

# Stochastic Modeling

Midterm 2  
Study Guide

## RV Review

### Exponential RVs →

**Exponential**  
density:  $f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$   
distribution:  $P(X \leq x) = F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$   
reverse:  $P(X > x) = 1 - F(x) = e^{-\lambda x}$

**Erlang**  
density:  $f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \frac{(\lambda x)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}$   
distribution:  $F(x) = 1 - \sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \frac{e^{-\lambda x} (\lambda x)^r}{r!}$

**Poisson RVs →**  
distribution:  $P_k = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}$   
rv: has the pdf and properties...  
write as...  $\sim P_0(\lambda)$

**Properties of Exponential**  
• memoryless property:  $P(X > t+s | X > t) = P(X > s)$   
• exp. of exp. (λ) iid  $i \in 1, \dots, n$   
 $Z_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$   
 $\Rightarrow Z_n \sim \text{Erl}(n, \lambda)$   
• Min. of exp. (λ<sub>1</sub>)... (λ<sub>k</sub>) iid  $i \in 1, \dots, k$   
 $X = \min\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k\}$   
 $\Rightarrow X \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$   
 $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i$   
• still thinking about min...  
 $X_i = X$ ,  $i$  = time first  $X$  occurs  
 $Z$  and  $X$  are indep. and...  
 $P(Z > x, X > x) = P(Z > x)P(X > x)$   
 $= \frac{\lambda}{\lambda} e^{-\lambda x} = e^{-\lambda x}$

**Properties of Poissons**  
• a poisson is a binomial rv where  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $p \rightarrow 0$ ...  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}$   
• Sum of  $P_0(\lambda_i)$ ...  
 $X_i \sim P_0(\lambda_i)$  iid  $i \in 1, \dots, n$   
 $Z_n = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$   
 $\Rightarrow Z_n \sim P_0(\lambda)$   
 $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$

## Building Blocks of CTMCs

### Poisson Process →

• we're tracking times of occurrences in a system...  
 $N(t)$  = number of events occurring up to time  $t$   
 $T_n$  = time between  $n^{th}$  and  $(n-1)^{th}$  events  
 $T_n \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$  iid  
 $\Rightarrow T_n \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$  iid  
 $X = \min\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k\}$   
 $\Rightarrow X \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$   
 $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i$   
• what does this have to do w/ Poisson...  
if  $T_n \sim \text{exp}(\lambda)$  iid...  
then  $N(t)$  is a Poisson Process aka  $\{N(t), t \geq 0\} \sim \text{PP}(\lambda)$   
• Poisson Process →  
if  $N(t)$  is PP(λ) that means for a given  $t$ ,  $N(t) \sim P_0(\lambda t)$   
and...  $P(N(t) = k) = e^{-\lambda t} \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!}$ ,  $k \geq 0$   
and...  $E[N(t)] = \lambda t$ ,  $\text{Var}(N(t)) = \lambda t$   
• Markov Property →  
 $\{N(t), t \geq 0\} \sim \text{PP}(\lambda)$ , then it has markov property at each time  $t$ .  
 $P(N(t+s) = k | N(t) = j, N(u), 0 \leq u \leq s) = P(N(t+s) = k | N(t) = j)$   
aka the distribution over any interval  $(s, t+s]$  is indep. of events occurring outside the interval  $(t, s]$

**Thinning →**  
• we have a  $N(t)$  defined by  $\text{PP}(\lambda)$ . Some events are special, w/ prob.  $p$   
• Thinning →  
 $R(t)$  = # of special events over  $(0, t]$   
 $\{R(t), t \geq 0\} \sim \text{PP}(\lambda p)$   
• Splitting →  
just the unspecial events  $p$  indep. of  $R(t)$   
 $\{N(t) - R(t), t \geq 0\} \sim \text{PP}(\lambda(1-p))$

## CTMCs

### Continuous-Time Markov Chains →

• we want to look at a system like a Discrete Time Markov Chain but observed continuously...  
 $X(t)$  = state at time  $t$  → on state space  $S$

**Transition Prob. Matrix**  
 $P_{ij}(t) = P(X(t) = j | X(0) = i)$   
 $P(t) = [P_{ij}(t)]$   
notice, a function of  $t$

**Continuous Time Markov Chain**  
 $P(X(s+t) = j | X(s) = i, X(u), 0 \leq u \leq s) = P(X(s+t) = j | X(s) = i)$   
(time homogeneity is...)  
 $P(X(s+t) = j | X(s) = i) = P(X(t) = j | X(0) = i)$

• let's explore transition prob. a bit more...  
 $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$   
• Starts in state  $i$   
• we measure time between transitions  $P_{ij} = 0$   
• stays in state  $i$  for an amount of time called  $\tau_i$   
• amount of time called  $\tau_i$  is  $\text{exp}(r_i)$   
• end of sojourn time in state  $i$  w/ prob.  $p_{ij}$   
•  $p_{ij}$  = prob that system moves to state  $j$  after leaving  $i$ ,  $\approx P_{ij}(t)$   
• stays in state  $j$  for an  $\text{exp}(r_j)$  amount of time then moves to state  $k$ ,  $j$ , and so on...

• let's describe CTMCs w/ these  $r_i$ 's and  $p_{ij}$ 's, since  $P_{ij}(t)$  is too messy...  
 $r_i$  = parameter in  $\text{exp}(r_i)$  descr. amount of time in state  $i$   
 $p_{ij}$  = prob. of a system moving to state  $j$  after  $\tau_i$  hours ends  
 $r_i = \sum_{j \neq i} p_{ij}$   
 $p_{ij} = \frac{P_{ij}(t)}{r_i}$ ,  $i, j \neq 0$

**Rate Matrix**  
 $R = [r_{ij}]$   
 $r_{ii} = -r_i$   
 $r_{ij} = p_{ij} r_i$

• Poisson Processes come into the mix since they are used to describe entrances and exits from a system

### Common CTMCs →

- Two state machine → either operating or failed
- Single Server Queue → arrival  $\sim \text{PP}(\lambda)$ , service  $\sim \text{exp}(\mu)$ , capacity =  $k$
- Finite Birth-Death Processes  
births → transitions from  $i$  to  $i+1$   $\lambda_i$  param.  
deaths → transitions from  $i$  to  $i-1$   $\mu_i$  param.

## CTMC Applications

### Transient Analysis →

- We have our rate matrix, but what if we want  $P(X(t) = j)$  a pdf of  $X(t)$  or  $P(t)$ ?
- Transient Distribution =  $P(X(t) = j)$   
 $= \sum_{i=1}^N P_{ij}(t) P(X(0) = i)$   
we need to find this...
- how to find Matrix  $P(t)$  →  
1) define  $r = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N]$   
 $\hat{P}_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{r_i}{r_j}, & i=j \\ -\frac{r_i}{r_j}, & i \neq j \end{cases}$   $\hat{P} = [\hat{P}_{ij}]$   
2) solve...  $P(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} \frac{(t\hat{P})^k}{k!}$   $\hat{P}$  is stochastic!  
(typically use a computer)

### Occupancy Times →

- When we're looking at a CTMC over a finite interval  $(0, T]$ , we might want to know how long the system is in a state  $j$ ...
- $M_{ij}(T)$  = expected amount of time spent in  $j$  over  $[0, T]$  = occupancy time of state  $j$  until time  $T$  starting in  $i$   
 $= \int_0^T P_{ij}(t) dt$  since we typically don't know  $P(t)$  we can use the series...  
we compute w/ Matlab.
- $M(T) = [M_{ij}(T)]$

### Limiting Behavior →

- We know of limiting distributions in DTMCs, like in DTMCs we need to define irreducibility → A CTMC is irreducible if its corresponding DTMC is irred.
- but we don't need to worry about periodicity w/ CTMCs
- Limiting Distribution →  
 $P_j = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(X(t) = j)$  → if this limit exists it's the limiting probability  
 $\vec{P} = [p_1, \dots, p_N]$  → if this vector exists it's the limiting distribution  
→ an irreducible CTMC has a unique limiting distribution  $\vec{P}$   
→ we can find it by solving...

- Stationary Distribution → if the limiting distribution  $\vec{P}$  exists for a CTMC then that is also the stationary distribution. If the stationary distribution is chosen for the initial dist. the transient dist. will be  $\vec{P}$  for all time.
- Occupancy Distribution → if the limiting dist.  $\vec{P}$  exists for a CTMC then that is also the occupancy distribution aka the long run fraction of time a CTMC stays in a certain state.

### Cost Models →

- let's define...  $c(i)$  → when a CTMC is in state  $i$  it incurs costs at rate  $c(i)$ .
- Expected Total Cost up to finite time  $T$  →  
 $\hat{g}(T) = \int_0^T \hat{g}(t) dt$   $\hat{g}(t) = M(t) \vec{c}$   $\vec{c} = [c(1), \dots, c(N)]$   
starting state  $\vec{r}$   $\hat{g}(t) = \int_0^t \hat{g}(u) du$  occupancy matrix
- Long Run Cost Rate per unit time →  
 $g = \sum_{j=1}^N p_j c(j) = \vec{P} \vec{c}$  cost vector  
does not depend on initial state  $\vec{P}$  limiting dist.

### First Passage Time →

- We want to know the first time a model passes into a set of states  $A$ ...
- First Passage Time →  $m_i$  = expected first passage time, found by solving system of eq.  
 $r_i m_i(A) = 1 + \sum_{j \notin A} r_{ij} m_j(A)$ ,  $i \notin A$

good luck ♥