

Question 1

Copy machine 1 is in use now. Machine 2 will be turned on at time t . Suppose that the machines fail at rate λ_i . What is the probability that machine 2 is the first to fail?

- Let A be the event that Machine 1 does not fail before time t and B be the event that Machine 2 fails first after time t .
- The probability we try to get is

$$P(A, B) = \frac{P(B | A)}{P(A)}$$

- Let us think
 - $\tau_1 \sim \exp(\lambda_1)$ as the case A
 - $t + \tau_2 \sim \exp(\lambda_2)$ as the case B
- Then we can construct this conditional probability as below.

$$P(t + \tau_2 < \tau_1) = P(t + \tau_2 < \tau_1 | t < \tau_1) \cdot P(t < \tau_1) = P(t + \tau_2 < \tau_1 | t < \tau_1) \cdot e^{-\lambda_1 t}$$

$$\text{Recall that } P(T > t) = 1 - P(T \leq t) = 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda t}) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

- By the Memoryless Property, $P(t + \tau_2 | t < \tau_1) = P(\tau_2 < \tau_1)$.
- So

$$\begin{aligned} & P(t + \tau_2 < \tau_1 | t < \tau_1) \cdot e^{-\lambda_1 t} = P(\tau_2 < \tau_1) \cdot e^{-\lambda_1 t} \\ &= \iint_{\tau_2 < \tau_1} f_{\tau_2(x)} f_{\tau_1} dy dx \cdot e^{-\lambda_1 t} = e^{-\lambda_1 t} \left(\int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 x} \left(\int_x^\infty \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 y} dy \right) dx \right) \\ &= e^{-\lambda_1 t} \left(\int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-\lambda_2 x} (e^{-\lambda_1 x}) dx \right) = e^{-\lambda_1 t} \left(\int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)x} dx \right) \\ &= e^{-\lambda_1 t} \left(\int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)x} dx \cdot \frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right) = e^{-\lambda_1 t} \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)x} \cdot (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) dx \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Since

$$\int_0^\infty \lambda_2 e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)x} \cdot (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) dx = 1,$$

the remainder is the probability that machine 2 is the first to fail

$$e^{-\lambda_1 t} \cdot \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$$

Question 2

Let S and T be exponentially distributed with rates λ and μ . Let $U = \min\{S, T\}$ and $V = \max\{S, T\}$. Find

(a) EU

- Since $U = \min\{S, T\}$ is independent,

$$P(U > t) = P(S > t, T > t) = P(S > t) \cdot P(T > t) = e^{-\lambda t} \cdot e^{-\mu t} = e^{-(\lambda+\mu)t}$$

- Hence the expectation EU is

$$\frac{1}{\lambda + \mu}$$

(b) $E(V - U)$. Compute first $P(V - U > s)$ for $s > 0$ either by integrating densities of S and T or by conditioning on the events $S < T$ and $T < S$. From $P(V - U > s)$ deduce the density function $f(v - u)$ of $V - U$, and then the mean $E(V - U)$ by integrating the density.

- $P(V - U > s)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty (\max\{S, T\} - \min\{S, T\}) \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda s} \mu e^{-\mu t} ds dt \\ &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty (s - t) \lambda \mu e^{-\lambda s - \mu t} ds dt \Big|_{s > t} + \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty (t - s) \lambda \mu e^{-\lambda s - \mu t} ds dt \Big|_{s < t} \end{aligned}$$

Let $x = s - t$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty (s - t) \lambda \mu e^{-\lambda s - \mu t} ds dt \Big|_{s > t} &= \lambda \mu \cdot \int_0^\infty \int_t^\infty (s - t) e^{-\lambda s - \mu t} ds dt \quad (1) \\ &= \lambda \mu \cdot \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty x e^{-\lambda(x+t) - \mu t} dx dt \\ &= \lambda \mu \cdot \int_0^\infty x e^{-\lambda x} \left(\int_0^\infty e^{-t(\lambda+\mu)} dt \right) dx \\ &= \lambda \mu \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda + \mu} \cdot \int_0^\infty x e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= \lambda \mu \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda + \mu} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{\mu}{\lambda(\lambda + \mu)} \end{aligned}$$

Through the same procedure for the other double integral ($s < t$), we are able to get

$$\frac{\lambda}{\mu(\lambda + \mu)}$$

(c) $EV = E(\max\{S, T\})$

$$P(S < t)P(T < t) = (1 - e^{-\lambda t})(1 - e^{-\mu t}) = (1 - e^{-\mu t} - e^{-\lambda t} + e^{-t(\mu+\lambda)})$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(1 - e^{-\mu t} - e^{-\lambda t} + e^{-t(\mu+\lambda)}) = \left(\frac{1}{\mu}e^{-\mu t} + \frac{1}{\lambda}e^{-\lambda t} - \frac{1}{\mu + \lambda}e^{-t(\mu+\lambda)} \right)$$

$$EV = \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{\lambda} - \frac{1}{\mu + \lambda} = \frac{\lambda\mu + \lambda^2 + \mu^2 + \lambda\mu}{\lambda\mu(\mu + \lambda)} - \frac{\lambda\mu}{\lambda\mu(\mu + \lambda)} = \frac{\lambda^2 + \lambda\mu + \mu^2}{\lambda\mu(\lambda + \mu)}$$

Finally, check that your answers to (a),(b),(c) satisfy $E(V - U) = E(V) - E(U)$.

$$E(V - U) = \frac{\mu^2 + \lambda^2}{\lambda\mu(\lambda + \mu)}$$

$$E(V) - E(U) = \frac{\lambda^2 + \lambda\mu + \mu^2}{\lambda\mu(\lambda + \mu)} - \frac{1}{\lambda + \mu} = \frac{\lambda^2 + \mu^2}{\lambda\mu(\lambda + \mu)}$$

Question 3

In a hardware store you must first go to server 1 to get your goods and then go to a server 2 to pay for them. Suppose that the times for the two activities are exponentially distributed with means 6 minutes and 3 minutes. Find the answer when times for the two activities are exponentially distributed with rates λ and μ .

For symmetric notation, let A_i denote the amount of time Al spends at server i , and B_i the amount of time Bob spends at server i , for $i = 1, 2$.

Hint. Draw a picture of the time line to understand how Al and Bob move through the servers. Use your answer from 2.7. This problem requires no integration.

- Variables

- A : The total amount of time Al spent in the store.
- A_1 : The amount of time Al to get his goods at server 1
- A_2 : The amount of time Al pay his goods at server 2
- B : The total amount of time Bob spent in the store.
- B_1 : The amount of time Bob to get his goods at server 1
- B_2 : The amount of time Bob pay his goods at server 2

- Things to consider.

- Since Al is already with server 1, we must consider the amount of time Al spend there which is A_1 at the beginning.
- So we break into only two cases:
 - (i) The server 2 is free, but Bob has not finished yet at server 1. ($A_2 < B_1$)
 $A_1 + B_1 + B_2$

- (ii) The server 2 is still with Al, but the Bob has done at server 1. ($B_1 < A_2$)
 $A_1 + B_1 + (A_2 - B_1)_{>0} + B_2 = A_1 + B_2 + A_2$

- So $B = A_1 + B_2 + \max\{A_2, B_1\}$
- $E(B) = E(A_1) + E(B_2) + E(\max\{A_2, B_1\})$

$$= \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{\lambda} + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{\lambda} - \frac{1}{\lambda + \mu} \right)$$

(Consider Question 2 (c))

Question 4

A machine has two critically important parts and is subject to three different types of shocks. Shocks of type i occur at times of a Poisson process with rate λ_i . Shocks of types 1 break part 1, those of type 2 break part 2, while those of type 3 break both parts. Let U and V be the failure times of the two parts.

Hint. Let N_i denote a Poisson process of rate λ_i . For part (a), express the event in terms of N_1, N_2 and N_3 . Part (b) follows quickly from (a). For part (c), check whether $P(U > s, V > t)$ equals $P(U > s) \cdot P(V > t)$.

- (a) Find $P(U > s, V > t)$

Let T_i ($i=1,2,3$) is the times of shock types 1,2,3 occur.

$$\begin{aligned} P(U > s, V > t) &= P(T_1 > s, T_2 > t, T_3 > \max\{s, t\}) \\ &= P(T_1 > s)P(T_2 > t)P(T_3 > \max\{s, t\}) = e^{-\lambda_1 s} e^{-\lambda_2 t} e^{-\lambda_3 \max\{s, t\}} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Find the distribution of U and the distribution of V .

$$\begin{aligned} P(U \leq s) &= 1 - P(U > s) \\ &= 1 - (P(T_1 > s, T_3 > s)) \\ &= 1 - (P(T_1 > s)P(T_3 > s)) \\ &= 1 - (e^{-\lambda_1 s - \lambda_3 s}) = 1 - (e^{-s(\lambda_1 + \lambda_3)}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(V \leq t) &= 1 - P(V > t) \\ &= 1 - (P(T_2 > t, T_3 > t)) \\ &= 1 - (P(T_2 > t)P(T_3 > t)) \\ &= 1 - (e^{-\lambda_2 t - \lambda_3 t}) = 1 - (e^{-t(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)}) \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Are U and V independent? **No**

$$P(U > s, V > t) = e^{-\lambda_1 s} e^{-\lambda_2 t} e^{-\lambda_3 \max\{s, t\}} \neq (e^{-s(\lambda_1 + \lambda_3)}) \cdot (e^{-t(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)}) = P(U > s) \cdot P(V > t)$$

Question 5

Consider a Poisson process of rate λ and let s be a fixed positive number. Let σ be the random amount of time from s till the next arrival. In symbols,

$$\sigma = \left(\min_{k: T_k > s} T_k \right) - s.$$

Calculate rigorously the probability $P(\sigma > a)$ for real $a > 0$ by using the density functions of the arrival times T_k and the interarrival times τ_k .

Hint. Draw a picture of the time line. Since $s + \sigma$ is one of the arrival times, you can decompose the probability $P(\sigma > a)$ into different cases according to which T_k is equal to $s + \sigma$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\sigma > a) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(\sigma > a, T_k \leq s < T_{k+1}) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(T_{k+1} - s > a, T_{k+1} > s, T_k \leq s) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(T_{k+1} > a + s, T_{k+1} > s, T_k \leq s) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(T_{k+1} > a + s, T_k \leq s) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(T_k \leq s, T_{k+1} > a + s) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(T_k \leq s, T_{k+1} > a + s - T_k) \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^s \int_{s+a-t}^{\infty} f_{T_k}(t) f_{T_{k+1}}(u) \, du \, dt \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^s \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \frac{\lambda t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} \int_{s+a-t}^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda u} \, du \, dt \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^k}{(k-1)!} e^{-\lambda(s+a)} \int_0^s t^{k-1} \, dt \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda s)^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda(s+a)} = e^{-\lambda(s+a)} \cdot e^{\lambda s} = e^{-\lambda a}
 \end{aligned}$$