

Stochastic Processes: Homework 6

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Exercise 2

Consider two independent Poisson processes with different parameters

- (a) The sum of these processes, Which type of process is? Prove it.
- (b) The difference between these processes, Which type of process is? Prove it.

Solution Part (a)

The first process can be described by the random variable $N_1(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_1 t)$ and the second by $N_2(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_2 t)$. As we proved in previous assignments, the sum of 2 Poisson random variables is a Poisson random variable with the sum of the parameters. Thus,

$$N_1(t) + N_2(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_1 t + \lambda_2 t) = \text{Pois}((\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t).$$

Therefore, it is a Poisson process with parameter $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2$.

Solution Part (b)

The difference between 2 Poisson random variables has the Skellam distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{P}\{N_1(t) - N_2(t) = n\} &= \sum_{k=0}^n \mathbf{P}\{N_1(t) = k\} \mathbf{P}\{N_2(t) = n - k\} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda_1 t} \lambda_1^k}{k!} \right) \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda_2 t} \lambda_2^{n-k}}{(n-k)!} \right) \\
&= e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t} \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}}{k!(n-k)!} \\
&= e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t} \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2} \right)^{n/2} I_{|n|}(2\sqrt{\lambda_1 \lambda_2})
\end{aligned}$$

Where $I_{|n|}(x)$ is the modified Bessel function of the first kind.

Exercise 3

Show the Law of Large Numbers and the Central Limit Theorem for the Poisson Process

Solution

The Law of Large numbers states that for a sequence of independent random variables $N_i \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n N_i \rightarrow \lambda \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \text{ a.e.}$$

As a matter of fact, $\sum_{i=1}^n N_i \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda n)$. Therefore, for the Poisson process $N(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda t)$,

$$\frac{N(n)}{n} \rightarrow \lambda \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \text{ a.e.}$$

Now, for every rational $t = p/q$, if we re-parametrize $N(p/q) = N'(p) \sim \text{Pois}(p\frac{\lambda}{q})$ and denote $N'(p) = \sum_{i=1}^p N'_i$ where $N'_i \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda/q)$ we will obtain

$$\frac{N(p/q)}{p/q} = q \frac{1}{p} \sum_{i=1}^p N'_i \rightarrow q \frac{\lambda}{q} = \lambda,$$

For every $q \in \mathbb{N}$, the sequence $\frac{N(p/q)}{p/q}$ converges almost everywhere to λ . Therefore, we can assert that for every increasing sequence of rational numbers $(t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, the sequence $\frac{t_n}{t_n}$ converges almost everywhere to λ .

Finally, $N(t)/t \rightarrow \lambda$ a.e. in a dense subset (rational t), thus, $N(t)/t$ converges almost everywhere to λ .

Let $N(t) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda t)$, define $\bar{N}(t) = \frac{N(t) - \lambda t}{\sqrt{\lambda t}}$

$$\begin{aligned}
M_{\bar{N}(t)}(x) &= \mathbf{E} \left[\exp \left(x \frac{N(t) - \lambda t}{\sqrt{\lambda t}} \right) \right] \\
&= \exp(-x\sqrt{\lambda t}) \cdot \mathbf{E} \left[\exp \left(x \frac{N(t)}{\sqrt{\lambda t}} \right) \right] \\
&= \exp(-x\sqrt{\lambda t}) \cdot M_{N(t)}(x/\sqrt{\lambda t}) \\
&= \exp(-x\sqrt{\lambda t}) \cdot \exp \left(\lambda t (e^{x/\sqrt{\lambda t}} - 1) \right) \\
&= \exp \left[-x\sqrt{\lambda t} + \lambda t \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k! (\lambda t)^{k/2}} \right) \right] \\
&= \exp \left[-x\sqrt{\lambda t} + x\sqrt{\lambda t} + x^2/2 + o(t^{-1/2}) \right] \\
&\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{x^2/2} = M_Z(x)
\end{aligned}$$

Where $Z \sim N(0, 1)$. Therefore, the normalized process converges to the standard normal distribution when the time goes to infinity.

Exercise 4

If π_t is the random variable associated with the number of renovations that occur at a given time t . Then, its inverse function, takes as input the given number of renovations and returns the time they take. Since π_t is the counting variable for exponential renovation times, then

$$\mu_t = \sum_{i=1}^{\pi_t} X_i,$$

where $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$, and thus, $\mu_t \sim \text{Gamma}(\pi_t, \lambda)$. This is a compound Poisson process.

Exercise 5

For a random variable $X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$ with the geometric distribution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{P}\{X \geq n + m \mid X \geq m\} &= \frac{\mathbf{P}\{X \geq n + m \wedge X \geq m\}}{\mathbf{P}\{X \geq m\}} \\
 &= \frac{\mathbf{P}\{X \geq n + m\}}{\mathbf{P}\{X \geq m\}} \\
 &= \frac{(1 - p)^{n+m}}{(1 - p)^m} \\
 &= (1 - p)^n = \mathbf{P}\{X \geq n\}
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves that the process is memoryless. Now, we define a sequence of i.i.d. random variables $(X_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \sim \text{Geo}(p)$. Also, denote the k -th renovation time as $T_k = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i$, which has a negative binomial distribution since it's the sum of geometric random variables.

$$T_k \sim \text{BinNeg}(k, p).$$

For the trial n , we define the counting variable $N(n)$ as follows,

$$N(t) = \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} : T_n \leq t\}$$

This variable counts the number of renovations that occur in n -trials. Thus, it has the binomial distribution

$$N(t) \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$