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Problem

In Example 5.3, if clerk i serves at an exponential rate λ_i , $i=1,2$, prove that

$$P\{\text{Smith is not the last one}\} = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^2$$

Proof

Given the independent increment, The probability is:

$$\begin{aligned} &P(X_1 < X_2) \cdot P(X_1 < X_2) + P(X_1 > X_2) \cdot P(X_1 > X_2) \\ &= \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

Machine 1 is currently working, and Machine 2 will start working t time units from now. If the lifetime of machine i follows an exponential distribution with rate λ_i ($i=1,2$), what is the probability that Machine 1 fails before Machine 2?

Solution

The probability is:

$$1 - P(X_1 > t)P(X_1 > X_2)$$

$$= 1 - e^{-\lambda_1 t} \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$$

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Problem

There are three jobs to be processed. The processing time of job i ($i=1,2,3$) is an exponential random variable with rate μ_i . There are two available processors, so two jobs can be processed immediately, and the third job starts when one of the initial two finishes.

(a) Let T_i denote the completion time of job i . If the goal is to minimize $\mathbb{E}[T_1 + T_2 + T_3]$, which two jobs should be processed first when $\mu_1 < \mu_2 < \mu_3$?

(b) Let M (called the makespan) be the total time until all three jobs are completed. Let S be the time when only one processor is working. Prove that:

$$2\mathbb{E}[M] = \mathbb{E}[S] + \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{\mu_i}$$

For the following parts, assume $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu$, $\mu_3 = \lambda$. Let $P(\mu)$ denote the probability that the last job to finish is either job 1 or job 2, and let $P(\lambda) = 1 - P(\mu)$ denote the probability that the last job to finish is job 3.

(c) Express $\mathbb{E}[S]$ in terms of $P(\mu)$ and $P(\lambda)$.

Let $P_{\{i, j\}}(\mu)$ be the value of $P(\mu)$ when jobs i and j are processed first.

(d) Prove that $P_{\{1,2\}}(\mu) \leq P_{\{1,3\}}(\mu)$.

(e) If $\mu > \lambda$, show that $\mathbb{E}[M]$ is minimized when job 3 is one of the first two jobs to be processed.

(f) If $\mu < \lambda$, show that $\mathbb{E}[M]$ is minimized when jobs 1 and 2 are processed first.

Solution (a)

$$\begin{aligned} & E[T_1 + T_2 + T_3] \\ &= E[\min(X, Y) + \max(X, Y) + (\min(X, Y) + E[Z])] \\ &= E[X + Y + Z] + E[\min(X, Y)] \end{aligned}$$

Therefore choose the job 2, 3

Solution (b)

Denote the time where each job finish as $T_{(1)}, T_{(2)}, T_{(3)}$, then, the total working time gives us:

$$X + Y + Z = M + T_{(2)} = 2M - S$$

Then apply the expectation:

$$2E[M] = E[S] + \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{\mu_i}$$

Solution (c)

$$\begin{aligned} E[S] &= P(M = T_1) \frac{1}{\mu} + P(M = T_2) \frac{1}{\mu} + P(M = T_3) \frac{1}{\lambda} = \\ &= \frac{P(M = T_1) + P(M = T_2)}{\mu} + \frac{P(M = T_3)}{\lambda} = \frac{P(\mu)}{\mu} + \frac{P(\lambda)}{\lambda}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution (d)

$$P_{1,2}(\mu) = P(Y > Z) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu}$$

$$P_{1,3}(\mu) = 1 - \left(\frac{\mu}{\mu + \lambda} \right)^2$$

Then:

$$P_{1,3}(\mu) - P_{1,2}(\mu) = \frac{\lambda\mu}{(\lambda + \mu)^2} \geq 0$$

Solution (e)

We need minimize $E[S]$, notice $\mu > \lambda$, then we need maximize $P(\mu)$ (from (c)), then $P_{1,3}(\mu)$ is larger.

Solution (f)

Similarly, we need minimize $P(\mu)$, then $P_{1,2}(\mu)$ is smaller

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Problem

A doctor has two scheduled appointments, one at 1:00 PM and another at 1:30 PM. The appointment durations are independent exponential random variables with a mean of 30 minutes. Assuming both patients arrive on time, find the expected time that the patient with the 1:30 PM appointment spends in the doctor's office.

Solution

$$E[T] = P(X > 30)(E[X] + E[Y]) + P(X < 30)E[Y] = 60e^{-1} + 30(1 - e^{-1}) = 30 + 30e^{-1}$$

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Problem

Let $S(t)$ denote the price of a security at time t . A popular model for the process $\{S(t), t \geq 0\}$ assumes that the price remains constant until a "shock" occurs, at which point the price is multiplied by a random factor. If we let $N(t)$ denote the number of shocks up to time t , and X_i denote the multiplicative factor of the i -th shock, then this model assumes:

$$S(t) = S(0) \prod_{i=1}^{N(t)} X_i$$

where $\prod_{i=1}^{N(t)} X_i = 1$ when $N(t) = 0$. Assume that:

- The X_i are independent exponential random variables with rate μ .
- $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a Poisson process with rate λ .
- $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is independent of the X_i .
- $S(0) = s$.

(a) Find $E[S(t)]$.

(b) Find $E[S^2(t)]$.

Solution (a)

$$\begin{aligned} E[S(t)] &= S(0) E\left[\prod_{i=1}^{N(t)} X_i\right] \\ &= S(0) E\left[E\left[\prod_{i=1}^{N(t)} X_i\right] | N(t)\right] \\ &= S(0) E\left[\frac{1}{\mu^{N(t)}} | N(t)\right] \\ &= s \exp\left(-\lambda t \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mu}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Solution (b)

Similarly:

$$E[S^2(t)] = s^2 \exp\left(-\lambda t \left(1 - \frac{2}{\mu^2}\right)\right)$$

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Problem

Let $\{M_i(t), t \geq 0\}$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) be independent Poisson processes with rates λ_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$), and define:

$$N_1(t) = M_1(t) + M_2(t), \quad N_2(t) = M_2(t) + M_3(t)$$

The stochastic process $\{(N_1(t), N_2(t)), t \geq 0\}$ is called a bivariate Poisson process.

(a) Find $P\{N_1(t) = n, N_2(t) = m\}$.

(b) Find $\text{Cov}(N_1(t), N_2(t))$.

Solution (a)

$$\begin{aligned} & P(N_1(t) = n, N_2(t) = m) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m, n)} P(M_1(t) = n - i, M_2(t) = i, M_3(t) = m - i) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m, n)} \frac{(\lambda_1 t)^{n-i} e^{-\lambda_1 t}}{(n-i)!} \frac{(\lambda_2 t)^i e^{-\lambda_2 t}}{i!} \frac{(\lambda_3 t)^{m-i} e^{-\lambda_3 t}}{(m-i)!} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m, n)} \frac{\lambda_1^n \lambda_3^m t^{m+n} e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3)t}}{n! m!} \frac{i! (m \cdots (m-i+1)) (n \cdots (n-i+1)) \lambda_2^i}{(\lambda_1 \lambda_3 t)^i} \end{aligned}$$

Solution (b)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cov}(N_1(t), N_2(t)) \\ &= \text{Cov}(M_1(t) + M_2(t), M_2(t) + M_3(t)) \\ &= E[M_2^2(t)] - (E[M_2(t)])^2 \\ &= \text{Var}[M_2^2(t)] \\ &= \lambda_2 t \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

Prove that if $\{N_1(t), t \geq 0\}$ and $\{N_2(t), t \geq 0\}$ are independent Poisson processes with rates λ_1 and λ_2 , respectively, then $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a Poisson process with rate $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2$, where $N(t) = N_1(t) + N_2(t)$.

Solution

$$N(0) = 0$$

$$N(t_i) - N(t_{i-1}) = [N_1(t_i) - N_1(t_{i-1})] + [N_2(t_i) - N_2(t_{i-1})] \text{ is independent}$$

$N(t + s) - N(s) = [N_1(t + s) - N_1(s)] + [N_2(t + s) - N_2(s)]$ is poisson distributed.

Therefore, $N(t + s) - N(s) \sim \text{Poisson}((\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) t)$.

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Problem

Let $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ be a Poisson process with rate λ . Let S_n denote the time of the n -th event.

Find:

(a) $E[S_4]$,

(b) $E[S_4 \mid N(1) = 2]$,

(c) $E[N(4) - N(2) \mid N(1) = 3]$.

Solution (a)

$$E[S_4] = \frac{4}{\lambda}$$

Solution (b)

$$1 + \frac{2}{\lambda}$$

Solution (c)

$$2\lambda$$

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Problem

Events occur according to a Poisson process with rate λ . At each event occurrence time, we must decide whether to continue or stop, with the goal of stopping at the last event time before a

fixed time T , where $T > 1/\lambda$. Specifically:

- If an event occurs at time t ($0 \leq t \leq T$) and we decide to stop, we win if no additional events occur in $(t, T]$, otherwise we lose.
- If we choose not to stop at an event and no additional events occur before T , we lose.
- If no events occur before T , we lose.

Consider the strategy of stopping at the first event that occurs after a fixed time s ($0 \leq s \leq T$).

(a) What is the probability of winning when using this strategy?

(b) What value of s maximizes the winning probability?

(c) Show that when using the optimal s from (b), the winning probability is $1/e$.

Solution (a)

Only one event occurs in $(s, T]$, so the probability of winning is:

$$\lambda(T - s)e^{-\lambda(T-s)}$$

Solution (b)

$$\lambda(T - s) = 1 \implies s = T - \frac{1}{\lambda}.$$

Solution (c)

$$P(\text{win}) = \lambda \left(T - \left(T - \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \right) e^{-\lambda \left(T - \left(T - \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \right)} = \lambda \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \right) e^{-\lambda \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \right)} = 1 \cdot e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e}.$$

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Problem

The time between consecutive train arrivals is uniformly distributed over $(0, 1)$ hours.

Passengers arrive according to a Poisson process with a rate of 7 per hour. Suppose a train has just departed.

Let X be the number of passengers who board the next train. Find:

- (a) $E[X]$,
 (b) $\text{Var}(X)$.

Solution (a)

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= E[E[X|T]] \\ &= E[\lambda T] = \frac{\lambda}{2} \\ &= 3.5 \end{aligned}$$

Solution (b)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X) &= \text{Var}(E(X|T)) + E(\text{Var}(X|T)) \\ &= \text{Var}(\lambda T) + E(\lambda T) \\ &= \frac{\lambda^2}{12} + \frac{7}{2} \\ &= \frac{91}{12} \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

Team 1 and Team 2 are playing a match. The teams score according to independent Poisson processes with rates λ_1 and λ_2 , respectively. The match stops when one team leads by k points. Find the probability that Team 1 wins.

Solution

$$P_0 = \frac{\left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}\right)^k}{1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}\right)^k} = \frac{\frac{\lambda_1^k}{\lambda_2^k}}{1 + \frac{\lambda_1^k}{\lambda_2^k}} = \frac{\lambda_1^k}{\lambda_1^k + \lambda_2^k}$$

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Problem

An insurance company has two types of claims. Let $N_i(t)$ denote the number of type i claims up to time t , and assume that $\{N_1(t), t \geq 0\}$ and $\{N_2(t), t \geq 0\}$ are independent Poisson processes with rates $\lambda_1 = 10$ and $\lambda_2 = 1$. The successive claim amounts for type 1 are independent exponential random variables with a mean of \$1000, while those for type 2 are independent exponential random variables with a mean of \$5000. Given that a claim of \$4000 has just arrived, what is the probability that it is a type 1 claim?

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Type 1} \mid X = 4000) &= \frac{P(\text{Type 1}) \cdot f_{X_1}(4000)}{P(\text{Type 1}) \cdot f_{X_1}(4000) + P(\text{Type 2}) \cdot f_{X_2}(4000)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{10}{11000} e^{-4}}{\frac{10}{11000} e^{-4} + \frac{1}{55000} e^{-0.8}} = \frac{e^{-4}}{e^{-4} + \frac{1}{5} e^{-0.8}} \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

Customers enter a bank according to a Poisson process with rate λ . Suppose two customers arrive in the first hour. What are the probabilities of the following events?

- (a) Both customers arrive in the first 20 minutes.
- (b) At least one customer arrives in the first 20 minutes.

Solution (a)

$$P\left(T_1 \leq \frac{1}{3}, T_2 \leq \frac{1}{3}\right) = P\left(T_1 \leq \frac{1}{3}\right) \cdot P\left(T_2 \leq \frac{1}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{9}.$$

Solution (b)

$$P(\text{At least one}) = 1 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 = 1 - \frac{4}{9} = \frac{5}{9}.$$

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Problem

Assume people arrive at a bus stop according to a Poisson process with rate λ . The bus departs at time t . Let X denote the total waiting time of all people boarding the bus by time t . We want to determine $\text{Var}(X)$. Let $N(t)$ be the number of people who arrived by time t .

(a) What is $E[X \mid N(t)]$?

(b) Argue that $\text{Var}(X \mid N(t)) = N(t)t^2/12$.

(c) What is $\text{Var}(X)$?

Solution (a)

$$E[X \mid N(t) = n] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[t - T_i] = n(t - E[T_i]) = n\left(t - \frac{t}{2}\right) = \frac{nt}{2}.$$

Solution (b)

$$\text{Var}(X \mid N(t) = n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(t - T_i) = n \cdot \text{Var}(T_i) = n \cdot \frac{t^2}{12} = \frac{nt^2}{12}.$$

Solution (c)

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[\text{Var}(X \mid N(t))] + \text{Var}(E[X \mid N(t)])$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} E[\text{Var}(X \mid N(t))] &= E\left[\frac{N(t)t^2}{12}\right] = \frac{t^2}{12}E[N(t)] = \frac{t^2}{12}\lambda t = \frac{\lambda t^3}{12}. \\ \text{Var}(E[X \mid N(t)]) &= \text{Var}\left(\frac{N(t)t}{2}\right) = \frac{t^2}{4}\text{Var}(N(t)) = \frac{t^2}{4}\lambda t = \frac{\lambda t^3}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{\lambda t^3}{12} + \frac{\lambda t^3}{4} = \frac{\lambda t^3}{3}.$$

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Problem

Satellites are launched into space according to a Poisson process with rate λ . Each satellite remains in space for a random time (with distribution G) before landing. Find the probability that at time t , there are no satellites in space that were launched before time s , where $s < t$.

Solution

$$P(L > t - u) = 1 - G(t - u).$$

$$\lambda \int_0^s P(L > t - u) du = \lambda \int_0^s (1 - G(t - u)) du$$

$$P(\text{None survive}) = \exp\left(-\lambda \int_{t-s}^t (1 - G(v)) dv\right)$$

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Problem

A store opens at 8:00 AM. Customers arrive according to the following Poisson process rates:

- From 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM: 4 customers per hour.
- From 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM: 8 customers per hour.
- From 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM: The arrival rate increases linearly from 8 to 10 customers per hour.
- From 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM: The arrival rate decreases linearly from 10 to 4 customers per hour.

Determine the distribution of the total number of customers entering the store on a given day.

Solution

$N \sim \text{Poisson}(8 + 16 + 18 + 21 = 63)$.

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Problem

Suppose events occur according to a nonhomogeneous Poisson process with intensity function $\lambda(t)$, $t > 0$. Further assume that an event occurring at time s is a type 1 event with probability $p(s)$, $s > 0$. If $N_1(t)$ is the number of type 1 events that occur by time t , what type of process is $\{N_1(t), t \geq 0\}$?

Solution

Independent Increments

$N_1(t) - N_1(s)$ is poisson with mean: $\int_s^t p(u)\lambda(u)du$

Then: it's a nonhomogeneous poisson process

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Problem

Suppose $\{N_0(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a Poisson process with rate $\lambda = 1$. Let $\lambda(t)$ be a nonnegative function of t , and define:

$$m(t) = \int_0^t \lambda(s)ds$$

Define $N(t) = N_0(m(t))$. Show that $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a nonhomogeneous Poisson process with intensity function $\lambda(t)(t \geq 0)$.

Solution

$$N(0) = N_0(m(0)) = N_0(0) = 0.$$

$N(t_i) - N(t_{i-1}) = N_0(m(t_i)) - N_0(m(t_{i-1}))$ are independent.

$$N_0(m(t)) - N_0(m(s)) \sim \text{Poisson}(m(t) - m(s)) = \text{Poisson}\left(\int_s^t \lambda(u) du\right)$$

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In good years, storms occur according to a Poisson process with rate 3 per unit time, while in other years, they occur at rate 5 per unit time. Suppose the probability that next year is a good year is 0.3. Let $N(t)$ denote the number of storms in the first t units of time next year.

- (a) Find $P\{N(t) = n\}$.
- (b) Is $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ a Poisson process?
- (c) Does $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ have stationary increments? Why?
- (d) Does it have independent increments? Why?
- (e) If there are 3 storms by $t = 1$, what is the conditional probability that it is a good year?

Solution (a)

$$P\{N(t) = n\} = 0.3 \cdot \frac{(3t)^n e^{-3t}}{n!} + 0.7 \cdot \frac{(5t)^n e^{-5t}}{n!}$$

Solution (b)

No, there's no stationary increment.

Solution (c)

No, depends on year type

Solution (d)

No, it depends on the year type.

Solution (e)

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Good} \mid N(1) = 3) &= \frac{P(N(1) = 3 \mid \text{Good}) \cdot P(\text{Good})}{P(N(1) = 3)} = \\ &= \frac{0.3 \cdot \frac{27e^{-3}}{6}}{0.3 \cdot \frac{27e^{-3}}{6} + 0.7 \cdot \frac{125e^{-5}}{6}} = \frac{8.1e^{-3}}{8.1e^{-3} + 87.5e^{-5}}. \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

When $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a compound Poisson process, determine:

$$\text{Cov}(X(t), X(t+s))$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X(t), X(t+s)) &= \text{Cov}(X(t), X(t) + \Delta X) = \text{Var}(X(t)) + \text{Cov}(X(t), \Delta X) = \\ \text{Var}(X(t)) &= \lambda t E[Y^2] \end{aligned}$$

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Problem

Customers arrive at an ATM according to a Poisson process with a rate of 12 per hour. The amount withdrawn per transaction is a random variable with a mean of \$30 and a standard deviation of \$50 (negative withdrawals represent deposits). The ATM operates for 15 hours each day. Find the approximate probability that the total daily withdrawals are less than \$6000.

Solution

$$E[X(t)] = \lambda t E[Y] = 12 \times 15 \times 30 = 5400$$

$$\text{Var}(X(t)) = \lambda t \text{E}[Y^2] = \lambda t (\sigma_Y^2 + (\text{E}[Y])^2) = 12 \times 15 \times (50^2 + 30^2) = 612,000$$

$$P(X(15) < 6000) = P\left(Z < \frac{6000 - 5400}{782.30}\right) = P(Z < 0.767) \approx 0.778$$