: jordan-nf (A :: 'a :: field \ mat) n-as and ord: order lam (char-poly \ A) = 1
```

```
and ev: eigenvector A v lam eigenvector A w lam
shows \exists a. v = a \cdot_v w
\langle proof \rangle
    Getting rid of the JNF-assumption for complex matrices.
lemma unique-eigenvector-complex: assumes A: A \in carrier-mat \ n \ n
  and ord: order lam (char-poly\ A:: complex\ poly) = 1
 and ev: eigenvector A v lam eigenvector A w lam
shows \exists a. v = a \cdot_v w
\langle proof \rangle
    Convert the result to real matrices via homomorphisms.
lemma unique-eigenvector-real: assumes A: A \in carrier-mat n
 and ord: order lam (char-poly\ A :: real\ poly) = 1
 and ev: eigenvector A v lam eigenvector A w lam
shows \exists a. v = a \cdot_v w
\langle proof \rangle
    Finally, the statement converted to HMA-world.
lemma unique-eigen-vector-real: assumes ord: order lam (charpoly A :: real poly)
 and ev: eigen-vector A v lam eigen-vector A w lam
shows \exists a. v = a *s w \langle proof \rangle
end
```

## 6 Stochastic Matrices and the Perron–Frobenius Theorem

Since a stationary distribution corresponds to a non-negative real eigenvector of the stochastic matrix, we can apply the Perron–Frobenius theorem. In this way we easily derive that every stochastic matrix has a stationary distribution, and moreover that this distribution is unique, if the matrix is irreducible, i.e., if the graph of the matrix is strongly connected.

```
theory Stochastic-Matrix-Perron-Frobenius
imports
Perron-Frobenius.Perron-Frobenius-Irreducible
Stochastic-Matrix-Markov-Models
Eigenspace
begin
hide-const (open) Coset.order
lemma pf-nonneg-mat-st-mat: pf-nonneg-mat (st-mat A)
\langle proof \rangle
```

```
lemma stoch-non-neg-vec-norm1: assumes stoch-vec (v :: real ^ 'n) non-neg-vec
 shows norm1 \ v = 1
 \langle proof \rangle
lemma stationary-distribution-exists: \exists v. \ A *st \ v = v
\langle proof \rangle
{f lemma}\ stationary-distribution-unique:
 assumes fixed-mat.irreducible (st-mat A)
 shows \exists ! v. A *st v = v
\langle proof \rangle
    Let us now convert the stationary distribution results from matrices to
Markov chains.
{f context} transition-matrix
begin
{f lemma} stationary-distribution-exists:
 \exists x. stationary-distribution (pmf-of-st-vec x)
\langle proof \rangle
lemma stationary-distribution-unique: assumes fixed-mat.irreducible (st-mat A)
 shows \exists! N. stationary-distribution N
\langle proof \rangle
end
end
```

## References

- [1] J. Divasón, O. Kunar, R. Thiemann, and A. Yamada. Perron-frobenius theorem for spectral radius analysis. *Archive of Formal Proofs*, May 2016. http://isa-afp.org/entries/Perron\_Frobenius.html, Formal proof development.
- J. Hölzl and T. Nipkow. Markov models. Archive of Formal Proofs, Jan. 2012. http://isa-afp.org/entries/Markov\_Models.html, Formal proof development.