# Queueing Theory

#### Introduction

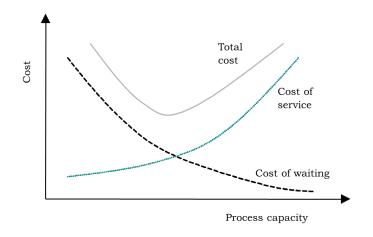
- •In this chapter we will study a class of models in which customers arrive in some random manner at a service facility.
- •Upon arrival they are made to wait in queue until it is their turn to be served. Once served they are generally assumed to leave the system.
- Interested parameters
  - ◆the average number of customers in the system (or in the queue)
  - ◆the average time a customer spends in the system (or spends waiting in the queue), etc.

# What is Queuing Theory?

- Mathematical analysis of queues and waiting times in stochastic systems.
  - ◆Used extensively to analyze production and service processes exhibiting random variability in market demand (arrival times) and service times.
- Queues arise when the short term demand for service exceeds the capacity
  - ◆Most often caused by random variation in service times and the times between customer arrivals.
  - ◆If long term demand for service > capacity, the queue will explode!

### Why is Queuing Analysis Important?

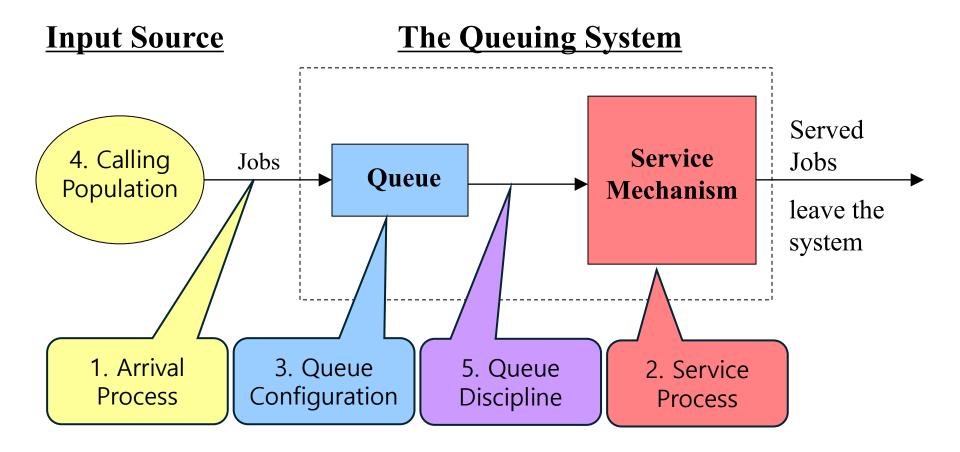
- Capacity problems are very common in industry and one of the main drivers of process redesign
  - ◆Need to balance the cost of increased capacity against the gains of increased productivity and service
- Queuing and waiting time analysis is particularly important in service systems
  - ◆Large costs of waiting and of lost sales due to waiting



# Examples of Real World Queuing Systems?

- Commercial Queuing Systems
  - ◆Commercial organizations serving external customers
  - ◆Ex. Dentist, bank, ATM, gas stations, plumber, garage ...
- Transportation service systems
  - ◆ Vehicles are customers or servers
  - ◆Ex. Vehicles waiting at toll stations and traffic lights, trucks or ships waiting to be loaded, taxi cabs, fire engines, elevators, buses ...
- Business-internal service systems
  - ◆Customers receiving service are internal to the organization providing the service
  - ◆Ex. Inspection stations, conveyor belts, computer support ...
- Social service systems
  - ◆Ex. Judicial process, the ER at a hospital, waiting lists for organ transplants or student dorm rooms ...

# Components of a Basic Queuing Process



#### Kendall's Notation

- D. G. Kendall proposed describing queueing models using three factors written A/S/c/K/N/D, where
  - ◆A denotes the time between arrivals to the queue
  - ◆S the service time distribution
  - •c the number of service channels open at the node.
  - ◆K is the capacity of the queue
  - ◆N is the size of the population of jobs to be served
  - ◆D is the queueing discipline

#### Kendall's Notation

- Arrival Process
  - ◆M = Memoryless = Poisson

  - ◆H = Hyper-exponential
  - $\Phi G = General \Rightarrow Results valid for all distributions$
- Service Time Distribution
  - ◆Distribution: M, E, H, or G
- Service Disciplines
  - ◆First-Come-First-Served (FCFS)
  - ◆Last-Come-First-Served (LCFS)
  - ◆Last-Come-First-Served with Preempt and Resume (LCFS-PR)
  - ◆Round-Robin (RR) with a fixed quantum.
  - ◆Small Quantum ⇒ Processor Sharing (PS)
  - ◆Infinite Server: (IS) = fixed delay
  - ◆Shortest Processing Time first (SPT)
  - ◆Shortest Remaining Processing Time first (SRPT)
  - ◆Shortest Expected Processing Time first (SEPT)
  - ◆Shortest Expected Remaining Processing Time first (SERPT).
  - ◆Biggest-In-First-Served (BIFS)
  - ◆Loudest-Voice-First-Served (LVFS)

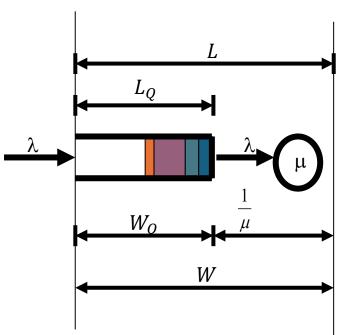
### Example: M/M/3/20/1500/FCFS

- •Time between successive arrivals is exponentially distributed.
- •Service times are exponentially distributed.
- Three servers
- ●20 Buffers = 3 service + 17 waiting
  - ◆After 20, all arriving jobs are lost
- ●Total of 1500 jobs that can be serviced.
- •Service discipline is first-come-first-served.
- Defaults:
  - ◆Infinite buffer capacity
  - ◆Infinite population size
  - ◆FCFS service discipline.
- $\bullet$ M/M/1 = M/M/1/ $\infty$ / $\infty$ /FCFS
- $\bullet M/G/1/10 = M/G/1/10/\infty/FCFS$

# Preliminaries: Cost Equations

- Key variables
  - $\blacklozenge N(t)$ =Number of customers in the system at time t

  - $igspace{} \lambda_n = \text{Average arrival intensity at n customers in the system}$
  - $igoplus_{\mu_n}$ =Average service intensity for the system when there are n customers in it
  - $\bullet \rho$ =Utilization factor for the service facility
- Some fundamental quantities of interest for queueing models are
  - $\blacklozenge$ L: the average number of customers in the system
  - $igstar{L}_Q$ : the average number of customers waiting in queue
  - igoplus W: the average amount of time a customer spends in the system
  - $igoplus_Q$ : the average amount of time a customer spends waiting in queue



#### M/M/1 Queue

- ulletArrival process: Poisson process with  $\lambda$ 
  - $P\{N(t) = 1\} = \lambda \Delta t + o(\Delta t)$
- •Service time distribution: exponential with  $\mu$ 
  - ♦ The probability of a service completion in  $(t, t + \Delta t) = \mu \Delta t + o(\Delta t)$
- •The number of servers: one
- •The capacity of queues: infinity
- •Let us define  $p_n$  as the probability that there are n customers in the queue, including the one in service

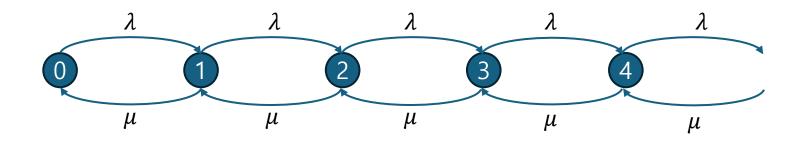


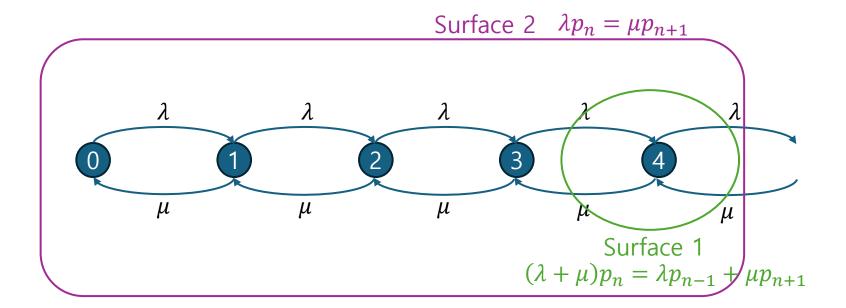
# M/M/1 Queue: Transient and Stationary behaviors

Transient behavior

•Stationary behavior (Non-time varying probability)  $\frac{dp_n(t)}{dt} = 0$ • $(\lambda + \mu)p_n = \lambda p_{n-1} + \mu p_{n+1}$  for  $n \ge 1$ 

# M/M/1 Queue: State Diagram





# M/M/1 Queue: State Probability

- $\bullet \lambda p_n = \mu p_{n+1}$  (balance equation)
- $\bullet p_n = \rho^n p_0, \ \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$
- $\bullet \Sigma_n p_n = 1 \to p_n = (1 \rho)\rho^n, \ \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} < 1$ 
  - ◆M/M/1 state probability distribution is geometric distribution
- $\bullet \rho < 1$  is the necessary condition. If violated, equilibrium is never reached.
- ●The M/M/1 state probability distribution is geometric
  - $\blacklozenge p_0$  is the probability that the queue is empty.
  - $\bullet \rho$  is called utilization, the probability that the queue is non-empty.

#### M/M/1/N Queue

- Accommodating at most N packets
- The balance equation is unchanged except for the two boundary points n=0, and n=N

- $\bullet p_N = \rho^N \left( \frac{1-\rho}{1-\rho^{N+1}} \right)$ 
  - lacktriangle The probability that the queue is full=the probability of blocking  $P_B$
- •With the blocking probability  $P_B$ , the net arrival rate is  $\lambda(1-P_B)$ 
  - ♦Throughput=  $\gamma = \lambda(1 P_B)$



#### M/M/1/N Queue: Another Interpretation

- •For single-server queue, the type of queue, the average rate of service would be  $\mu$  in customers/sec served on the average, if the queue were always nonempty
- •Since the queue is sometimes empty, with probability  $p_0$ , the actual rate of service, or throughput  $\gamma$ , is less than  $\mu$ .
- •More precisely,  $\gamma = \mu(1 p_0)$ , since  $(1 p_0)$  is the probability that the queue is nonempty
  - There is no blocking and the throughput  $\gamma = \lambda$ , the average arrival rate.  $\lambda = \mu(1 p_0)$
- The region  $\rho > 1$  is said to be the congested region

$$\gamma = \lambda(1 - P_B) \longrightarrow \qquad \qquad \gamma = \mu(1 - p_0)$$
 Waiting Service node

# M/M/1 Queue: Properties

- Statistics of interest: E(L),  $E(W_q)$ , E(W) etc
- Average of the queue size

$$\Phi E(L) = \Sigma_n n p_n = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho}$$

◆As the load increases the throughput goes up but blocking and time delay also increase.

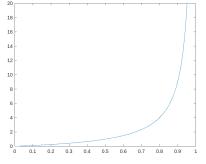


- ◆We will not drive it here.
- $\bullet \overline{L}$ : the average number of customers
- $\bullet \overline{W}$ : the average waiting time
- $\bullet \lambda$ : the arrival rate
- •The average wait time and the average delay

$$\blacklozenge E(L_q) = E(W_q) + \frac{1}{\mu}$$

• The average number of customers  $E(L_q)$  waiting in the queue

$$igsim E(L_q) = \lambda E(W_q) = \lambda E(W) - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} = \lambda E(W) - \rho$$

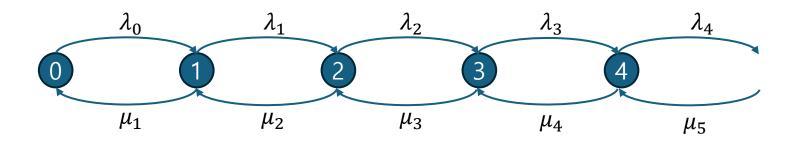


### State Dependent Queues

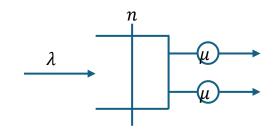
- Arrival and departure rates are dependent on the state of the system (Birth-death process) (e.g) M/M/m
- The balance equation governing the operation of the statedependent queueing system at equilibrium

$$(\lambda_n + \mu_n)p_n = \lambda_{n-1}p_{n-1} + \mu_{n+1}p_{n+1}, for \ n \ge 1$$
  
  $\to \lambda_n p_n = \mu_{n+1}p_{n+1}, for \ n \ge 1$ 

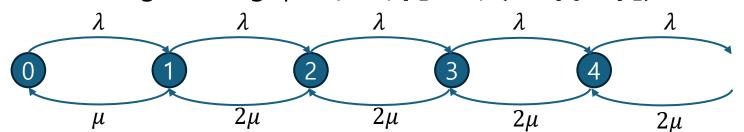
- $\bullet p_n/p_0 = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda_i / \prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i$
- $\bullet \Sigma_n p_n = 1$



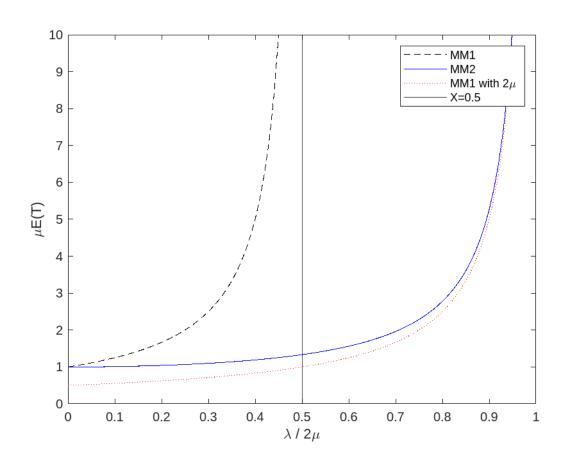
#### M/M/2



- Two outgoing trunks connecting a packet switch to a neighboring packet switch
  - $\lambda_n = \lambda$
  - $\spadesuit \mu_n = \mu$ , n = 1, and  $\mu_n = 2\mu$ , n > 1
- $\bullet \frac{p_n}{p_0} = \frac{\prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda_i}{\prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2\mu}\right)^{n-1} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right) = 2\rho^n, n \ge 1, \rho = \frac{\lambda}{2\mu}$ 
  - $\Phi \Sigma_n p_n = 1 \rightarrow p_0 = \frac{1-\rho}{1+\rho'}$
- $\bullet E(L) = \Sigma_n n p_n = \frac{2\rho}{1-\rho^2}, \rho = \frac{\lambda}{2\mu'}$
- •The average throughput  $\gamma = \mu p_1 + 2\mu(1 p_0 p_1)$



#### M/M/1 vs M/M/2 vs M/M/1 with $2\mu$



# Other examples

- $\bullet$ M/M/ $\infty$
- Queue with discouragement
- M/M/N/N

# Other examples: M/M/∞

- The number of trunks is equal to the number of calls. No queueing up for service nor a probability of blocking

  - $\spadesuit \mu_n = n\mu, \ n \geq 1$
- $\bullet \frac{p_n}{p_0} = \frac{\prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda_i}{\prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i} = \frac{\left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n}{n!} = \frac{\rho^n}{n!}, n \ge 1, \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$ 
  - $\Phi \Sigma_n p_n = 1 \rightarrow p_0 = e^{-\rho}$
- $\bullet E(L) = \Sigma_n n p_n = \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu'}$
- The average throughput

$$\gamma = \Sigma_{n \ge 0} \mu_n p_n = \mu \Sigma_{n \ge 0} n p_n = \mu E(L) = \lambda$$

#### Other examples: Queue with discouragement

 A system with customer flow control at the input (e.g.) moviegoers and shoppers at a single line to serve

$$\bullet \frac{p_n}{p_0} = \frac{\prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda_i}{\prod_{i=1}^n \mu_i} = \frac{\left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n}{n!} = \frac{\rho^n}{n!}, n \ge 1, \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \text{ (the same as M/M/$\infty$)}$$

$$\Phi \Sigma_n p_n = 1 \to p_0 = e^{-\rho},$$

The average throughput

$$\gamma = \Sigma_{n \ge 0} \lambda_n p_n = \mu (1 - e^{-\rho})$$

$$\bullet E(L) = \Sigma_n n p_n = \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu'}$$

# Other examples: M/M/N/N

- The number of trunks is equal to the number of calls. No queueing up for service nor a probability of blocking

  - $\blacklozenge \mu_n = n\mu, \ n \geq 1$

$$\Phi_{p_0}^{n} = \frac{\prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda_i}{\prod_{i=1}^{n} \mu_i} = \frac{\left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n}{n!} = \frac{\rho^n}{n!}, n \ge 1, \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$$

$$\Phi_{n=0}^{N} p_n = 1 \to p_0 = \frac{1}{\sum_{n=0}^{N} \frac{\rho^{n}}{n!}}$$

$$\bullet E(L) = \rho(1 - P_B), \rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$$

The average throughput

$$\gamma = \lambda(1 - P_B) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} \mu_n p_n = \mu E(L)$$

$$\bullet E(W) = \frac{E(L)}{\gamma} = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

#### M/G/1 Queue: Mean Value Analysis

- The arrival process is Poisson, but a general service-time distribution
- The Pollaczek-Khinchine formulas

- $\lambda$ : the average Poisson arrival rate
- $E(\tau) = \frac{1}{\mu}$ : the average service time
- $\Phi \sigma^2$ : the variance of the service-time distribution

  - For  $\sigma^2 > \frac{1}{\mu_2^{2'}} E(L)$  and E(W) increase as  $\sigma^2$  increases For  $\sigma^2 < \frac{1}{\mu^{2'}} E(L)$  and E(W) decrease relative to M/M/1 as  $\sigma^2$  decreases

$$\Phi E(W_q) = E(W) - \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{\lambda E(\tau^2)}{2(1-\rho)}$$

- M/M/1:  $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\mu^2}$

• M/D/1: : 
$$\sigma^2 = 0$$
,  $E(L) = \left(\frac{\rho}{1-\rho}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\rho}{2}\right)$ ,  $E(W) = \left(\frac{\frac{1}{\mu}}{1-\rho}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\rho}{2}\right)$ 

### Example 8.2 M/M/1

•Suppose that customers arrive at a Poisson rate of one per every 12 minutes, and that service time is exponential at a rate of one service per 8 minutes. What are E(L) and E(W)?

•[Answer] 
$$\lambda = \frac{1}{12}$$
,  $\mu = \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\rho = \frac{\frac{1}{12}}{\frac{1}{8}} = \frac{8}{12} = \frac{2}{3}$ 

$$igstar{E}(L) = \Sigma_n n p_n = \frac{\rho}{1-\rho} = 2$$

# Example 8.3 M/M/N/N

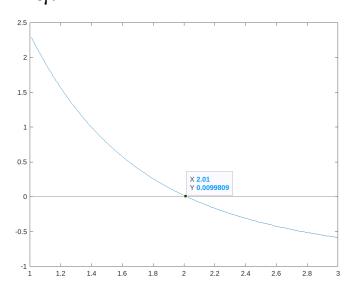
- •Suppose that it costs  $c\mu$  dollars per hour to provide service at rate  $\mu$ . Suppose also that we incur a gross profit of A dollars for each customer served. If the system has a capacity N, what service rate maximizes our total profit? Assume that the arrival rate is  $\lambda$ .
- •[Answer]

$$lacktriangle P_n = 
ho^n \left( rac{1-
ho}{1-
ho^{N+1}} \right)$$
 ,  $ho = rac{\lambda}{\mu}$ 

♦ Throughput is  $\gamma = \lambda(1 - P_N)$ 

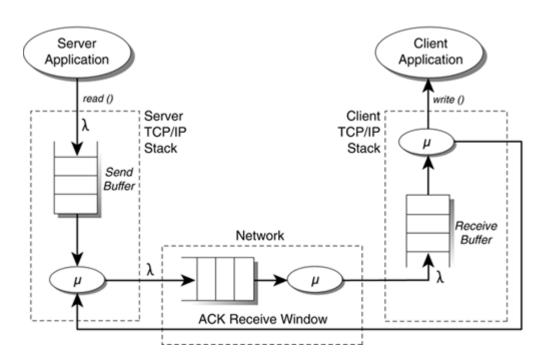
Profit per hour =  $\lambda(1 - P_N)A - c\mu$ =  $\lambda \left(1 - \rho^{N+1} \left(\frac{1 - \rho}{1 - \rho^{N+1}}\right)\right)A - c\mu$ =  $\frac{\lambda A(1 - \rho^N)}{1 - \rho^{N+1}} - c\mu$ 

- ♦ If N = 2,  $\lambda$  = 1, A = 10,  $\dot{c}$  = 1, then
  - Profit per hour =  $\frac{10(\mu^3 \mu)}{\mu^3 1} \mu$
  - $\frac{d}{du}[profit\ per\ hour] = \frac{10(2\mu^3 3\mu^2 + 1)}{(\mu^3 1)^2} 1$



#### Network of Queues

- Network of Queue: model in which jobs departing from one queue arrive at another queue (or possibly the same queue)
- Open systems
  - ◆Customers arrive from outside the system are served and then depart.
  - ◆Example: Packet switched data network.
- Closed systems
  - ◆Fixed number of customers (K) are trapped in the system and circulate among the queues.
  - ◆Example: CPU job scheduling problem
- Mixed systems



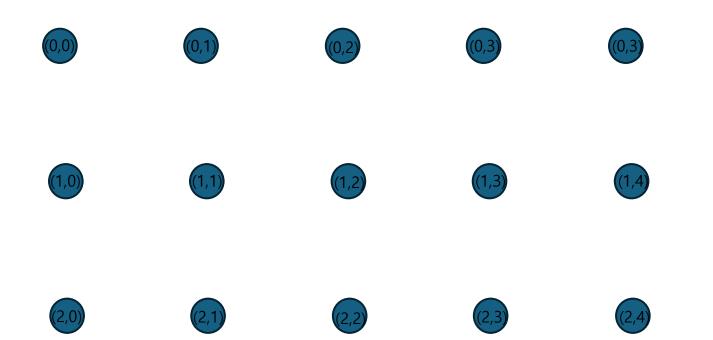
# Example of Open Systems: Tandom system

- •Consider a two-server system in which customers arrive at a Poisson rate  $\lambda$  at server 1. After being served by server 1 then join the queue in front of server 2
- There is infinite waiting space at both servers
- Each server serves on customer at a time which server i taking an exponential time with rate  $\mu_i$  for a server i = 1, 2.
- A tandom (or sequential) system



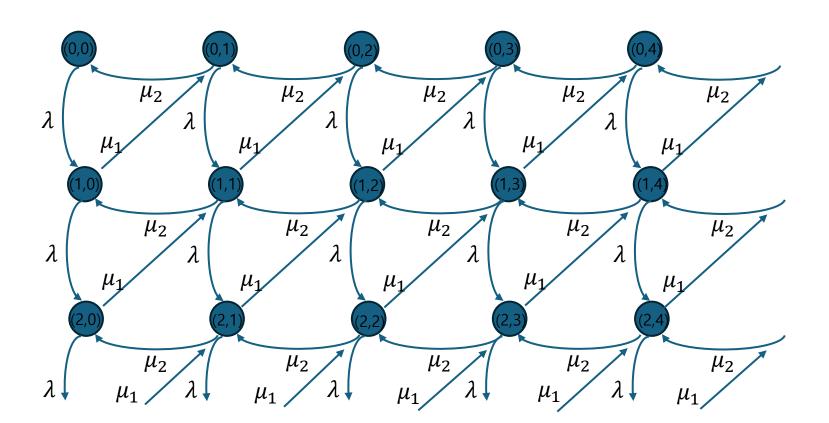
### Analysis of a Tandom System

•To analyze this system, keep tack of the number of customers at the servers and define the state by the pair (n, m), where n customers at server 1 and m customers at server 2



# Analysis of a Tandom System

•To analyze this system, keep tack of the number of customers at the servers and define the state by the pair (n, m), where n customers at server 1 and m customers at server 2



# **Balance Equation**

State	Rate that the process leaves = rate that it enters
0,0	$\lambda P_{0,0} = \mu_2 P_{0,1}$
n, 0; n > 0	$(\lambda + \mu_1)P_{n,0} = \mu_2 P_{n,1} + \lambda P_{n-1,0}$
0, m: m > 0	$(\lambda + \mu_2)P_{0,m} = \mu_2 P_{0,m+1} + \mu_1 P_{1,m-1}$
n, m; nm > 0	$(\lambda + \mu_1 + \mu_2)P_{n,m} = \mu_2 P_{n,m+1} + \mu_1 P_{n+1,m-1} + \lambda P_{n-1,m-1}$
$\Sigma_{n,m}P_{n,m}=1$	

# Probability of State

- The departure process of an M/M/1 queue is a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda$ , it follows that what server 2 faces is also an M/M/1 queue.
- •If the numbers of customers at servers 1 and 2 were independent random variables, then it would follow that

Verification is left for assignment

### Properties

The average number of customers in the system

$$\begin{split} \blacklozenge E[L] &= \sum_{n,m} (n+m) P_{n,m} \\ &= \sum_{n} n \left( \frac{\lambda}{\mu_1} \right)^n \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu_1} \right) + \sum_{m} m \left( \frac{\lambda}{\mu_2} \right)^m \left( 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu_2} \right) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\mu_1 - \lambda} + \frac{\lambda}{\mu_2 - \lambda} \\ \blacklozenge E[W] &= \frac{L}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\mu_1 - \lambda} + \frac{1}{\mu_2 - \lambda} \end{split}$$

# Generalization of Tandom System: Jackson Network

- ullet Consider system of k servers.
- •Customers arrive from outside the system to server i, i = 1, ..., k in accordance with independent Poisson processes at rate  $r_i$
- •Once a customer is served by server i, the then joins the queue in front of server j, j = 1, ..., k with probability  $P_{ij}$ .
- $\bullet \mu_i$  is the exponential service rate at server j

$$\blacklozenge P_{n_1,\dots,n_k} = \prod_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{\lambda_j}{\mu_j}\right)^{n_j} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_j}{\mu_j}\right)^{n_j}$$

#### Jackson Network

- James Jackson (UCLA Math professor) did the basic work on queueing networks
- Jackson Networks special class of open queueing networks
  - ◆Network of M queues
  - ◆There is only one class of customers in the network
  - ◆A job can leave the network from any node
  - lacktriangle All service times are exponentially distributed with rate  $\mu_i$  at queue j
  - ◆The service discipline at all nodes is FCFS.
  - lacktriangle All external customer arrival processes are Poisson processes with rate  $r_i$  at queue j

#### Jackson's Theorem

- •If in an open network  $\lambda_i < \mu_i$  holds for all queues i = 1,...,M
  - lacktriangle the arrival rates  $\lambda_i$  can be computed by

where 
$$\lambda = [\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_M]$$
  
 $r = [r_1, r_2, ..., r_M]$ 

$$\mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_M]$$

$$\mathbf{P} = [P_{ij}]$$

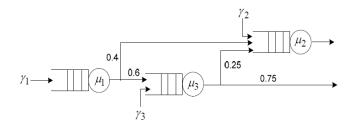
◆The steady-state probability of the network can be expressed as the product of the state probabilities of the individual queues.

$$P_{n_1,\dots,n_M} = P_{n_1} P_{n_2} \cdots P_{n_M}$$

The nodes of the network can be considered at independent M/M/1 queues with arrival rate  $\lambda_i$  and service rate  $\mu_i$ 

# Open Networks: Example

- Three node network shown below
- •Poisson external arrivals with  $\lambda_1 = 0.5$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0.25$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 0.25$
- •Exponential service at each queue with  $\mu_1 = 1$ ,  $\mu_2 = 1$ ,  $\mu_3 = 1$

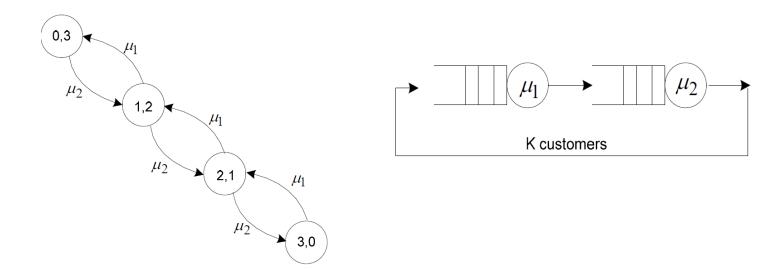


•From the diagram  $P_{12} = 0.4$ ,  $P_{13} = 0.6$ ,  $P_{32} = 0.25$ ,  $P_{24} = 1.0$ ,  $P_{34} = 0.75$ 

$$\bullet R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.4 & 0.6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.25 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \lambda = r(I - R)^{1} = [0.5, 0.5875, 055]$$

# Closed System

- A system in which new customers never enter and existing ones never depart
  - igspace Simplest case k customers circulating among m queues
- ullet Each queue i has exponentially distributed service time  $\mu_i$
- State of network defined by  $(n_1, n_2, ..., n_m)$
- ●Example m=2, k=3



# Closed System

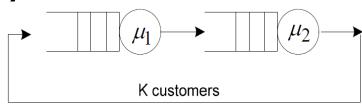
The limiting probability  $P_k(n_1,...,n_m) = P\{n_i \ customers \ ate \ server \ j,j=1,...,m\}$ 

From the balance equation

$$P_k(n_1, \dots, n_m) \begin{cases} M_k \prod_{j=1}^m \left(\frac{\lambda_k(j)}{\mu_j}\right)^{n_j} if \sum_{j=1}^m n_j = k \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

### Example of Closed Systems

- ●Example m=2, k=3
- From the diagram  $P_{12} = P_{21} = 1$
- •State space  $S = \{(0,3), (1,2), (2,1), (3,0)\}$



•Let 
$$\lambda_k(1) = 1 \to \lambda_k(2) = 1$$
, then  $M_k = 1.875^{-1}$   

$$P(0,3) = M_k \left(\frac{\lambda_k(2)}{\mu_{21}}\right)^1 = 0.0667$$

$$P(1,2) = M_k \left(\frac{\lambda_k(1)}{\mu_{21}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_k(2)}{\mu_{22}}\right)^1 = 0.1333$$

$$P(2,1) = M_k \left(\frac{\lambda_k(1)}{\mu_{21}}\right)^3 \left(\frac{\lambda_k(2)}{\mu_{22}}\right)^1 = 0.2667$$

$$P(3,0) = M_k \left(\frac{\lambda_k(1)}{\mu_{21}}\right)^3 = 0.5333$$