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**Mark Piraino\*** (mark.piraino@northwestern.edu). *The weak Bernoulli property for matrix Gibbs states.*

We study the ergodic properties of a class of measures on  $\Sigma^{\mathbb{Z}}$  for which  $\mu_{\mathcal{A},t}[x_0 \cdots x_{n-1}] \approx e^{-nP} \|A_{x_0} \cdots A_{x_{n-1}}\|^t$ , where  $\mathcal{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_{M-1})$  is a collection of matrices. The measure  $\mu_{\mathcal{A},t}$  is called a matrix Gibbs state. In particular we give a sufficient condition for a matrix Gibbs state to have the weak Bernoulli property. We employ a number of techniques to understand these measures including a novel approach based on Perron-Frobenius theory. We find that when  $t$  is an even integer the ergodic properties of  $\mu_{\mathcal{A},t}$  are readily deduced from finite dimensional Perron-Frobenius theory. We then consider an extension of this method to  $t > 0$  using operators on an infinite dimensional space. Finally we use a general result of Bradley to prove the main theorem. (Received September 09, 2019)