



**SAPIENZA**  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

**Faculty of Information Engineering, Informatics and  
Statistics**  
**Department of Computer Science**

## Computer Network Performance

**Author:**  
Simone Lidonnici

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# 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Notation

To start we will define a bunch of variables that are common to all the systems:

- **CPU Capacity ( $\mu$ )**: expressed as how many jobs can the CPU perform per second on average.
- **Arrival rate ( $\lambda$ )**: expressed as how many jobs arrive to the buffer per second on average.
- **CPU Service time (S)**: the mean time a job spends inside the CPU. Can be calculated with the formula:

$$S = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

- **Waiting time (W)**: the mean time a job spends in the buffer.
- **Response time (R)**: the sum of service time and waiting time.
- **Throughput (X)**: expressed as how many jobs are performed by the system per second on average, measured in the output.

### 1.2 Basic system

We start using a basic system composed by only one CPU and a queue to buffer the jobs that the CPU has to perform. The buffer is supposed to be infinite in size.



In this system we can easily determine the throughput, based on  $\lambda$  or  $\mu$ :

- $X = \lambda$  if  $\lambda < \mu$
- $X = \mu$  if  $\mu < \lambda$

The response time can also be calculated with the formula:

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

**Example:**

If we have a system with  $\lambda = 3 \text{ j/s}$  and  $\mu = 5 \text{ j/s}$ , the service time will be:

$$S = \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{1}{5} \text{ s} = 0.2 \text{ s}$$

The response time is:

$$R = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda} = \frac{1}{5 - 1} \text{ s} = 0.25 \text{ s}$$

## 1.3 System with multiple CPU

In the case of a system with multiple CPU (each with a personal buffer) we define the probability of a job going in a specific  $\text{CPU}_i$  with  $p_i$ . The total response time of the system is calculated by the formula:

$$R = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i R_i$$

In which  $m$  is the number of CPU.

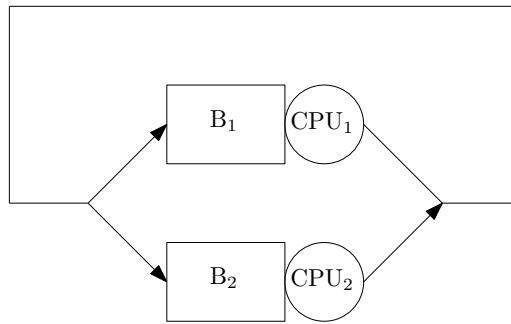
### 1.3.1 Closed systems

In the case of a closed system an important parameter is the number of jobs in the system (defined with the letter  $N$ ). There are two types of closed systems:

- **Batch:** a closed system with only servers, where jobs that exit from the CPUs go directly into the buffers.
- **Terminal:** a closed system with terminals, where jobs that exit from the CPUs stay for an average time of  $Z$ , called the **think time**, before going into the buffers. We can also define a total system time  $T = R + Z$ .

**Example:**

We have a closed system with 2 CPU like the following and a total of  $N = 6$  jobs running in the system:



If  $S_1 = S_2 = 3 \text{ s}$  the average number of jobs in every buffer is 2 (plus 1 in every CPU), so the response time of the system will be:

$$R = p_1 R_1 + p_2 R_2 = \frac{1}{2}(3 \cdot 3) + \frac{1}{2}(3 \cdot 3) = 9 \text{ s}$$

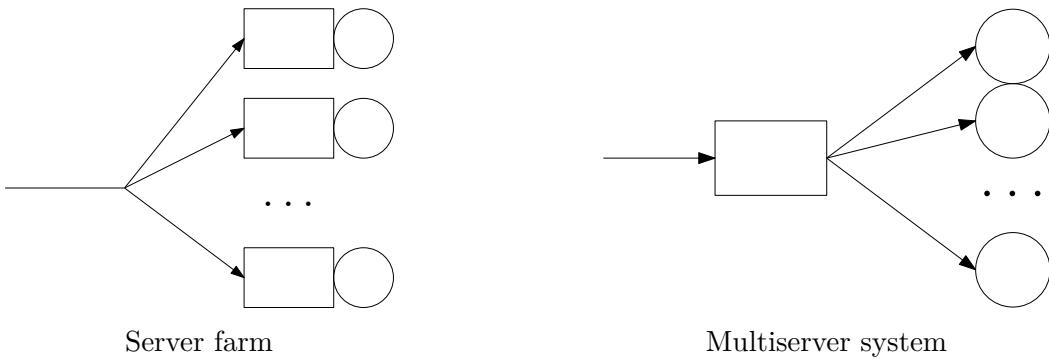
If we change  $S_1 = 1.5$  s the average number of jobs in buffer 1 is 0 (1 in the CPU) and in buffer 2 is 4.5 (plus 1 in the CPU). This is caused by the fact that every job going to CPU 1 is completed faster than CPU 2 and the other jobs are stuck in buffer 2. So the average response time in this case is:

$$R = \frac{1}{2}(1 \cdot 1.5) + \frac{1}{2}(5.5 \cdot 3) = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{33}{4} = 9 \text{ s}$$

So we can see that upgrading only one CPU on a multi-CPU closed system doesn't change the response time. To lower the response time the routing probabilities must be changed as well.

### 1.3.2 Open systems

There are 2 different type of open systems with multiple CPUs, with the difference being the number of buffers. If there is one buffer for every server is a **server farm**, otherwise if there is only one buffer in total is a **multiserver system**.



In the case of a server farm we can consider a single branch as a system with only one CPU and arrival rate of  $\lambda_i = p_i\lambda$  in which  $p_i$  is the probability of a job going on CPU <sub>$i$</sub> . If all the branches have the same probability we have that  $\lambda_i = \frac{\lambda}{m}$  for a number of CPU  $m$ .

# 2

## Utilization of a system

### 2.1 Average population

We can define the **average population** of a system, that means how many jobs are in the system (counting queue and CPU) on average. We write:

- $\overline{N}_S$  the average population in the CPU, that can also be defined as the probability of the CPU being busy:  

$$\overline{N}_S = P(N_S = 1)$$
- $\overline{N}_Q$  the average population in the queue.
- $\overline{N}$  the average population in the system, that is calculated with a sum:

$$\overline{N} = \overline{N}_S + \overline{N}_Q$$

#### 2.1.1 Population over time

We can also define how the population evolve over time as a difference between the total number of jobs that are arrived before time  $t$  and all the jobs that have departed before time  $t$ .

- $A(t)$  is the total number of jobs arrived before time  $t$ , and with an infinite buffer is calculated:

$$A(t) = \lambda t$$

- $D(t)$  is the total number of jobs departed before time  $t$ , and sure we can say that:

$$D(t) \leq \mu t$$

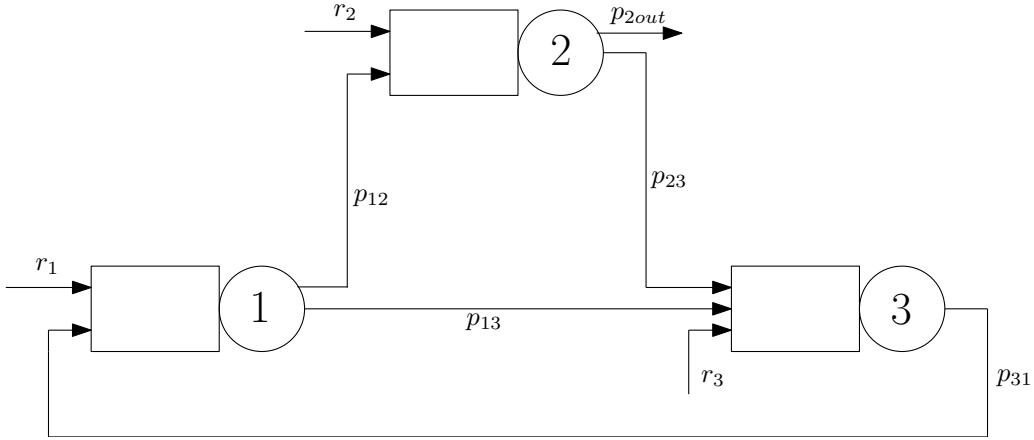
So the population at the time  $t$ , denoted as  $N(t)$  can be found using the formula:

$$N(t) = A(t) - D(t) \geq \lambda t - \mu t = (\lambda - \mu)t$$

We can define what is called the **stability condition**, a condition in which the queue of the system doesn't grows infinitely. To achieve this condition we need to have  $\lambda < \mu$  for every component of the system. If we have  $\lambda \geq \mu$  the queue continues to grow and for an infinite amount of time we have:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} N(t) = \infty$$

**Example:**



In the above system we have the following data in which  $p_{ij}$  represent the probability of a departed job from CPU<sub>i</sub> to go in server  $j$ ,  $p_{iout}$  is the probability of a departed job from CPU<sub>i</sub> to exit the system and  $r_i$  is the arrival rate from outside the system to server  $i$ :

- $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_3 = 10 \text{ j/s}$
- $r_2 = r_3 = 1 \text{ j/s}$
- $p_{12} = 0.8, p_{13} = 0.2$
- $p_{23} = 0.2, p_{2out} = 0.8$
- $p_{31} = 1$

What value of  $r_1$  keep the system stable?

To do that we need to ensure that every part of the system is stable so:

$$\forall i \lambda_i < \mu_i$$

We can write this as a system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_1 = r_1 + p_{31}\lambda_3 \\ \lambda_2 = r_2 + p_{12}\lambda_1 \\ \lambda_3 = r_3 + p_{13}\lambda_1 + p_{12}\lambda_2 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \lambda_1 = r_1 + \lambda_3 \\ \lambda_2 = 1 + \frac{4}{5}\lambda_1 \\ \lambda_3 = 1 + \frac{1}{5}\lambda_1 + \frac{1}{5}\lambda_2 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Resolve for } \lambda_i} \begin{cases} \lambda_1 = \frac{15}{8} + \frac{25}{16}r_1 \\ \lambda_2 = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{5}{4}r_1 \\ \lambda_3 = \frac{15}{8} + \frac{9}{16}r_1 \end{cases}$$

To ensure the stability we have to set every  $\lambda_i < \mu_i$ :

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_1 = \frac{15}{8} + \frac{25}{16}r_1 < 10 \\ \lambda_2 = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{5}{4}r_1 < 10 \\ \lambda_3 = \frac{15}{8} + \frac{9}{16}r_1 < 10 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Resolve for } r_1} \begin{cases} r_1 < \frac{26}{5} \\ r_1 < 6 \\ r_1 < \frac{130}{9} \end{cases}$$

So the value of  $r_1$  to keep all the system stable has to be  $r_1 < \frac{26}{5}$ .

## 2.2 Utilization

We define the utilization  $\rho$  for a device as the fraction of time in which the device is busy. Can be also expressed as the probability of a device being busy, so is equal to  $\overline{N_S}$ .

Using an observation of  $\tau$  time, we can calculate the utilization as the sum of times in which the device is busy  $B$  divided by the total time  $\tau$ .

$$\rho = \frac{B}{\tau}$$

Also we can say that the throughput  $X$  is the number of completed jobs  $C$  divided by the total time  $\tau$ .

$$X = \frac{C}{\tau} = \underbrace{\frac{C}{\tau}}_{\mu} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{B}{C}}_{\rho} = \underbrace{\frac{C}{B}}_{\mu} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{B}{\tau}}_{\rho} = \frac{1}{S} \cdot \rho \implies \rho = S \cdot X$$

The formula above is called the **utilization law** and can be also calculated in another way:

$$E(X) = \underbrace{E(X|N_S=1)}_{\mu} \cdot \underbrace{P(N_S=1)}_{\overline{N}_S=\rho} + \underbrace{E(X|N_S=0)}_0 P(N_S=0) = \mu \cdot \rho \implies \rho = S \cdot X$$

If we have multiple servers we can calculate the overall utilization of the system simply as the average of all the utilization of the single CPUs:

$$U = \frac{\sum \rho_i}{m}$$

We need to distinguish between 2 cases based on the fact that the buffer is finite or not:

1. If the buffer is infinite and the system is stable, so  $X = \lambda$ , the utilization can be easily calculated with:

$$\rho = S \cdot X = \frac{1}{\mu} \cdot \lambda = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$$

2. If the buffer is finite we write  $X = \lambda - \lambda_{\text{drop}}$  in which  $\lambda_{\text{drop}}$  is the drop rate of jobs because the queue is full. So having an infinite buffer reduce the throughput but also reduce the response time, because the queue can only contain a maximum amount of jobs.

## 2.3 Slowdown

The **slowdown** of a specific job is the fraction of time the job spends waiting respect to the time it spends being executed:

$$Sl(j) = \frac{R(j)}{S(j)}$$

If we have different type of jobs, we can calculate the expected value of slowdown:

$$E(Sl) = E\left(\frac{R}{S}\right)$$

### Example:

We have an open system with one CPU and  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$  j/s. We have two types of jobs that require different service times:

$$S = \begin{cases} 1 & p = \frac{3}{4} \\ 2 & p = \frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$$

We know that  $E(R) = \frac{29}{12}$ .

If we have a FIFO buffer we can calculate the expected value of slowdown:

$$E(Sl) = E\left(\frac{R}{S}\right) = E\left(\frac{S+W}{S}\right) = E\left(1 + \frac{W}{S}\right)$$

The waiting time  $W$  is not related to the service time  $S$  of the same job, but on the previous jobs, so we can divide the expected values:

$$\begin{aligned} E(Sl) &= 1 + E(W) \cdot E\left(\frac{1}{S}\right) = 1 + E\left(\frac{1}{S}\right)(E(R) - E(S)) \\ &= 1 + \left(\frac{3}{4} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{29}{12} - \left(\frac{3}{4} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2\right)\right) = 1 + \frac{7}{8} \left(\frac{29}{12} - \frac{5}{4}\right) = \frac{97}{48} \end{aligned}$$

In the case of a different scheduling behaviors like Short Jobs First (SJF) the waiting time would be related to the service time so the calculation are more complex.

## 2.4 Little Law

### Little Law

The little law says that:

$$R = \frac{\bar{N}}{X}$$

This is valid for every system that is **ergodic**, that respects 3 properties:

1. **Irreducibility**: From every state (defined as the population in the servers) the system can reach every other state and back.
2. **Positive recurrence**: From a state the probability to return in the same state in infinite time is 1.
3. **Aperiodicity**: The system doesn't have a periodic behavior, in which he returns in a specific state after a precise amount of time.

The little law is valid for everything that has an input and output, even a closed system if you consider only the cpu and terminals.

### Proof:

To show the little law we can do an example with an open system defining:

- $A_R$  the area with the completed jobs at time  $t$
- $A_G$  the area with the arrived jobs at time  $t$
- $A_W$  the area with all the jobs up to time  $t$

We can define  $\lambda$  and  $X$  as:

$$\lambda = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{A(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{D(t)}{t} = X$$

Also is assured that:

$$A_R \leq A_W \leq A_G$$

If we define  $T_i$  as the time spent from job  $i$ , we can rewrite the relation as:

$$\sum_{i \in D(t)} T_i \leq \int_0^t N(s)ds \leq \sum_{i \in A(t)} T_i$$

Without modifying the result we can divide by  $t$ , putting the limit of  $t$  going to inf and multiply by 1:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sum_{i \in D(t)} T_i}{t} \cdot \frac{D(t)}{D(t)} \leq \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\int_0^t N(s)ds}{t} \leq \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sum_{i \in A(t)} T_i}{t} \cdot \frac{A(t)}{A(t)}$$

So we have that the left part is the mean time for a completed job, the right part is the mean time for an arrived job and the middle part is the mean population:

$$XR \leq \bar{N} \leq \lambda R$$

So, because  $\lambda$  and  $X$  are equal:

$$\bar{N} = XR \implies R = \frac{\bar{N}}{X}$$

We can do the same process with a closed system, but this time  $A_W$  will not be an integral but simply  $Nt$ , so with the same procedure we reach that:

$$N = TX \implies T = \frac{N}{X} \implies R = \frac{N}{X} - Z$$

This formula above is called the **Response time of a closed system**.

#### Example:

We have a closed system with an application layer and a DB layer. The query in the system are  $N = 400$  and the average response time of the application layer is  $R_A = 150$  ms and  $\mu_{DB} = 550$  j/s.

We can calculate  $R_{DB}$  using the little law:

$$R_{DB} = \frac{N}{X} - Z = \frac{400}{550} - 0.150 = 0.577 \text{ s}$$

If we double the speed of the application layer, so halving the  $R_A$ :

$$R_{DB} = \frac{400}{550} - 0.075 = 0.652 \text{ s}$$

## 2.5 Forced Flow law

### Forced Flow law

For a specific device  $i$  in a system we have that:

$$X_i = V_i \cdot X$$

In which  $V_i$  is the average number of visits that a job does to device  $i$  before exiting the system.

**Proof:**

We have a device  $i$  and we call  $D_i(t)$  the number of completed jobs by device  $i$  at time  $t$ . We also call  $V_i(j)$  the number of visits of a specific job  $j$  to the device  $i$ . we have that:

$$D_i(t) = \sum_{j \in D(t)} V_i(j)$$

We divide by  $t$ , adding the limit and multiply by 1:

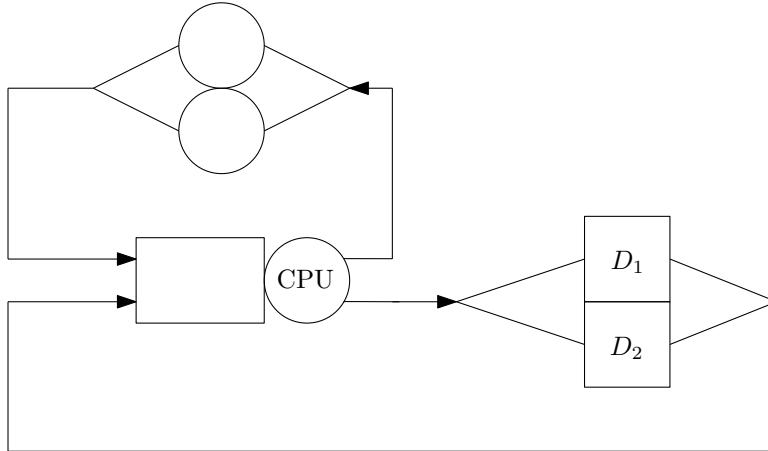
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{D_i(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sum_{j \in D(t)} V_i(j)}{t} \cdot \frac{D(t)}{D(t)}$$

The left part is the throughput  $X_i$  and the right part can be rearranged as:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sum_{j \in D(t)} V_i(j)}{D(t)} = V_i \quad \frac{D(t)}{t} = X$$

So we found the formula:

$$X_i = V_i \cdot X$$

**Example:**

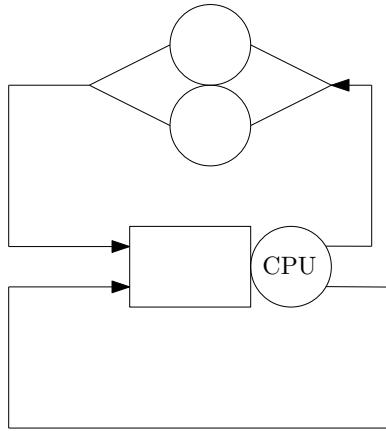
We have that the probability that a job exiting the CPU goes in each location is:

- Terminals:  $p_T = \frac{1}{181}$
- Disk 1:  $p_{D_1} = \frac{80}{181}$
- Disk 2:  $p_{D_2} = \frac{100}{181}$

The expected number of visit in each components can be calculated:

$$\begin{aligned} E(V_{CPU}) &= \frac{1}{p_T} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{181}} = 181 \\ E(V_{D_1}) &= E(V_{CPU}) \cdot p_{D_1} = 181 \cdot \frac{80}{181} = 80 \\ E(V_{D_2}) &= E(V_{CPU}) \cdot p_{D_2} = 181 \cdot \frac{100}{181} = 100 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2:**



The system has this parameters:

- $N = 25$
- $Z = 18 \text{ s}$
- $\rho = 30\%$
- $S = 0.025 \text{ s}$
- $p_T = \frac{1}{20}$

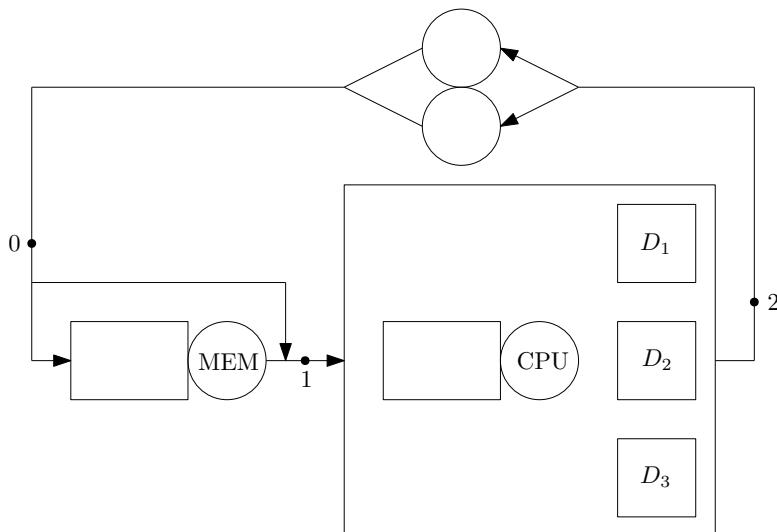
We can calculate:

$$X_{CPU} = \frac{\rho}{S} = \frac{0.30}{0.025} = 12 \text{ j/s}$$

$$X = \frac{X_{CPU}}{E(V_{CPU})} = X_{CPU} \cdot \frac{1}{p_T} = 12 \cdot \frac{1}{20} = 0.6 \text{ j/s}$$

$$R = \frac{N}{X} - Z = \frac{25}{0.6} - 18 = 23.67 \text{ s}$$

**Example 3:**



We have this system where we don't know how the components are connected inside the box.  
We have this data:

- $N = 23$
- $Z = 21$  s
- $X = 0.45$  j/s
- $N_{MEM} = 11.65$
- $V_{CPU} = 3$
- $S_{CPU} = 0.21$  s

We need to calculate the average time from point 1 to point 2 ( $R_{1-2}$ ), and we can do that by doing:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{0-2} &= \frac{N}{Z} - Z = \frac{23}{0.45} - 21 = 30.11 \text{ s} \\ R_{0-1} &= \frac{N_{MEM}}{X} = \frac{11.65}{0.45} = 25.89 \text{ s} \\ R_{1-2} &= R_{0-2} - R_{0-1} = 30.11 - 25.89 = 4.22 \text{ s} \end{aligned}$$

We also want to calculate the utilization of the CPU  $\rho_{CPU}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} X_{CPU} &= V_{CPU} \cdot X = 3 \cdot 0.45 = 1.35 \text{ j/s} \\ \rho_{CPU} &= S_{CPU} \cdot X_{CPU} = 0.21 \cdot 1.35 = 0.28 = 28\% \end{aligned}$$

## 2.6 Demand time

We define the **demand time** of a job  $j$  to a device  $i$  as the total time spent from job  $j$  in the device  $i$ . Can be defined as the sum of all the occurrence in which  $j$  goes in  $i$  before exiting the system:

$$D_i(j) = \sum_{j=1}^{V_i(j)} S_i(j)$$

So, the average demand of a device  $i$  will be:

$$D_i = E \left( \sum_{j=1}^{V_i(j)} S_i(j) \right)$$

If we rewrite the formula using the total partition law:

$$D_i = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E \left( \sum_{j=1}^n S_i \middle| V_i = n \right) \cdot P(V_i = n)$$

If we assume the service time of a job is independent from the number of time it goes in device  $i$ :

$$D_i = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E \left( \sum_{j=1}^n S_i \right) \cdot P(V_i = n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot S_i \cdot P(V_i = n) = S_i \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot P(V_i = n) = S_i \cdot V_i$$

So, in the end the demand time of a device  $i$  can be calculated by:

$$D_i = S_i \cdot V_i$$

### 2.6.1 Bottleneck law

If we combine the demand time formula with the Forced Flow Law we have the **Bottleneck Law**:

$$D_i = S_i \cdot V_i = S_i \frac{X_i}{X} = \frac{\rho_i}{X} \implies \rho_i = D_i \cdot X$$

We also have that:

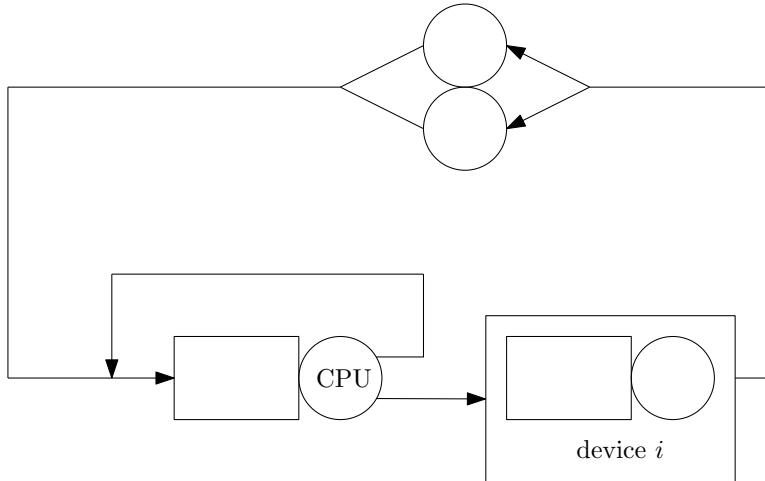
$$X = \frac{\rho_i}{D_i} \quad \forall i$$

So, we can relate the global throughput to the throughput and utilization of every device in the system and because  $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$  we are sure that:

$$X \leq \frac{1}{D_i} \quad \forall i$$

The device that does most bottleneck in the system is the one with the higher demand time.

**Example:**



We have this system where we don't know the device inside the box. We have this data:

- $p_{CPU-CPU} = 0.5$
- $p_{CPU-i} = 0.5$
- $Z = 5 \text{ s}$
- $S_i = 0.01 \text{ s}$
- $\rho_i = 0.3$
- $\rho_{CPU} = 0.5$
- $T = 50 \text{ s}$
- $\frac{V_i}{V_{CPU}} = 10$
- $N_i = 20$

We can calculate the average population in the queue of the CPU  $N_{CPU-Q}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{CPU} &= \frac{1}{p_{CPU-i}} = 2 \\
 V_i &= \frac{V_i}{V_{CPU}} \cdot V_{CPU} = 10 \cdot 2 = 20 \\
 D_i &= V_i \cdot S_i = 20 \cdot 0.01 = 0.2 \text{ s} \\
 X &= \frac{\rho_i}{D_i} = \frac{0.3}{0.2} = 1.5 \text{ j/s} \\
 X_i &= V_i \cdot X = 20 \cdot 1.5 = 30 \text{ j/s} \\
 X_{CPU} &= V_{CPU} \cdot X = 2 \cdot 1.5 = 3 \text{ j/s} \\
 R_{CPU} &= T - Z - R_i = T - Z - \frac{N_i}{X_i} = 50 - 5 - \frac{20}{30} = 44.33 \text{ s} \\
 N_{CPU} &= R_{CPU} \cdot X_{CPU} = 44.33 \cdot 3 = 133 \\
 N_{CPU-Q} &= N_{CPU} - \rho_{CPU} = 133 - 0.5 = 132.5
 \end{aligned}$$

### 2.6.2 Bound on throughput and response time

Through the bottleneck law we know that:

$$X \leq \frac{1}{D_i} \quad \forall i$$

So we can obtain an upper bound for the throughput:

$$X \leq \frac{1}{D_{max}}$$

In which  $D_{max}$  is the maximum demand time for a device. From this, a lower bound for the response time can be obtained:

$$R = \frac{N}{X} - Z \implies R \geq N \cdot D_{max} - Z$$

Knowing the total demand time of a system  $D$ , we are sure that:

$$R \geq D$$

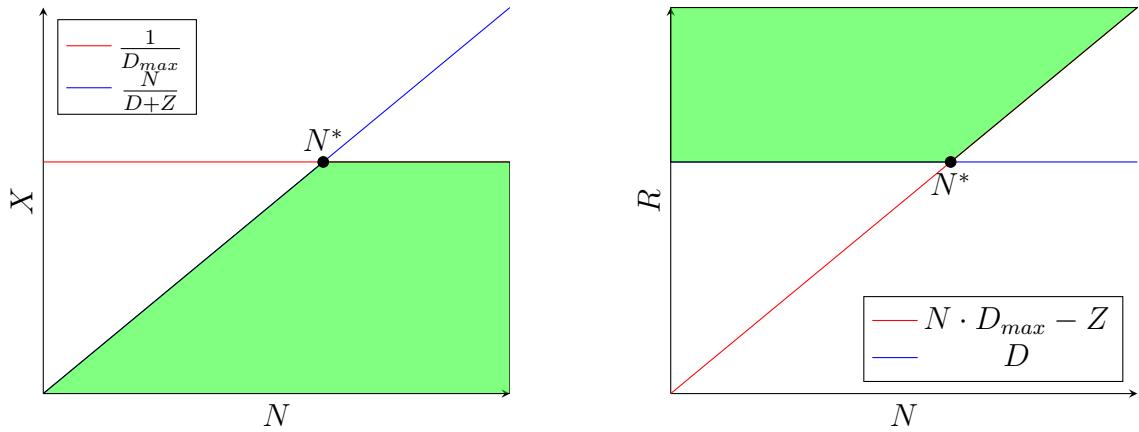
With the same formula as before we can find another bound for the throughput:

$$R = \frac{N}{X} - Z \geq D \implies X \leq \frac{N}{D + Z}$$

The bound found are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X &\leq \min \left( \frac{N}{D + Z}, \frac{1}{D_{max}} \right) \\
 R &\geq \max (D, N \cdot D_{max} - Z)
 \end{aligned}$$

If we plot this bounds:



We can identify the point  $N^*$  where the two functions cross, that is the point:

$$N^* = \frac{D + Z}{D_{max}}$$

Based on this number the system can be in two states:

- If  $N < N^*$  the system have **low population** and the buond is related to  $D$ , so every upgrade to the system will increase the throughput and decrease the response time.
- If  $N > N^*$  the system have **high population** and the buond is related to  $D_{max}$ , so only an upgrade to the device with higher demand time will increase the throughput and decrease the response time.

## 2.7 Formulas

- Stability condition of a system:

$$\lambda_i < \mu_i \quad \forall i$$

- Utilization law:

- Single device:

$$\rho_i = S_i \cdot X_i$$

- All system:

$$U = \frac{\sum \rho_i}{m}$$

- Slowdown:

$$Sl = E\left(\frac{R}{S}\right)$$

- Little law:

- Open systems:

$$R = \frac{\bar{N}}{X}$$

- Closed systems:

$$R = \frac{N}{X} - Z \implies T = \frac{N}{X}$$

- Forced Flow law:

$$X_i = V_i \cdot X$$

- Demand time:

$$D_i = S_i \cdot V_i$$

- Busy time and completions:

$$D_i = \frac{B_i}{C}$$

$$V_i = \frac{C_i}{C}$$

$$S_i = \frac{B_i}{C_i}$$

- Bottleneck law:

$$X = \frac{\rho_i}{D_i} \quad \forall i$$

- Bounds:

$$X \leq \min \left( \frac{N}{D + Z}, \frac{1}{D_{max}} \right)$$

$$R \geq \max(D, N \cdot D_{max} - Z)$$

$$N^* = \frac{D + Z}{D_{max}}$$

# 3

## Markov Chains

### Stochastic process

A **stochastic process** is a sequence of states:

$$X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n$$

in which  $X_i$  is the state at time  $i$ .

We also define the state space  $I$ :

$$\forall i \quad X_i \in I$$

### 3.1 Discrete Time Markov Chains

#### Discrete Time Markov Chain

A **Discrete Time Markov Chain (DTMC)** is a stochastic process with the following property:

$$P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i, X_{n-1} = i_{n-1}, \dots, X_0 = i_0) = P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i) = P_{ij}$$

So, the probability of next step depends only on the current one, and not on the history (**memoryless**). Also it not depends on the time indexes (**time homogeneity**).

If the state space is finite ( $|I| = M$ ), a **transition probability matrix**  $P$  can be defined. The matrix have size  $M \times M$ . In the matrix we have that:

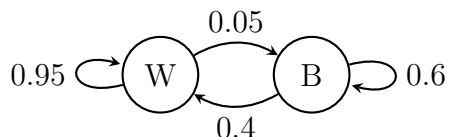
- $P_{ij} \in [0, 1] \quad \forall i, j$
- $\sum_{j \in I} P_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i$

#### Example:

We have a machine, if the machine is working there is 95% probability that it will work tomorrow, if it's broken there is 40% that it will be repaired tomorrow.

This problem can be expressed as a DTMC. The probability matrix can visualized as a table or an automata:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.95 & 0.05 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$



### 3.1.1 Probability of multiple steps

Given a DTMC we can define the probability of going from state  $i$  to state  $j$  in exactly two steps as:

$$P_{ij}^2 = \sum_{k \in I} P_{ik} \cdot P_{kj}$$

Also this formula can be generalized for every number of steps by a formula called **Chapman Kolmogoroff equation**:

$$P_{ij}^{n+m} = \sum_{k \in I} P_{ik}^n \cdot P_{kj}^m$$

For every number of steps  $n$  we can calculate the probability matrix for  $n$  steps  $P^n$  multiplying the original matrix  $P$  by itself  $n$  times.

### 3.1.2 Limiting and stationary probabilities

#### Limiting probability

The **limiting probability** of a state  $i$  is the probability that the chain is in state  $i$  independently to the starting state.

$$\pi_j = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P_{ij}^n \quad \forall i$$

Also, we define the **limiting distribution** of being in each state:

$$\pi = (\pi_0, \dots, \pi_M) \text{ where } \sum_{i \in I} \pi_i = 1$$

So, for an arbitrary large  $n$  the matrix  $P^n$  will have every row equal (the limit could not exist).

**Example:**

We have the same machine as before but with different probabilities:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1-a & a \\ b & 1-b \end{bmatrix}$$

The probability matrix for  $n$  steps  $P^n$  is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b+a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a-a(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} \\ \frac{b-b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} & \frac{a+b(1-a-b)^n}{a+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we know that  $(1-a-b)^n = 0$ , so the probability matrix looks like:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{b}{a+b} & \frac{a}{a+b} \\ \frac{a}{a+b} & \frac{b}{a+b} \end{bmatrix}$$

So, the probability of being in each state is:

$$\pi_W = \frac{b}{a+b}, \pi_B = \frac{a}{a+b}$$

### Stationary distribution

A distribution  $\pi = (\pi_0, \dots, \pi_M)$  is **stationary** if:

1.  $\pi = \pi \cdot P$
2.  $\pi_j = \sum_{i \in I} \pi_i \cdot P_{ij}$

### Equalities of limiting and stationary distribution

If a limiting distribution exists then:

1. Is equal to the stationary distribution
2. Is the only stationary distribution

#### Proof 1:

$\pi$  is a limiting distribution:

$$\pi_j = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P_{ij}^n$$

Is a limit for  $n$  so doesn't change for  $n+1$ :

$$P_{ij}^{n+1} = \sum_{k \in I} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P_{ik}^n \cdot P_{kj} = \sum_{k \in I} \pi_k \cdot P_{kj} = \pi_j \text{ stationary}$$

#### Proof 2:

Suppose exists a second stationary probability  $\pi'$  where  $\pi' = \pi' \cdot P = \pi' \cdot P^n$ . A specific  $\pi'_j$  is calculated as a multiplication between  $\pi'$  and the  $j$ -th column of the matrix  $P$ :

$$\pi'_j = \pi' \cdot P_j^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \pi' P_j^n = \sum_{k \in I} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \pi'_k \cdot P_{kj}^n = \sum_{k \in I} \pi'_k \cdot \left( \underbrace{\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P_{kj}^n}_1 \right) = \sum_{k \in I} \pi'_k \cdot \pi_j = \pi_j$$

#### Example:

We have the machine again with the probability matrix  $P$ :

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.95 & 0.05 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

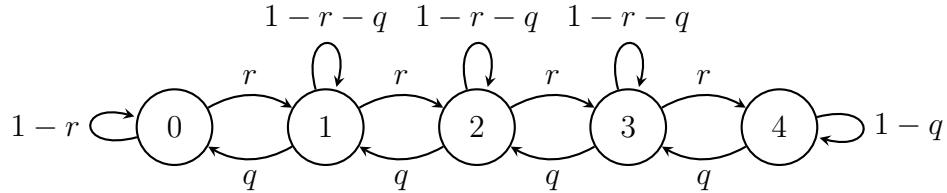
To find the probability distribution we need to solve a system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} \pi_W = 0.95\pi_W + 0.4\pi_B \\ \pi_B = 0.05\pi_W + 0.6\pi_B \\ \pi_W + \pi_B = 1 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} 0.05\pi_W = 0.4\pi_B \\ 0.4\pi_B = 0.05\pi_W \\ \pi_W + \pi_B = 1 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \pi_W = 8\pi_B \\ \pi_B = \frac{1}{8}\pi_W \\ 9\pi_B = 1 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \pi_W = \frac{8}{9} \\ \pi_B = \frac{1}{9} \end{cases}$$

With complex or even infinite state matrix this system of equation can be difficult to define. To help us we can use a flow rule, in which if we draw a box on the automata the probability to enter the box must be equal to the probability to exit the box.

**Example:**

We have a system with a CPU and a finite queue with 3 spaces, at every time step with probability  $r$  a job arrives and with probability  $q$  a job finish. The automata of the Markov chain based on the number of jobs in the system is:



To calculate  $\pi_1$  with the formula, we will have that:

$$\pi_1 = r\pi_0 + (1 - r - q)\pi_1 + q\pi_2$$

If we draw a box containing the state 0 and its loop, we can say that:

$$q\pi_1 = r\pi_0$$

We can do the same drawing a box containing both state 0 and 1 to write that:

$$q\pi_2 = r\pi_1$$

And so on. So, the system of equations will be:

$$\begin{cases} q\pi_1 = r\pi_0 \\ q\pi_2 = r\pi_1 \\ q\pi_3 = r\pi_2 \\ q\pi_4 = r\pi_3 \\ \pi_0 + \pi_1 + \pi_2 + \pi_3 + \pi_4 = 1 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \pi_1 = \frac{r}{q}\pi_0 \\ \pi_2 = \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^2\pi_0 \\ \pi_3 = \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^3\pi_0 \\ \pi_4 = \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^4\pi_0 \\ \pi_0 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{r}{q} + \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^4\right) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Using this we can know different parameters of the system like the utilization and the average population:

$$U = 1 - \pi_0 \quad \overline{N} = \sum_{i=0}^4 i \cdot \pi_i$$

### 3.1.3 Infinite state Markov Chains

In the case of infinite state Markov Chain the system will contain infinite equations, so we have to extract a general case to calculate  $\pi_i$  in respect to  $\pi_0$ .

**Example:**

We have the same system as before but with an infinite queue, so the probability matrix will be:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - r & r & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ q & 1 - r - q & r & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & q & 1 - r - q & r & \dots & 0 \\ & & & \vdots & & \end{bmatrix}$$

We can write  $\pi_0$  as:

$$\pi_0 = (1 - r)\pi_0 + q\pi_1 \implies r\pi_0 = q\pi_1 \implies \pi_1 = \frac{r}{q}\pi_0$$

And  $\pi_1$  as:

$$\pi_1 = r\pi_0 + (1 - r - q)\pi_1 + q\pi_2 \implies \pi_2 = \frac{r}{q}\pi_1 = \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^2\pi_0$$

For every other  $\pi_i$ :

$$\pi_i = q\pi_{i-1} + (1 - r - q)\pi_i + r\pi_{i+1} \implies \pi_i = \frac{r}{q}\pi_{i-1} = \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^i\pi_0$$

We also know that the sum of  $\pi_i$  must be 1, so:

$$\sum \pi_i = 1 \implies \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^i \pi_0 = \pi_0 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{q}\right)^i = \pi_0 \left(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{r}{q}}\right) = 1 \implies \pi_0 = 1 - \frac{r}{q}$$

We can calculate the average number of jobs in the system and the utilization (from now  $\frac{r}{q}$  will be written as  $\rho$ ):

$$\bar{N} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i\pi_i = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i\rho^i(1 - \rho) = (1 - \rho) \underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i\rho^i}_{(1-\rho)^2} = (1 - \rho) \frac{1}{(\rho - 1)^2} = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho}$$

$$U = 1 - \pi_0 = \rho$$

We also can calculate the number of jobs in the queue:

$$\bar{N}_Q = \bar{N} - U = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho} - \rho = \frac{\rho^2}{1 - \rho}$$

### 3.1.4 Existence of the limiting distribution

#### Periodicity

The **period** of a state  $j$  is the greatest common divisor (GCD) of the set of  $n$  such that  $P_{ij}^n > 0$ .

A state is **aperiodic** when it has period 1. A Markov Chain is aperiodic if all its states are aperiodic.

**Example:**

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The  $n$  such that  $P_{ij}^n > 0$  are:

$$S_0 = S_1 = \{2, 4, 6, \dots\} \implies \text{GCD}_0 = \text{GCD}_1 = 2$$

If we change  $P$ :

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.01 & 0.99 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For every  $n$  we have that  $P_{00}^n > 0$ , so the state is aperiodic.

### Existence of limiting distribution

Given an aperiodic, irreducible and finite state DTMC then the limiting probability exists and the rows define  $\pi$ . The system is positive recurrent.

#### Proof:

With a probability matrix  $P$  we define  $e$  as a column with only 0 and a 1 on the  $j$ -th row:

$$e = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have that  $P^n \cdot e$  is the  $j$ -th column of  $P^n$ :

$$P^n \cdot e = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & P_{1j}^n & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & P_{2j}^n & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & P_{Mj}^n & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let  $M_n$  be the maximum component of  $P^n \cdot e$ ,  $m_n$  the minimum component and  $s$  the smaller value in  $P$ . We can say that:

$$M_n - m_n \leq (1 - 2s)(M_{n-1} - m_{n-1})$$

Also:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} M_n \leq (1 - s)M_{n-1} + sm_{n-1} \\ m_n \geq sM_{n-1} + (1 - s)m_{n-1} \end{array} \right\} \implies M_n - m_n \geq (1 - 2s)(M_{n-1} - m_{n-1})$$

We know that  $s \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $(1 - 2s) \in [0, 1]$  and  $M_n - m_n$  will converge to 0, making all rows equal. The only exception is when  $s = 0$ , but because of aperiodicity and irreducibility we know that exists a  $n_0$  for which  $P^{n_0}$  is no 0. So, we can define  $P^n$  as a multiplication of  $P^{n_0}$  and it will converge. The difference is that the decrease will occur only every  $n_0$  multiplication of  $P$ .

## 3.2 Continuous Time Markov Chains

A **Continuous Time Marckov Chain (CTMC)** is similar to a DTMC but instead of having probabilities to transition between states, it has rates.

To calculate the probability distribution we can't use the system of equation created from  $\pi = \pi P$  because  $P$  doesn't have probabilities but rates.

### 3.2.1 CTMC to DTMC

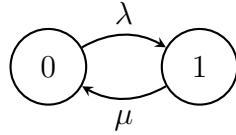
From a CTMC we can construct an embedded DTMC using a very fast clock that represent an observation of the system. The inter-observation time  $\delta$  has to be low so that the observation

rate  $\frac{1}{\delta} = \Delta$  is much larger than any other rate in the system. We want that in every observation we see 1 or 0 transition.

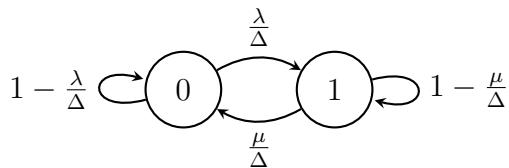
Self loops need to be added in the DTMC because  $\Delta$  is much larger than the other rates, so they will not sum up to 1.

### Example:

We have a CTMC like this:



The corresponding DTMC is:



### From CTMC to DTMC

Given a CTMC, we can construct a DTMC in which:

$$I_{DTMC} = I_{CTMC}$$

Let  $\lambda_{ij}$  be the rate from state  $i$  to state  $j$  in the CTMC and  $\Delta$  the observation rate, the transition probabilities in DTMC are:

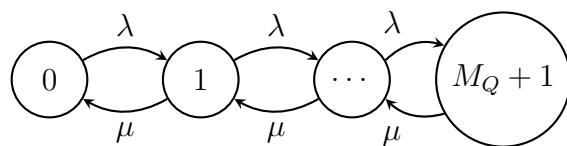
$$P_{ij} = \frac{\lambda_{ij}}{\Delta}$$

$$P_{ii} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{j \in I} \lambda_{ij}}{\Delta}$$

This system has self loops, so is aperiodic by definition.

### Example:

We have a single server with a queue that can contain  $M_Q$  jobs, an arrival rate of  $\lambda$  and a processing rate of  $\mu$ .



We can apply the barrier technique, so:

$$\pi_i = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \right)^i \pi_0$$

And  $\pi_0$  can be calculated:

$$\pi_0 \sum_{i=0}^{M_q+1} = 1 \xrightarrow{q=\frac{\lambda}{\mu}} \pi_0 \left( \frac{1 + q^{M_q+2}}{1 - q} \right) = 1 \implies \pi_0 = \frac{1 - q}{1 + q^{M_q+2}}$$

If the queue is infinite, the situation depends on  $q = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$ :

- If  $q \geq 1$ : we have that  $\pi_0 \rightarrow 0$  because the system is not stable and the number of jobs in the queue increase infinitely. The stability distribution doesn't exists.
- If  $q < 1$ : we have that  $\pi_0 = 1 - q \implies q = \rho$  (utilization). In this case we can calculate the average number of jobs in the system, the throughput and other metrics:

$$\bar{N} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i\pi_i = (1 - \rho) \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} i\rho^i = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho}$$

$$X = \lambda \implies R = \frac{\bar{N}}{X} = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{\frac{\lambda}{\mu}}{1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda}$$