

Lecture 09. Poisson Process

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Math Review - Exponential distribution AGAIN?!

- pdf, cdf $\lambda e^{-\lambda t}, 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \quad (\lambda > 0)$
- $\mathbb{E}X, Var(X), c_X, c_X^2$ $C_x = \frac{sd(X)}{\mathbb{E}X} = 1$
 λ λ^2
- Memoryless property $P(X > s+t | X > t) = P(X > s)$ for all $s, t \geq 0$
- $X_1 \sim exp(\lambda_1), X_2 \sim exp(\lambda_2)$, and they are indep.
 $\Rightarrow P(X_1 < X_2) = ?$ $\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$
ex) X_1 : lifetime of #1 bulb
 X_2 : lifetime of #2 bulb
 $P(X_1 < X_2)$: prob. #1 broken before #2
 $\min(X_1, X_2)$: time until one of bulbs broken
- [NEW] $X_1 \sim exp(\lambda_1), X_2 \sim exp(\lambda_2)$, and they are indep.
 $\Rightarrow \min(X_1, X_2) \sim exp(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$

Examples

- Two servers, A and B, with service times following $X_A \sim \exp(\lambda_A)$ and $X_B \sim \exp(\lambda_B)$. Their service times are independent.

- The time for one customer finishes? $\min(X_A, X_B) \sim \exp(\lambda_A + \lambda_B)$

- If $X_A \sim \exp(1/2)$, $X_B \sim \exp(1/2)$ then $\mathbb{E}[\min(X_A, X_B)]$?

$$\lambda_A = \frac{1}{2}, \lambda_B = \frac{1}{2} \quad \mathbb{E}[\exp(-\lambda_A - \lambda_B)] = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}} = 1 \text{ minutes}$$

- If $X_A \sim \exp(1/2)$, $X_B \sim \exp(1/4)$ then $\mathbb{E}[\min(X_A, X_B)]$?

$$\lambda_A = \frac{1}{2}, \lambda_B = \frac{1}{4} \quad \mathbb{E}[\exp(-\lambda_A - \lambda_B)] = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}} = \frac{4}{3} \text{ minutes}$$

- Two servers, A, B with $X_A \sim \exp(\lambda_A)$, $X_B \sim \exp(\lambda_B)$ serving John and Paul, respectively. Their service times are independent.

- On average, how long does it take to clear the system? ($\because -\max(i, j) = \min(-i, -j)$)
 $\mathbb{E}[\max(X_A, X_B)] = \mathbb{E}[-\min(-X_A, -X_B)] = -\mathbb{E}[\min(-X_A, -X_B)]$?

$$X_A + X_B = \min(X_A, X_B) + \max(X_A, X_B)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X_A + X_B] = \mathbb{E}[\min(X_A, X_B)] + \mathbb{E}[\max(X_A, X_B)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda_A} + \frac{1}{\lambda_B} = \frac{1}{\lambda_A + \lambda_B} + \mathbb{E}[\max(X_A, X_B)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\max(X_A, X_B)] = \frac{1}{\lambda_A} + \frac{1}{\lambda_B} - \frac{1}{\lambda_A + \lambda_B}$$

Poisson Process - Motivation

- In a call center for Amazon, there are 100 incoming calls per minute on average.
Answer the followings in most naive and plain but intuitive way.

- $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:00 and 9:01}]?$ 100 $\mathbb{E}[N(1)] = 100$
- $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:05 and 9:08}]?$ 300 $\mathbb{E}[N(3) - N(5)] = 300$
- Suppose 150 calls bet'n 9:00 and 9:02, $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:03 and 9:05}]?$ 200
 $\mathbb{E}[N(5) - N(3) | N(2) = 150] = \mathbb{E}[N(5) - N(3)] = 200$
- Suppose 800 calls bet'n 9:00 and 9:10, $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:05 and 9:10}]?$ $800 \times \frac{5}{10} = 400$
 $\mathbb{E}[N(10) - N(5) | N(10) = 800] = 400$
- Suppose 900 calls bet'n 9:10 and 9:20, $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:18 and 9:20}]?$ $900 \times \frac{2}{10} = 180$
 $\mathbb{E}[N(20) - N(18) | N(20) - N(10) = 900] = 180$
- Suppose 850 calls bet'n 9:00 and 9:10, $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of calls bet'n 9:08 and 9:12}]?$ $850 \times \frac{2}{10} + 100 \times 2$
 $\mathbb{E}[N(12) - N(8) | N(10) = 850]$
 $= \mathbb{E}[N(12) - N(10) + N(10) - N(8) | N(10) = 850]$
 $= \mathbb{E}[N(12) - N(10) | N(10) = 850] + \mathbb{E}[N(10) - N(8) | N(10) = 850]$
 $= \mathbb{E}[N(12) - N(10)] + \mathbb{E}[N(10) - N(8) | N(10) = 850] = 200 + 170 = 370$

Counting process

- Let $t = 0$ at 9:00, $t = 1$ at 9:01, ... and consider a function $N(t)$ that counts # of total calls since $t = 0$.
- Go back to previous slide and express in terms of $N(\cdot)$.
- Observations on $N(t)$ in common sense. (not PP yet!)
 - $N(0) = 0$
 - $N(t)$ is non-decreasing function
 - $N(t)$ has a nonnegative value.
 - For $t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \leq t_4$, $N(t_2) - N(t_1)$ is indep. of $N(t_4) - N(t_3)$
 - For $t_1 \leq t_2$, $\mathbb{E}[N(t_2) - N(t_1)] = \mathbb{E}[N(t_2 - t_1)]$ \hookrightarrow non-overlapping intervals

Math Review - Poisson distribution

Definition - Poisson distribution

- A discrete random variable X is said to follow **Poisson distribution** with parameter λ , and write $X \sim Poi(\lambda)$, if pmf

$$\mathbb{P}(X = k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} \text{ for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- What is cdf of $Poi(\lambda)$? $\mathbb{P}(X \leq k) = \sum_{i=0}^k \frac{\lambda^i e^{-\lambda}}{i!}$, for $k=0,1,2,\dots$
- $\mathbb{E}X = Var(X) = \lambda$.

Definition

Definition - Poisson process

- $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be **counting process** if $N(0) = 0$, and the integer-valued function $N(t)$ is **non-decreasing**.
- A counting process $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a **Poisson process with rate λ** , and write $PP(\lambda)$ if
 1. $N(t_2) - N(t_1) \sim poi(\lambda(t_2 - t_1))$ for any $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \Rightarrow$ **stationary increment**
 2. For $t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \leq t_4$, $N(t_2) - N(t_1)$ is indep. of $N(t_4) - N(t_3) \Rightarrow$ **independent increment**
- Above statements can be understood as:
 1. (Amount of increment follows Poisson dist. with parameter proportional to time length $\lambda t_2 - t_1$)
 2. (Increments in non-overlapping intervals are independent)

Example for $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2$, $N(t_2) - N(t_1) \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda(t_2 - t_1))$

- Suppose N is $\text{PP}(\lambda = 2/\text{minutes})$

$$\frac{x^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$
 1. The probability that there are 4 arrivals in the first 3 minutes.
$$\mathbb{P}[N(2) - N(0) = 4] = \mathbb{P}[X=4 \mid X \sim \text{Poi}(6)] = \frac{6^4 e^{-6}}{4!}$$

$\stackrel{= \text{Poi}(2(3-0))}{}$

 2. The probability that two arrivals in $[0,2]$ and at least 3 arrivals in $[1,3]$.
$$\mathbb{P}[N(2) - N(0) = 2, N(3) - N(1) \geq 3]$$

$$= \mathbb{P}[N(1) - N(0) = 0, N(2) - N(1) = 2, N(3) - N(2) \geq 1]$$

$$\lambda=2 + \mathbb{P}[N(1) - N(0) = 1, N(2) - N(1) = 1, N(3) - N(2) \geq 2]$$

$$+ \mathbb{P}[N(1) - N(0) = 2, N(2) - N(1) = 0, N(3) - N(2) \geq 3]$$

$$= \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!} \cdot \frac{2^2 e^{-2}}{2!} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!}\right)$$

$$+ \frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!} \cdot \frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!} \left(1 - \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!} - \frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!}\right)$$

$$+ \frac{2^2 e^{-2}}{2!} \cdot \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!} \left(1 - \frac{2^0 e^{-2}}{0!} - \frac{2^1 e^{-2}}{1!} - \frac{2^2 e^{-2}}{2!}\right)$$

non overlapping \rightarrow independent.

blank

- Suppose N is $PP(\lambda = 2/\text{minutes})$ ↗ made in counting domain

- The probability that there is **no arrival** in $[0,4]$?

$$\mathbb{P}(N(4) - N(0) = 0) = \mathbb{P}[X=0 \mid X \sim \text{Poi}(2(4-0))] = \frac{8^0 e^{-8}}{0!} \quad \overbrace{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}^k \quad \overbrace{k!}^K$$

- The probability that the **first arrival** takes at least 4 minutes?

$$\mathbb{P}(N(4) - N(0) = 0) = \frac{8^0 e^{-8}}{0!} \quad \Rightarrow \text{made in time domain}$$

- The probability that the **first arrival** takes at least t minutes?

$$\mathbb{P}(N(t) - N(0) = 0) = \mathbb{P}(X=0 \mid X \sim \text{Poi}(2t)) = \frac{2t^0 e^{-2t}}{0!} = e^{-2t}$$

- What is the **distribution** of T_1 ? $T_1 := \text{time to first arrival}$

$$\mathbb{P}(T_1 > t) = e^{-2t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(T_1 \leq t) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(T_1 > t) = 1 - e^{-2t}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 \sim \text{exp}(2)$$

Theorem

- Time to first arrival in $PP(\lambda)$ follows $\exp(\lambda)$

proof) let T_1 be the time to first arrival

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(T_1 \leq t) &= \mathbb{P}(N(t) - N(0) > 0) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(N(t) - N(0) = 0) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(X=0 | X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda t)) \\ &= 1 - \frac{(\lambda t)^0 e^{-\lambda t}}{0!} = 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore T_1 \sim \exp(\lambda)$$

Merging PP

Example

- Consider the north confluence area of I75 and I85.
 - Suppose, for South bound, N_{I75S} is $PP(100/min)$ and N_{I85S} is $PP(200/min)$.
 - Then, at the north confluence point, we have $N_{I75S} + N_{I85S}$, which is $PP(300/min)$ traffic heading South.

Theorem

- Suppose $N_A = \{N_A(t), t \geq 0\}$ is $PP(\lambda_A)$ and $N_B = \{N_B(t), t \geq 0\}$ is $PP(\lambda_B)$, and they are independent. Then $N = \{N(t) = N_A(t) + N_B(t)\}$ is $PP(\lambda_A + \lambda_B)$

Thinning PP

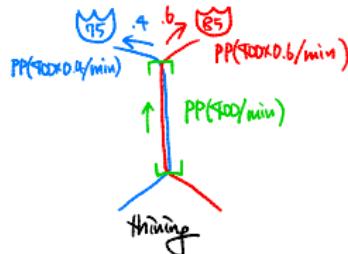
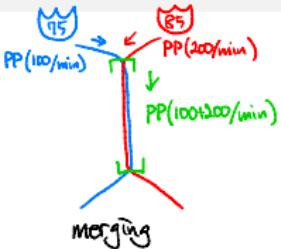
Example

- Consider the north confluence area of I75 and I85.
 - Suppose, for North bound, we have $PP(400/min)$ heading North.
 - Each car heading north chooses I75N with probability 0.4 and I85N with probability 0.6.
 - Then, we have N_{I75N} , which is $PP(160/min)$ and N_{I85N} , which is $PP(240/min)$.

Theorem

- Suppose $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is $PP(\lambda)$ and each arrival will choose subset A or B , with probability p and $q = 1 - p$, respectively. Then, $N_A = \{N_A(t), t \geq 0\}$ is $PP(p\lambda)$ and $N_B = \{N_B(t), t \geq 0\}$ is $PP(q\lambda)$

blank



Criticism and Remedy of Poisson Process

- Criticism: Arrival process may not be *time homogeneous* for systems such as...
 - Call center traffic in the morning vs afternoon.
 - Hospital emergency patients in Friday night vs Tuesday morning
 - Aircraft arrival rate in an airport during holiday vs today
- Remedy: Why don't we make λ to be *time-dependent?* $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(t)$ *
 - We call this process "*Non-homogeneous Poisson process*".
 - KEY function: $\lambda(t)$ as a function for arrival rate that changes over time.
 - We can still use very similar mathematical technique of (Stationary or Homogeneous) Poisson Process!

Review: Definitions of Poisson Process

Definition (ver 1)

- A counting process $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a **Poisson process** with rate λ , and write $PP(\lambda)$ if
 1. $N(0) = 0$
 2. $N(t)$ has independent increment.
 3. $\mathbb{P}(N(t+s) - N(s) = n) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!}$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Definition (ver 2)

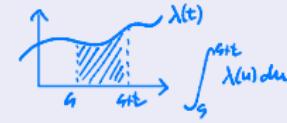
- A counting process $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a **Poisson process** with rate λ , and write $PP(\lambda)$ if
 1. $N(0) = 0$
 2. $N(t)$ has independent increment.
 3. $N(t+s) - N(s) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda t)$

Definition of Non-homogeneous Poisson Process

Definition (ver 2 of PP)

- A counting process $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a *Poisson process* with rate λ , and write $PP(\lambda)$ if
 - $N(0) = 0$
 - $N(t)$ has independent increment.
 - $N(t + s) - N(s) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda t) = \lambda(t+s) - \lambda(s) = \int_s^{t+s} \lambda du$
- $N(3+2) - N(2) \sim \text{Poisson}(3\lambda)$
 $\dots 3\lambda = 5\lambda - 2\lambda = \int_2^5 \lambda du$
- 

Definition - Non-homogeneous Poisson process

- A counting process $N = \{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a Non-homogeneous Poisson process with rate function $\lambda(t)$, $t \geq 0$, and write $NHPP(\lambda(t))$ if
 - $N(0) = 0$
 - $N(t)$ has independent increment.
 - $N(t + s) - N(s) \sim \text{Poisson}(\int_s^{t+s} \lambda(u) du)$
 - Remark: PP is special case of NHPP where rate function of NHPP is a constant.
- 

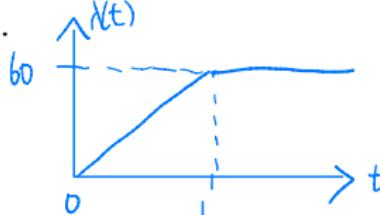
Example

Non-stationary Poisson Process

- Assume that call arrival to a call center follows a NHPP.

- The call center opens from 9 am to 5 pm.
- During the first hour, the arrival rate increases linearly from 0 at 9 am to 60 calls per hour at 10 am.
- After 10 am, the arrival rate is constant at 60 calls per hour.

- (a) Plot the arrival rate function $\lambda(t)$ as a function of time t ; indicate clearly the time unit used.



$$\lambda(t) = \begin{cases} 60t & (0 \leq t \leq 1) \\ 60 & (t > 1) \end{cases}$$

- (b) Find the probability that exactly 5 calls have arrived by 9:10am.

$$P\left[N\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) - N(0) = 5\right] = \frac{\left(\frac{60}{6}\right)^5 e^{-60}}{5!}$$

$$N\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) - N(0) \sim \text{Poi}\left(\int_0^{\frac{1}{6}} \lambda(u) du = \int_0^{\frac{1}{6}} 60u du = 60u^2 \Big|_{0}^{\frac{1}{6}} = \frac{5}{6}\right)$$

Example

- (c) Find the probability that exactly k calls will arrive between 9:50 am to 10:10 am.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left[N\left(\frac{7}{6}\right) - N\left(\frac{5}{6}\right) = k\right] &= \mathbb{P}\left[\text{Poi}\left(\int_{\frac{5}{6}}^{\frac{7}{6}} \lambda(u) du\right) = k\right] = \mathbb{P}\left[\text{Poi}\left(\int_{\frac{5}{6}}^1 \lambda(u) du + \int_1^{\frac{7}{6}} \lambda(u) du\right) = k\right] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[\text{Poi}\left(30u\Big|_{\frac{5}{6}}^1 + 60u\Big|_1^{\frac{7}{6}}\right) = k\right] = \mathbb{P}\left[\text{Poi}\left(\frac{115}{6}\right) = k\right] = \frac{\left(\frac{115}{6}\right)^k e^{-\left(\frac{115}{6}\right)}}{k!} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 1

- Nortel in Canada operates a call center for customer service. Assume that each caller speaks either English or French, but not both. Suppose that the arrival for each type of calls follows a Poisson process. The arrival rates for English and French calls are 2 and 1 calls per minute, respectively. Assume that call arrivals for different types are independent.
 - (a) What is the probability that the 2nd English call will arrive after minute 5?
 - (b) Find the probability that, in first 2 minutes, there are at least 2 English calls and exactly 1 French call?
 - (c) What is the expected time for the 1st call that can be answered by a bilingual operator (that speaks both English and French) to arrive?
 - (d) Suppose that the call center is staffed by bilingual operators that speak both English and French. Let $N(t)$ be the total number of calls of both types that arrive during $(0, t]$. What kind of a process is $N(t)$? What is the mean and variance of $N(t)$?
 - (e) What is the probability that no calls arrive in a 10 minute interval?
 - (f) What is the probability that at least two calls arrive in a 10 minute interval?
 - (g) What is the probability that two calls arrive in the interval 0 to 10 minutes and three calls arrive in the interval from 5 to 15 minutes?
 - (h) Given that 4 calls arrived in 10 minutes, what is the probability that all of these calls arrived in the first 5 minutes?
 - (i) Find the probability that, in the first 2 minutes, there are at most 1 call, and, in the first 4 minutes, there are exactly 3 calls?

(Solution)

Let N_E denote the Poisson process corresponding to English calls, and let $N_F(\cdot)$ denote the Poisson process corresponding to French calls. Then, N_E is $PP(2/min)$ and N_F is $PP(1/min)$.

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}[N_E(5) - N_E(0) < 2] = \mathbb{P}[Poi(2(5-0)) < 2] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Poi(10) = 0] + \mathbb{P}[Poi(10) = 1] = e^{-10} + 10e^{-10} = 11e^{-10} \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}[N_E(2) - N_E(0) \geq 2, N_F(2) - N_F(0) = 1] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[N_E(2) - N_E(0) \geq 2]\mathbb{P}[N_F(2) - N_F(0) = 1] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Poi(2(2-0)) \geq 2]\mathbb{P}[Poi(1(2-0)) = 1] \\ &= [1 - \mathbb{P}(Poi(4) = 0) - \mathbb{P}(Poi(4) = 1)][\mathbb{P}(Poi(2) = 0)] \\ &= (1 - e^{-4} - 4e^{-4})(2e^{-2}) \\ &= (1 - 5e^{-4})(2e^{-2}) \end{aligned}$$

(c) Note that [the arrival time of the first English call] is exponential distribution with parameter 2/min, and [the arrival time of the first French call] is exponential distribution with parameter 1/min. Hence [the arrival time of the first call] is minimum of the two times, which we now know is exponential with parameter 3/min (since the two processes are independent). Thus, the expected arrival time of the first call is just 1/3 minutes.

(d) $N = N_E + N_F$, and N_E and N_F are independent, so N is $PP((1+2)/\text{min})$ by merging principle. Thus, $N(t) - N(0) \sim Poi(\lambda(t-0)) = Poi(3t)$, and $\mathbb{E}[N(t)] = 3t$ and $Var(N(t)) = 3t$ because $N(0) = 0$ always by the definition of counting process.

(e) The probability that no calls arrive in a 10 minute interval is just
 $\mathbb{P}(N(10) - N(0) = 0) = \mathbb{P}[Poi(3(10-0)) = 0] = \frac{30^0 e^{-30}}{0!} e^{-30}$

(f)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(N(10) - N(0) \geq 2) &= \mathbb{P}[Poi(3(10-0)) \geq 2] \\&= 1 - \mathbb{P}[Poi(30) = 0] - \mathbb{P}[Poi(30) = 1] \\&= 1 - 1e^{-30} - 30e^{-30} = 1 - 31e^{-30}\end{aligned}$$

(g)

$$\begin{aligned}& \mathbb{P}(N(10) = 2, N(15) - N(5) = 3) \\&= \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 2, N(10) - N(5) = 0, N(15) - N(10) = 3) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 1, N(10) - N(5) = 1, N(15) - N(10) = 2) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 0, N(10) - N(5) = 2, N(15) - N(10) = 1) \\&= \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 2)\mathbb{P}(N(10) - N(5) = 0)\mathbb{P}(N(15) - N(10) = 3) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 1)\mathbb{P}(N(10) - N(5) = 1)\mathbb{P}(N(15) - N(10) = 2) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(N(5) - N(0) = 0)\mathbb{P}(N(10) - N(5) = 2)\mathbb{P}(N(15) - N(10) = 1) \\&= \mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 2)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 0)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 3) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 1)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 1)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 2) \\&\quad + \mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 0)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 2)\mathbb{P}(Poi(15) = 1) \\&= \left(\frac{15^2}{2}e^{-15}\right)(e^{-15})\left(\frac{15^3}{6}e^{-15}\right) + (15e^{-15})(15e^{-15})\left(\frac{15^2}{2}e^{-15}\right) \\&\quad + (e^{-15})\left(\frac{15^2}{2}e^{-15}\right)(15e^{-15})\end{aligned}$$

(h) $(5/10)^4$

(i)

$$\begin{aligned}& \mathbb{P}(N(2) \leq 1, N(4) = 3) \\&= \mathbb{P}(N(2) = 0, N(4) = 3) + \mathbb{P}(N(2) = 1, N(4) = 3) \\&= \mathbb{P}(N(2) - N(0) = 0, N(4) - N(2) = 3) + \mathbb{P}(N(2) - N(0) = 1, N(4) - N(2) = 2) \\&= \mathbb{P}(Poi(6) = 0)\mathbb{P}(Poi(6) = 3) + \mathbb{P}(Poi(6) = 1)\mathbb{P}(Poi(6) = 2) \\&= e^{-6} \left(\frac{6^3}{3!}e^{-6}\right) + (6e^{-6})\left(\frac{6^2}{2}e^{-6}\right) \\&= 6^2e^{-12} + 6^3e^{-12}/2\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2

- Calls to a center follow a Poisson process with rate 120 calls per hour. Each call has probability 1/4 from a male customer. The call center opens at 9am each morning.
 - (a) What is the probability that there are no incoming calls in the first 2 minutes?
 - (b) What is the probability that there are exactly one calls in the first 2 minutes and exactly three calls from minute 1 to minute 4?
 - (c) What is the probability that during the first 2 minutes there are 1 call from male customer and 2 calls from female customers?
 - (d) What is the expected elapse of time from 9am until the second female customer arrives?
 - (e) What is the probability that the second call arrives after 9:06am?

(Solution)

(a) Let $N(t)$ be the total number of calls by minute t , then N is $PP(2/min)$.

$$\mathbb{P}(N(2) = 0) = \mathbb{P}(Poi(4) = 0) = e^{-2\lambda} = e^{-4}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(N(2) = 1, N(4) - N(1) = 3) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(N(1) - N(0) = 1, N(2) - N(1) = 0, N(4) - N(2) = 3) \\ &\quad + \mathbb{P}(N(1) - N(0) = 0, N(2) - N(1) = 1, N(4) - N(2) = 2) \\ &= \lambda e^{-\lambda} \times e^{-\lambda} \times e^{-2\lambda} \frac{(2\lambda)^3}{6} + e^{-\lambda} \times \lambda e^{-\lambda} \times e^{-2\lambda} \frac{(2\lambda)^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{112}{3} e^{-8}\end{aligned}$$

(c) By thinning principle, we have that N_M is $PP(0.5/min)$ and N_F is $PP(1.5/min)$. $\mathbb{P}(N_M(2) = 1, N_F(2) = 2) = \mathbb{P}(Poi(1) = 1)\mathbb{P}(Poi(3) = 2) = e^{-1} \times \frac{9}{2}e^{-3} = \frac{9}{2}e^{-4}$

Alternative approach - Not using thinning principle. Let N be the number of calls received in the call center, regardless of the gender of the customer.

$$\mathbb{P}(N(2) - N(0) = 3) = \mathbb{P}(Poi(2 \cdot (2 - 0)) = 3) = \mathbb{P}(Poi(4) = 3) = \frac{e^{-4} \cdot 4^3}{3!}$$

Among the three calls, there is only one call from a male customer with a probability of $1/4$. $\mathbb{P}(Poi(4) = 3) \times {}_3 C_1 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{e^{-4} \cdot 4^3}{3!} \times 3 \times \frac{3^2}{4^3} = \frac{9}{2}e^{-4}$

(d) Let T_i be the interarrival time between the $(i - 1)$ th female customer and the i th female customer, which follows exponential distribution with rate $\frac{3}{2}$:

$$\mathbb{P}[T_1 + T_2] = \mathbb{E}[T_1] + \mathbb{E}[T_2] = 2 \times \frac{1}{1.5} = \frac{4}{3} \text{ minutes.}$$

(e)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(N(6) < 2) &= \mathbb{P}(N(6) = 0) + \mathbb{P}(N(6) = 1) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(Poi(12) = 0) + \mathbb{P}(Poi(12) = 1) \\ &= e^{-12} + 12e^{-12} = 13e^{-12} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 3

- Assume that call arrival to a call center follows a non-homogeneous Poisson process. The call center opens from 9am to 5pm. During the first hour, the arrival rate increases linearly from 0 at 9am to 60 calls per hour at 10am. After 10am, the arrival rate is constant at 60 calls per hour.
 - (a) Plot the arrival rate function $\lambda(t)$ as a function of time t ; indicate clearly the time unit used.
 - (b) Find the probability that exactly 5 calls have arrived by 9:10am.
 - (c) What is the probability that the first call arrives after 9:20am?
 - (d) What is the probability that there are exactly one call between 11:00am and 11:05am and at least two calls between 11:03am and 11:06am?

(Solution)

(a) If we use time units of minutes, then the rate function $\lambda(t) = \frac{1}{60}t$ for $0 \leq t \leq 60$, and $\lambda(t) = 1$ for $t > 60$

From now on, N is defined as $NHPP(\lambda(t))$ where $\lambda(t)$ is given at (a).

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[N(10) - N(0) = 5] &= \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\int_0^{10} \lambda(t)dt\right) = 5] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\int_0^{10} \frac{1}{60}tdt\right) = 5] = \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\frac{5}{6}\right) = 5] = \frac{\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^5}{5!} e^{-\frac{5}{6}}\end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[N(20) - N(0) = 0] &= \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\int_0^{20} \lambda(t)dt\right) = 0] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\int_0^{20} \frac{1}{60}tdt\right) = 0] = \mathbb{P}[Poi\left(\frac{10}{3}\right) = 0] = e^{-\frac{10}{3}}\end{aligned}$$

(d)

$$\begin{aligned}& \mathbb{P}(N(125) - N(120) = 1, N(126) - N(123) \geq 2) \\= & \mathbb{P}(N(123) - N(120) = 0, N(125) - N(123) = 1, N(126) - N(125) \geq 1) \\& + \mathbb{P}(N(123) - N(120) = 1, N(125) - N(123) = 0, N(126) - N(125) \geq 2) \\= & \mathbb{P}(N(123) - N(120) = 0, N(125) - N(123) = 1, N(126) - N(125) \geq 1) \\& + \mathbb{P}(N(123) - N(120) = 1, N(125) - N(123) = 0, N(126) - N(125) \geq 2)\end{aligned}$$

From above, $N(123) - N(120) \sim Poi(\int_{120}^{123} 1 dt) = Poi(3)$, and similarly, we have
 $N(125) - N(123)) \sim Poi(2)$ and $N(126) - N(125)) \sim Poi(1)$. Hence, we can write

$$\begin{aligned}& = \mathbb{P}(Poi(3) = 0) \mathbb{P}(Poi(2) = 1) \mathbb{P}(Poi(1) \geq 1) \\& \quad + \mathbb{P}(Poi(3) = 1) \mathbb{P}(Poi(2) = 0) \mathbb{P}(Poi(1) \geq 2) \\& = e^{-3} \cdot 2e^{-2} \cdot (1 - e^{-1}) + 3e^{-3} \cdot e^{-2} \cdot (1 - 2e^{-1}) \\& = 5e^{-5} - 8e^{-6}\end{aligned}$$

"Success isn't permanent, and failure isn't fatal. - Mike Ditka"