

9:30–11:15am, Dec 12, 2016

This is a closed book, closed notes test. **CUHK student honor code applies to this test.** There are a total of 4 problems.

1. (30 points) A manufacturing setup consists of two distinct machines, each producing one component per hour. Each component is tested instantly and is identified as defective or non-defective. Let  $0 < \alpha_i < 1$  be the probability that a component produced by machine  $i$  is non-defective,  $i = 1, 2$ . The defective components are discarded and the non-defective components are stored in two separate bins, one for each machine. When a component is present in each bin, the two are instantly assembled together and shipped out. Bin  $i$  can hold at most  $B_i$  components,  $i = 1, 2$ . When a bin is full the corresponding machine is turned off. It is turned on again when the bin has space for at least one component. Assume that successive components are independent.

- (a) (15 points) Let  $X_n$  be the number of items in bin 1 plus the number of items in bin 2 at the end of hour  $n$ . Is  $X = \{X_n : n = 0, 1, \dots\}$  a DTMC? If not, briefly explain why and construct a one-dimensional DTMC (to answer the following questions below). (By one-dimensional I mean that the state space  $S \subset \mathbb{Z}$ .) What is the state space  $S$  of the Markov chain? What is the (one-step) transition probabilities? Show that your DTMC has a unique stationary distribution  $\pi = (\pi_i : i \in S)$ . **Even if you cannot get this part completely right, you should proceed to the other parts of this problem.**

**Solution.** No.  $X$  is not DTMC. Let  $Y_n$  be the number of items in bin 1 **minus** the number of items in bin 2 at the end of hour  $n$ . When  $Y_n = x > 0$ , bin 1 has  $x$  items and bin 2 is empty. When  $Y_n = x < 0$ , bin 2 has  $|x|$  items and bin 1 is empty. The state space

$$S = \{-B_2, -B_2 + 1, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, B_1\}.$$

When  $Y_n = B_1$ , machine 1 is turned off the next period. When  $Y_n = -B_2$ , machine 2 is turned off. The transition matrix is

$$P_{i,i+1} = \alpha_1(1 - \alpha_2) \quad P_{i,i-1} = \alpha_2(1 - \alpha_1), \quad P_{ii} = 1 - P_{i,i+1} - P_{i,i-1}$$

for  $-B_2 < i < B_1$ , and

$$P_{i,i-1} = \alpha_2, \quad P_{ii} = 1 - \alpha_2$$

for  $i = B_1$ , and

$$P_{i,i+1} = \alpha_1, \quad P_{ii} = 1 - \alpha_1$$

for  $i = -B_2$ . Since the DTMC is irreducible on a finite state space, it has a unique stationary distribution.

- (b) (7 points) Derive an expression for the long-run fraction of the time that both machines are working.

**Solution.** The long-run fraction of the time both machines is

$$\sum_{-B_2 < i < B_1} \pi_i.$$

- (c) (8 points) Derive an expression for the long-run average number of assemblies shipped per hour.

**Solution.** The average number of assemblies shipped per period is

$$\sum_{-B_2 \leq i \leq -1} \pi_i \alpha_1 + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq B_1} \pi_i \alpha_2 + \pi_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2.$$

2. (20 points; 10 points each) In an election, suppose we have two candidates A and B, such that A receives more votes than B in total (let's say A receives  $a$  votes, B receives  $b$  votes, and  $a > b$ ). Suppose the total  $n = a + b$  votes are counted in random order. Let  $S_k$  be the number of votes A is *leading by* after  $k$  votes counted. Define

$$X_k = \frac{S_{n-k}}{n-k} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k \leq n-1.$$

- (a) Is  $\{X_k : 0 \leq k \leq n-1\}$  a martingale? Prove your assertion.  
 (b) Find the probability that A remains ahead of B throughout the counting process. Justify your answer. (For A to be "ahead", A's votes have to be strictly more than B's votes.)

(a) yes. First, it is clear that  $X_k$  is bounded and hence integrable,  $\forall k$ .

Second, we verify  $E[X_{k+1} | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_k] = X_k$

$$\text{Note that } E[X_{k+1} | X_0, \dots, X_k] = E\left[\frac{S_{n-k-1}}{n-k-1} \mid X_0, \dots, X_k\right]$$

$$= E\left[\frac{S_{n-k-1}}{n-k-1} \mid S_n, S_{n-1}, \dots, S_{n-k}\right]$$

let  $\begin{cases} a_i = \# \text{ of votes for A after first } i \text{ votes counted} \\ b_i = \# \text{ of votes for B after first } i \text{ votes counted} \end{cases}$

Then conditioned on  $S_{n-k}$ , we have

$$a_{n-k} = (S_{n-k} + (n-k)) / 2$$

$$b_{n-k} = \frac{-S_{n-k} + (n-k)}{2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a_{n-k} - b_{n-k} = S_{n-k} \\ a_{n-k} + b_{n-k} = n-k \end{cases}$$

Now.

$$S_{n-k-1} = \begin{cases} S_{n-k} + 1 & \text{if } (n-k)\text{-th vote for B} \\ S_{n-k} - 1 & \text{if } (n-k)\text{-th vote for A} \end{cases}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} E[S_{n-k-1} | S_{n-k}] &= (S_{n-k} + 1) \cdot \frac{b_{n-k}}{n-k} \\ &\quad + (S_{n-k} - 1) \cdot \frac{a_{n-k}}{n-k} \\ &= S_{n-k} \cdot \frac{n-k-1}{n-k} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $E[S_{n-k-1} | S_{n-k}, \dots, S_n] = E[S_{n-k-1} | S_{n-k}] = S_{n-k} \cdot \frac{n-k-1}{n-k}$

(b). Define  $T = \begin{cases} \min \{k: 0 \leq k \leq n-1, X_k = 0\} & \text{if such } k \text{ exists} \\ n-1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

$T$  is a bounded stopping time

Martingale stopping theorem applies and yields.

$$E[X_T] = E[X_0] = \frac{E[S_n]}{n} = \frac{a-b}{a+b} \quad (*)$$

If  $A$  doesn't lead through the counting process,

then at some time  $k$ ,  $S_k = 0$  and  $X_k = 0$ , i.e.  $T \leq n-1$ .

and  $X_T = 0$ .

If  $A$  leads  $B$  through the counting process, then  $S_k > 0 \forall k$

and hence  $X_k > 0 \forall k$  from 0 to  $n-1$ .

Then  $T = n-1$  by definition and  $X_T = X_{n-1} = S_1 = 1$  (first vote  $A$ )

Now  $(*)$  suggests that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a-b}{a+b} = E[X_T] &= 1 \cdot P(A \text{ leads through the process}) \\ &+ 0 \cdot P(A \text{ doesn't lead}) \end{aligned}$$

$$= P(A \text{ leads } B \text{ through the counting process}).$$

hence the probability is  $\frac{a-b}{a+b}$ .



3. (20 points)

- (a) (6 pts) Suppose  $\{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  and  $\{W_t : t \geq 0\}$  are two independent standard Brownian motions. For  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define  $Y_t = aB_t + bW_t$  for each  $t \geq 0$ . Find the sufficient and necessary condition on  $a, b$  for  $\{Y_t : t \geq 0\}$  to be a standard Brownian motion.
- (b) (6 pts) Suppose  $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$  is a Gaussian process with  $\mathbb{E}[X_t] = 0$ , and  $\text{Cov}(X_s, X_t) = s$  for all  $0 \leq s \leq t < \infty$ . Suppose  $X_0 = 0$  and  $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$  has continuous sample paths. Prove that  $\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$  is a standard Brownian motion.
- (c) (8 pts) Suppose  $\{B_t : t \geq 0\}$  is a standard Brownian motion. Define  $Z_t = B_{2t} - B_t$ . Is  $\{Z_t : t \geq 0\}$  a standard Brownian motion? Is  $\{Z_t : t \geq 0\}$  a Gaussian process? Prove your assertion.

**Solution.**

(a)  $a^2 + b^2 = 1$

Easy to verify from definition that under this condition,

$\{Y_t : t \geq 0\}$  is a standard Brownian Motion.

To get this, note that  $\text{Var}(Y_t) = t = \text{Var}(aB_t + bW_t)$   
 $= a^2 \cdot t + b^2 \cdot t$

(b)  $\text{Var}(X_t) = \text{Cov}(X_t, X_t) = t$

Only need to show  $X$  has stationary and independent increments.

$\text{Cov}(X_{t+s} - X_t, X_t) = \text{Cov}(X_{t+s}, X_t) - \text{Cov}(X_t, X_t)$   
 $= t - t = 0$

As  $X_{t+s} - X_t, X_t$  are both Gaussian r.v.s.

Then we have  $X_{t+s} - X_t$  independent of  $X_t$ .

~~then~~ Note that  $\text{Var}(X_{t+s} - X_t) = t+s + t - 2t = s$ .

So  $X_{t+s} - X_t$  is also  $N(0, s) \Rightarrow$  stationary increment.

A rigorous proof used mathematical induction on the # of time intervals considered. (only 2 intervals above)

(c)  $\{Z_t : t \geq 0\}$  is NOT <sup>standard</sup> Brownian Motion, e.g.  $\text{Var}(Z_{2t} - Z_t) = 3t \neq t$ .

$\therefore \{Z_t : t \geq 0\}$  is a Gaussian process

To find the long-run average number of customers in system, we need to solve the stationary distribution for each CTMC with generator matrix  $Q$ . Suppose it is  $\{\pi_{i,j}\}$  then  
 long-run average # of customers in system  $= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (i+j) \cdot \pi_{i,j}$

4. (30 points; 10 points each) Consider a two independent server queue. Two different queues are formed in front of the two servers (first-come-first-served). A common stream of customers arrive at the two different queues according to a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$ . The service times at each server follow i.i.d exponential distributions with a mean  $1/\mu$ . Assume  $\lambda < 2\mu$ .

For each of the following three routing policies, construct an appropriate CTMC model and briefly explain how your model can be used to find the long-run average number of customers in the system (you do not need to give a numerical answer). Specify the state space and the transition rates for three CTMCs you construct.

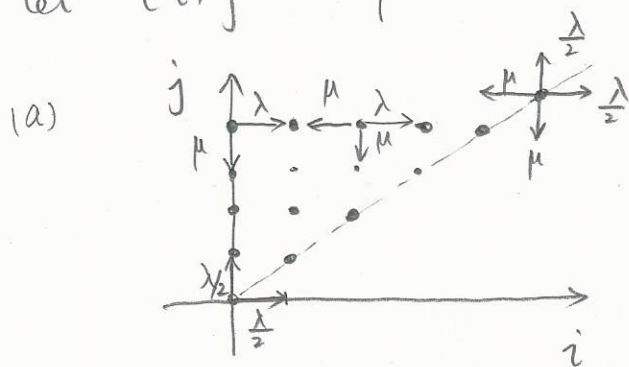
- An arriving customer joins the server with the shorter queue. If the number of customers in the two queues are equal, the arriving customer joins either one with probability 0.5.
- An arriving customer is randomly assigned to either server with probability 0.5.
- An arriving customer is randomly assigned to either server with probability 0.5. In addition, when one queue is empty, the server will serve a customer (if any) in the other queue.

let  $Q_1(t) = \#$  of customers in the first queue at time  $t \geq 0$   
 $Q_2(t) = \#$  of customers in the second queue at time  $t \geq 0$ .

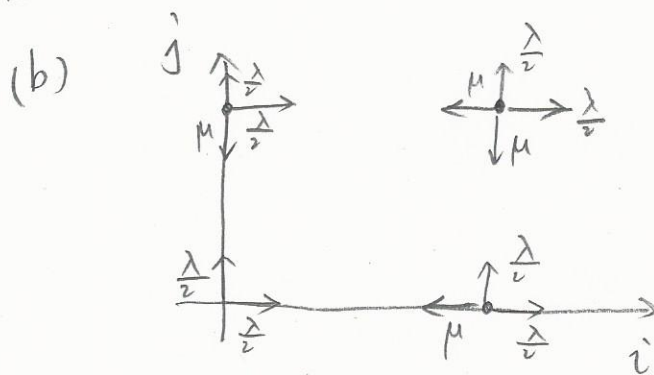
Then  $\{(Q_1(t), Q_2(t)) : t \geq 0\}$  is a CTMC for policy (a), (b), (c).

state space  $S = \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$  where  $\mathbb{Z}^+ = \{z : z \text{ is a nonnegative integer}\}$ .

let  $(i, j)$  represent one state  $Q_1(t) = i, Q_2(t) = j$ .



Symmetric in the diagonal



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