

## Queueing Theory

Stat 528  
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Notation:  $L$  = average number of customers in the system (1)

$L_Q$  = average number of customers in the queue

$W$  = average time in system

$W_Q$  = average time in the queue

$X(t)$  = # customers in the system at time  $t$

$P_n = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P[X(t) = n]$  if the limit exists (2)

$P_n$  is the steady state probability

$a_n$  = proportion of customers that find  $n$  people in the system when they arrive

$d_n$  = proportion of customers that see  $n$  people in the system when they depart

③

Counterexample showing that  $p_n$ ,  $a_n$ , and  $d_n$   
are not all the same:

Assume service time  $\equiv 1$  minute

Assume interarrivals  $\sim \text{Unit}(1, 2)$

Every arrival will see 0 people in the system

Every departure will see 0 people in the system

So  $a_0 = 1 = d_0$

But  $p_0 \neq 1$

④

Proposition: In any system in which

customers arrive and depart 1 at a time,

$a_n = d_n$ .

Proof: An arrival who sees  $n$  customers in the system causes a transition from state  $n$  to  $n+1$ .

A departure who sees  $n$  customers in the system causes a transition from state  $n+1$  to  $n$ .

Take any time interval  $T$ .

(5)

The # of transitions from  $n$  to  $n+1$

And the # from  $n+1$  to  $n$  are  
within 1 of each other.

$$a_n = \frac{\text{rate at which arrivals find } n \text{ customers in system}}{\text{overall arrival rate}}$$

$$d_n = \frac{\text{rate at which departures leave } n \text{ customers in system}}{\text{overall departure rate}}$$

$$\therefore a_n = d_n$$

M/M/1 system: Single-server queue with  
Poisson arrivals & departures.

(6)

Let  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  be the arrival & departure rates

Average time between arrivals is  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$

" " " departures is  $\frac{1}{\mu}$

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Use a previously proven fact that the rate  
at which the system enters a state must  
equal the rate at which the system leaves a state.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{State } 0 & \begin{array}{c} \text{enter} \\ P_1 \mu \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{depart} \\ P_0 \lambda \end{array} \end{array} \quad (7)$$

$$\text{State } n \quad P_{n-1} \lambda + P_{n+1} \mu \quad P_n (\lambda + \mu)$$

$$\text{Balance equations: } \begin{cases} \lambda P_0 = \mu P_1 \\ (\lambda + \mu) P_n = \lambda P_{n-1} + \mu P_{n+1} \quad n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Rewrite as: } P_1 &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_0 \\ P_{n+1} &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_n + (P_n - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } P_2 &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_1 + \cancel{(P_1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_0)} \\ &= \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^2 P_0 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_3 &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_2 + \cancel{(P_2 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} P_1)} \\ &= \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^3 P_0 \quad \text{etc} \end{aligned}$$

$$P_n = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n P_0$$

$$\text{But } 1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n P_0 = P_0 \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}} \quad \text{if } \lambda/\mu < 1$$

∴ Need  $\lambda < \mu$  for the steady-state probabilities to exist. (9)

$$P_0 = 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \quad \text{and} \quad P_n = \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n P_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right) \quad \text{let } p = 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n q^{n-1}}_p p = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \cdot \frac{1}{p} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

$$L = \frac{\lambda}{\mu - \lambda} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \text{Average time in system} = \frac{\text{Average \# customers in system}}{\text{rate of arrival}} \\ &= \frac{L}{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

$$W = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W_Q &= W - \text{Average time being served} \\ &= \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} - \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu(\mu - \lambda)} \end{aligned}$$

$$L_Q = \lambda W_Q = \frac{\lambda^2}{\mu(\mu-\lambda)}$$

(11)

Example: M/M/1 Arrivals at 5 per hour  $\lambda=5$   
 departures at 7.5 per hour  $\mu=7.5$

$$\frac{\lambda}{\mu} = \frac{5}{7.5} = \frac{2}{3} \quad P_n = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n \frac{1}{3}$$

$$L = \frac{\lambda}{\mu-\lambda} = \frac{5}{7.5-5} = 2$$

$$W = \frac{1}{\mu-\lambda} = \frac{1}{7.5-5} = .4 \text{ hours} = 24 \text{ minutes}$$

$$W_Q = \frac{\lambda}{\mu(\mu-\lambda)} = \frac{5}{7.5(2.5)} = \frac{4}{15} \text{ hour} \\ = 16 \text{ minutes}$$

(12)

$$L_Q = \lambda W_Q = 5 \cdot \frac{4}{15} = \frac{4}{3}$$

Suppose  $\lambda=6$  instead of 5

$$\frac{\lambda}{\mu} = \frac{6}{7.5} = \frac{4}{5} \quad P_n = \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^n \frac{1}{5}$$

$$L = \frac{\lambda}{\mu-\lambda} = \frac{6}{7.5-6} = 4$$

$$W = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} = \frac{1}{7.5 - 6} = \frac{2}{3} \text{ hr} = 40 \text{ minutes} \quad (13)$$

$$W_Q = 32 \text{ minutes}$$

$$L_Q = 3.2$$

5. Let  $U_1, U_2, \dots$  be independent uniform  $(0, 1)$  random variables, and define  $N$  by

$$N = \min\{n : U_1 + U_2 + \dots + U_n > 1\}$$

What is  $E[N]$ ?

6. Consider a renewal process  $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$  having a gamma  $(r, \lambda)$  interarrival distribution. That is, the interarrival density is

$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda x} (\lambda x)^{r-1}}{(r-1)!}, \quad x > 0$$

- (a) Show that

$$P\{N(t) \geq n\} = \sum_{i=nr}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^i}{i!}$$

- (b) Show that

$$m(t) = \sum_{i=r}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{i}{r} \right] \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^i}{i!}$$

where  $[i/r]$  is the largest integer less than or equal to  $i/r$ .

**Hint:** Use the relationship between the gamma  $(r, \lambda)$  distribution and the sum of  $r$  independent exponentials with rate  $\lambda$  to define  $N(t)$  in terms of a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$ .

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3. The manager of a market can hire either Mary or Alice. Mary, who gives service at an exponential rate of 20 customers per hour, can be hired at a rate of \$3 per hour. Alice, who gives service at an exponential rate of 30 customers per hour, can be hired at a rate of \$C per hour. The manager estimates that, on the average, each customer's time is worth \$1 per hour and should be accounted for in the model. Assume customers arrive at a Poisson rate of 10 per hour
- (a) What is the average cost per hour if Mary is hired? If Alice is hired?
- (b) Find C if the average cost per hour is the same for Mary and Alice.