

## COMP9334 Revision Questions for Week 8A - Solution

### Question 1

- (a) If the service time of the fork join queue is less than  $x$ , then it means that the service time at each web service must be less than  $x$ .

Therefore, probability that the service time of the fork join queue is less than  $x$  is the same as the probability that the service times at the 3 servers are all less than  $x$ . Since the probability that the service time at each server is less than  $x$  is  $1 - \exp(-\mu x)$  (this is the cumulative probability density function of exponential distribution with rate  $\mu$ ) and since we assume that the service time distributions at the servers are independent, we have the probability that the service times at all the 3 servers is less than  $x$  is  $(1 - \exp(-\mu x))^3$ .

- (b) Let  $X$  be the random variable on the service time of the fork join queue. We have derived in Part (a) that  $\text{Prob}[X \leq x] = (1 - \exp(-\mu x))^3$ . This is in fact the cumulative probability density of  $X$ . The probability density function is the derivative of the cumulative probability density, which is  $3\mu \exp(-\mu x)(1 - \exp(-\mu x))^2$ .

- (c) The mean service ti

$$\int_0^\infty x \cdot 3\mu \exp(-\mu x)(1 - \exp(-\mu x))^2 dx \quad (1)$$

By doing the integration, we find that

$$E[X] = \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}\right) \frac{1}{\mu} \quad (2)$$

Remark: An interesting exercise is to do that for  $n$  servers. I leave it to you.