

Stochastic Processes

Assignment 5 - Questions

Due on May 13, 2023

1. Let $\{X(t) : t \geq 0\}$ be a Poisson process with rate λ :
 - a) If T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n are arrival times for the n events, show that $\mathbb{P}(T_1 \leq t_1, \dots, T_n \leq t_n | X(t) = n)$ is free of λ .
 - b) Let T be a random variable that is independent of the times when events occur. Suppose that T has an exponential density with parameter ν . Find the distribution of $X(T)$, which is the number of events occurring by time T .
2. Let $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$ be two independent homogeneous Poisson processes with intensities $\lambda_X > 0$ and $\lambda_Y > 0$.
 - a) Verify that $m_{X(t)}(s) = \mathbb{E}[e^{sX(t)}] = e^{t\lambda_X(e^s - 1)}$ for all $t \geq 0, s \in \mathbb{R}$.
 - b) For $0 < s < t$, characterize the conditional distribution of $X(s)$ given $X(t)$ in terms of a common distribution, find $\mathbb{P}\{X(s) = k | X(t) = n\}$.
 - c) Let T be a random variable having an exponential distribution with parameter ν . Suppose that for all times $t \in [0, 1)$, T and $X(t)$ are independent. Find the distribution of the random variable $X(T)$. find $\mathbb{P}\{X(T) = n\}$.
 - d) Find the probability that $X(t)$ jumps to 1 before $Y(t)$ does.
3. Let $\{X_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ be a Markov chain with state space $S = \{0, 1, \dots, 5\}$ and transition matrix:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{8} & 0 & \frac{7}{8} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{7} & 0 & 0 & \frac{2}{7} \end{bmatrix}$$

- a) Classify each state as either transient, null recurrent, or positive recurrent.
 - b) Find the period of each state. Is the chain regular? (Aperiodic + irreducible)
 - c) Show that there is a unique stationary distribution. Find it.
 - d) For each state, determine the proportion of time the chain spends in it, in the long run.
4. You are given the following information:
 - Taxis arrive according to a Poisson process at a rate of 12 per hour.
 - Buses arrive according to a Poisson process at a rate of 6 per hour.
 - The arrival of buses and taxis are independent.
 - You get a ride to university from either a bus or a taxi, whichever arrives first.
 - a) Find the distribution of your waiting time.
 - b) Find the probability you will have to wait more than 10 minutes for a ride to university.
5. a) Let $\{N(t) : t \geq 0\}$ be a Poisson process with rate λ and waiting times $S_1 < S_2 < \dots$ independent of $N(t)$, find $\mathbb{P}(N(3) = 5 | N(7) = 2)$ and $\mathbb{E}[S_k]$ for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$.
 b) Suppose that passengers arrive at a train station as a Poisson process with rate λ . The only train departs after a deterministic time T . Let W be the combined waiting time for all passengers. Compute $\mathbb{E}(W)$.
6. Consider a birth and death process on the non-negative integers, whose death rates are $\mu_x = x, x > 0$. Determine whether the process is transient, null recurrent, or positive recurrent if the birth rates are:
 - a) $\lambda_x = x + 1, \quad x \geq 0$
 - b) $\lambda_x = x + 2, \quad x \geq 0$