

MICT-5101: Probability and Stochastic Process¹

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Lecture Outline I

1 Introduction

1.1 Text & Reference Book List

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2.1 Counting Processes

2.2 Poisson Process

2.3 Nonhomogeneous Poisson Process

2.4 Compound Poisson Processes



Introduction



1 Introduction

1.1 Text & Reference Book List



Text Book

- ① Ross, S. (2010): *Introduction to Probability Models*, 10th edition, Pearson, Prentice Hall.
- ② Anthony J. Hayter (2012): *Probability and Statistics for Engineers and Scientists* 4th Edition, Duxbury Press.

Reference Book List

- ① Mehdhi, J. (2009): *Stochastic Processes* , 3rd Revised Edition, New Age Science.
- ② Beichelt F. (2016): *Applied probability and stochastic processes*, 7th edition, CRC Press.
- ③ Ross, S. (2020): *Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Engineers and Scientists*, 6th Edition, Pearson Education Inc.



Fundamentals of Probability Models

① Part I: Probability Theory

- ▶ Basic Concepts of Probability
- ▶ Random Variable
- ▶ Expectation
- ▶ Some Probability Distributions
 - Bernoulli
 - Binomial
 - Poisson
 - Uniform and
 - Normal
 - exponential
 - ...

② Part II: Stochastic Processes

- ▶ Basics of Stochastic Processes
- ▶ Random Point Processes
- ▶ Discrete-Time Markov Chains
- ▶ ...



Chapter 3: The Poisson Process



2 Chapter 3: The Poisson Process

2.1 Counting Processes

2.2 Poisson Process

2.3 Nonhomogeneous Poisson Process

2.4 Compound Poisson Processes



Counting Processes

A **counting process** is a stochastic process $N(t)$ that counts the number of events that have occurred by time t , where:

- **State Space:** $N(t)$ takes non-negative integer values $(0, 1, 2, \dots)$.
- **Non-decreasing:** $N(t_1) \leq N(t_2)$ for all $t_1 < t_2$.
- **Initial Condition:** Typically, $N(0) = 0$ (indicating no events have occurred at time zero).
- For $s < t$, $N(t) - N(s)$ equals the number of events that have occurred in the interval $(s, t]$

Counting processes are used to model random events over time, such as arrivals of customers, failures of machines, or occurrences of specific events.



Common Types

- Poisson Process
- Renewal Process

These processes have specific properties regarding the distribution and timing of events.



Examples of Counting Processes

① Customer Arrivals at a Store:

- ▶ Let $N(t)$ be the number of customers entering by time t (in hours).
- ▶ Modeled as a **Poisson process** if arrivals are independent and at a constant rate.

② Calls Received at a Call Center:

- ▶ Let $N(t)$ be the total number of calls received by time t (in minutes).
- ▶ Also modeled as a **Poisson process**.

③ Machine Failures in a Factory:

- ▶ Let $N(t)$ be the number of machine failures by time t (in days).
- ▶ Can be modeled using a **renewal process**.

④ Earthquake Occurrences:

- ▶ Let $N(t)$ denote the number of earthquakes by time t (in years).
- ▶ May be modeled as a **non-homogeneous Poisson process**.



Two Important Assumptions

1 Independent Increments:

- ▶ The increments are independent if the number of events in disjoint intervals is independent.
- ▶ For $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 < t_3 < t_4$:

$N(t_2) - N(t_1)$ and $N(t_4) - N(t_3)$ are independent.

2 Stationary Increments

- ▶ A counting process has **stationary increments** if the distribution of the number of events in any time interval depends only on the length of the interval, not on its position.
- ▶ For any h and t :

$N(t+h) - N(t) \sim$ Distribution depending only on h .

i.e., $[N(t_2+h) - N(t_1+h)]$ has the same distribution as the number of events in the interval (t_1, t_2) i.e., $[N(t_2) - N(t_1)]$ for $t_1 < t_2$ and $h > 0$.



Poisson Process

A stochastic process $N(t)$ is called a **Poisson process** with rate $\lambda > 0$ if it satisfies the following conditions:

- **Initial Condition:**

$$N(0) = 0$$

- **Independent Increments:** For any $0 \leq t_1 < t_2$, the increment $N(t_2) - N(t_1)$ is independent of $N(t_1)$.
- **Stationary Increments:** For any $s, t \geq 0$:

$$N(t+s) - N(t) \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda s)$$

- **Distribution of Increments:**

$$P(N(t) = k) = \frac{(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t}}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where $P(N(t) = k)$ is the probability of observing k events in the interval $[0, t]$.



Examples of Poisson Processes

- **Customer Arrivals:** The number of customers arriving at a store in an hour can be modeled as a Poisson process if arrivals are random and independent.
- **Call Center Calls:** The number of incoming calls at a call center during a specific time period can be modeled as a Poisson process.
- **Traffic Accidents:** The number of accidents occurring at a particular intersection in a day can be modeled as a Poisson process.
- **Email Arrivals:** The number of emails received in an inbox over a fixed time interval can be treated as a Poisson process if they arrive randomly.



Derivation of Poisson Process

Assumption:

In order to derive Poisson process, we assume

- ① The number of events in different disjoint time intervals are independent
- ② The distribution of number of events depends only on the length of the interval
- ③ The number of occurrences at time 0 is zero. i.e., $N(0) = 0$
- ④ $P_0(0) = 1$
- ⑤ $P\{N(h) = 1\} = \lambda h + O(h)$
- ⑥ $P\{N(h) \geq 2\} = O(h)$



In order to derive Poisson process, Let

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_0(t+h) &= \Pr\{N(t+h)=0\} \\
 &= \Pr\{N(t)=0, N(t+h)-N(t)=0\} \\
 &= \Pr\{N(t)=0\} \cdot \Pr\{N(h)=0\} \\
 &= P_0(t) \cdot [1 - \Pr\{N(h) \geq 1\}] \\
 &= P_0(t) \cdot [1 - \lambda h + O(h)] \quad [\because O(h)+O(h)=O(h) \text{ and } -O(h)=O(h)] \\
 \Rightarrow P_0(t+h) - P_0(t) &= -\lambda h P_0(t) + O(h) \quad [\because O(h) \times \text{any Value} = O(h)] \\
 \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_0(t+h) - P_0(t)}{h} &= -\lambda P_0(t) + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{O(h)}{h} \\
 \Rightarrow P_0'(t) &= -\lambda P_0(t) \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{P_0'(t)}{P_0(t)} &= -\lambda \\
 \Rightarrow \ln P_0(t) &= -\lambda t + C \quad [\text{Integrating both sides w. r. to } t] \\
 \Rightarrow P_0(t) &= k e^{-\lambda t} \quad [\text{Here, } k = e^C] \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

From (1)

$$P_0(0) = k e^{-\lambda \cdot 0} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow k = 1$$

$$\text{Now, } P_0(t) = e^{-\lambda t} \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (2)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
P_n(t+h) &= \Pr\{N(t+h) = n\} \\
&= \Pr\{N(t) = n, N(h) = 0\} + \Pr\{N(t) = n-1, N(h) = 1\} + \Pr\{N(t) = n-2, N(h) = 2\} + \dots \\
&= P_n(t) \Pr\{N(h) = 0\} + P_{n-1}(t) \Pr\{N(h) = 1\} + P_{n-2}(t) \Pr\{N(h) = 2\} + \dots \\
&= P_n(t)[1 - \lambda h + O(h)] + P_{n-1}(t)[\lambda h + O(h)] + O(h) \\
&= P_n(t) - \lambda h P_n(t) + \lambda h P_{n-1}(t) + O(h)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_n(t+h) - P_n(t) = -\lambda h P_n(t) + \lambda h P_{n-1}(t) + O(h)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_n(t+h) - P_n(t)}{h} = -\lambda P_n(t) + \lambda P_{n-1}(t) + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{O(h)}{h}$$

$$\Rightarrow P'_n(t) = -\lambda P_n(t) + \lambda P_{n-1}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow P'_n(t) + \lambda P_n(t) = \lambda P_{n-1}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\lambda t} [P'_n(t) + \lambda P_n(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} P_{n-1}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_n(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} P_{n-1}(t) \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (3) \quad \left[\because e^{mx} \{f'(x) + mf(x)\} = \frac{d}{dx} (e^{mx} f(x)) \right]$$

$$\text{When, } n=1 \quad \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_1(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} P_0(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_1(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_1(t)] = \lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\lambda t} P_1(t) = \lambda t + c \quad \text{[Integrating both sides w.r.t. } t]$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1(t) = e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t + c) \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (4)$$



For $t = 0$

$$P_1(0) = e^{-\lambda \cdot 0} (\lambda \cdot 0 + c) \quad [\because P_1(0) = 0]$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = c$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 0$$

$$\text{Now } P_1(t) = \lambda t e^{\lambda t} \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

From equation (3) when $n = 2$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_2(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} P_1(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_2(t)] = \lambda e^{\lambda t} e^{-\lambda t} \lambda t$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{\lambda t} P_2(t)] = \lambda^2 t$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\lambda t} P_2(t) = \frac{\lambda^2 t^2}{2} + c$$

[Integrating both sides w.r.t. t]

$$\Rightarrow P_2(t) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^2}{2!}$$

[$\because P_2(0) = 0$ i.e., $c = 0$]

$$\text{Similarly, } P_n(t) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!} \quad ; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



Properties of Poisson Process:

1. *Mean* $= \lambda t$, *Variance* $= \lambda t$
2. Probability generating function $P(s) = e^{\lambda(s-1)t}$
3. Sum of independent Poisson process is also a Poisson process.
4. The difference of two independent Poisson process is not a Poisson process.
5. Random selection from a Poisson process is also a Poisson process.
6. Suppose $[N(t), t \geq 0]$ be a Poisson process such that $s < t$ then

$$\Pr\{N(s) = k \mid N(t) = n\} = \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{s}{t}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{s}{t}\right)^{n-k} \quad ; \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

7. Suppose $[N(t), t \geq 0]$ be a Poisson process then the autocorrelation coefficient between $N(t)$ and $N(t+s)$ is $\sqrt{\frac{t}{t+s}}$.



Example:

Suppose that customers arrive at a Bank according to a Poisson process with a mean rate λ per minute. Then the number of customers $N(t)$ arriving in an interval of duration t minutes follows Poisson distribution with mean λt . If the rate of arrival is 3 per minute, then in an arrival of 2 minutes, find the probability that the number of customer arriving is:

i) Exactly 4. ii) Greater than 4. iii) Less than 4.



Solution:

- i) The Probability that the number of customers arriving exactly 4 is:

$$P_4(t) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^4}{4!} \quad ; \text{ Where } \lambda = 3 \text{ and } t = 2$$

$$= \frac{e^{-6} (6)^4}{4!} = 0.233$$

- ii) Greater than 4 is:

$$\sum_{k=5}^{\infty} P_k(2) = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^4 P_k(2) = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^k}{k!} \quad ; \text{ Where } \lambda = 3 \text{ and } t = 2$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{e^{-6} (6)^k}{k!} = 1 - e^{-6} \left(\frac{6^0}{0!} + \frac{6^1}{1!} + \frac{6^2}{2!} + \frac{6^3}{3!} + \frac{6^4}{4!} \right)$$

$$= 1 - 0.285 = 0.715$$

- iii) Less than 4 is:

$$\sum_{k=0}^3 P_k(2) = \sum_{k=0}^3 \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^k}{k!} \quad ; \text{ Where } \lambda = 3 \text{ and } t = 2$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^3 \frac{e^{-6} (6)^k}{k!} = e^{-6} \left(\frac{6^0}{0!} + \frac{6^1}{1!} + \frac{6^2}{2!} + \frac{6^3}{3!} \right) = 0.152$$



Interarrival Time:

The intervals between successive occurrences in a **Poisson process** are called **interarrival times**. Let T_i denote the time between two successive occurrences E_i and E_{i+1} . The sequence $\{T_i, i = 1, 2, \dots\}$ represents the **interarrival times**. The distribution of T is given by:

$$f(T) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \quad \text{for } T > 0, \quad \lambda = \text{rate of arrivals.}$$

Theorem: Interarrival Time.

The time between two occurrences in a Poisson process $[N(t), t \geq 0]$ with parameter λ has an **exponential distribution** with mean $\frac{1}{\lambda}$.



Proof:

Let X be the random variable representing the interval between two successive occurrences of $[N(t), t \geq 0]$ and let $P[X \leq x] = F(x)$ be its distribution function.

Let us denote two successive events by E_i & E_{i+1} and suppose that E_i occurred at the instant t_i . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 P[X > x] &= P[E_{i+1} \text{ did not occur in } (t_i, t_i + x) \text{ given that } E_i \text{ occurred at the instant } t_i] \\
 &= P[E_{i+1} \text{ did not occur in } (t_i, t_i + x) | N(t_i) = i] \\
 &= P[\text{no occurrence take place in an interval } (t_i, t_i + x) \text{ of length } X | N(t_i) = i] \\
 &= P[N(x) = 0 | N(t_i) = i] \\
 &= P[N(x) = 0] \\
 &= e^{-\lambda x}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x) &= P[X \leq x] \\
 &= 1 - P[X > x] \\
 &= 1 - e^{-\lambda x} \quad ; x > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, the density function is

$$f(x) = F'(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad ; x > 0$$



Waiting Time:

The quantity of interest S_n , the arrival time of n^{th} event, is known as waiting time until the n^{th} event occurs. Let $\{T_i\}$ be a sequence of interarrival time then it is denoted by

$$S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n T_i \quad ; n \geq 1$$

Here, T_i follows exponential distribution with parameter λ and S_n follows gamma distribution with parameters n, λ . That is, the probability density of S_n is given by

$$f_{S_n}(t) = \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda t} t^{n-1} \quad ; \quad t \geq 0$$

Example:

Suppose car passes Prantic Gate at a Poisson rate of 1 per minute. If 5% of the cars are Toyota then

- What is the probability that at least one Toyota passes by during an hour.
- Given that 10 Toyotas had passed by an hour, what is the expected number of cars has passed by at that time.
- If 50 cars have passed by an hour, what is the probability that 5 of them are Toyotas.



Solution:

Let $N(t) \rightarrow$ number of cars passed by t

$N_1(t) \rightarrow$ number of Toyotas passed by t

$N_2(t) \rightarrow$ number of non-Toyotas passed by t

Then $N(t)$ is a Poisson process with rate $\lambda = 1$ per minute. $N_1(t)$ is a Poisson process with rate $\lambda p = 0.05 \times 1 = 0.05$ per minute. $N_2(t)$ is a Poisson process with rate $\lambda q = 0.95 \times 1 = 0.95$ per minute.

$$\text{a)} \quad P\{N_1(60) \geq 1\} = 1 - P\{N_1(60) = 0\} = 1 - e^{-0.05 \times 60} = 1 - e^{-3}$$

Comment: The probability that at least one Toyota passes by during an hour is $1 - e^{-3}$.

$$\text{b)} \quad E\{N(60) = n \mid N_1(60) = 10\} = E\{10 + N_2(60)\} = 10 + 0.95 \times 60 = 67$$

Comment: Given that 10 Toyotas had passed by an hour, the expected number of cars has passed by at that time is 67.

$$\text{c)} \quad P\{N_1(60) = 5 \mid N(60) = 50\} = \binom{50}{5} p^5 (1-p)^{50-5} = \binom{50}{5} (0.05)^5 (0.95)^{50-5} = 0.07$$

Comment: 50 cars have passed by an hour, the probability that 5 of them are Toyotas is 0.07.



Example:

Suppose that customers arrive at a counter in accordance with a Poisson process with mean rate of 2 per minute ($\lambda = 2$ / minute). Then the interval between any two successive arrivals follows exponential distribution with mean

$\frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{2}$ minute. What is the probability that the interval between two successive arrivals is

- More than 1 minute
- 4 minutes or less
- Between 1 and 2 minutes
- Find the expected time until the 9th customer.

Solution:

Suppose x represents time between two successive arrivals then

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad ; \quad x > 0$$

$$\text{a) } P\{x > 1\} = 2 \int_1^{\infty} e^{-2x} dx = e^{-2} = 0.135$$

$$\text{b) } P\{x \leq 4\} = 1 - 2 \int_4^{\infty} e^{-2x} dx = 1 - e^{-2 \times 4} = 1 - e^{-8} = 0.99967$$

$$\text{c) } P\{1 \leq x \leq 2\} = 2 \int_1^2 e^{-2x} dx = e^{-2} - e^{-4} = 0.0179$$

$$\text{d) } \text{We know expected waiting time is } \frac{n}{\lambda}. \text{ [Thus, the expected time until the 9th customer is } \frac{n}{\lambda} = \frac{9}{2}.$$



Conditional Distribution of Arrival Times

Arrival Times:

Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be the arrival times of the first n events in a Poisson process. The arrival times are defined as:

$$A_i = T_1 + T_2 + \dots + T_i,$$

where T_i are the interarrival times.

Objective:

We want to find the joint distribution of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n given that there are exactly n arrivals by time t :

$$P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n | N(t) = n) \quad \text{for } 0 < a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n < t.$$



Understanding the Setup

Properties of the Poisson Process:

- Given $N(t) = n$, the n arrival times are uniformly distributed in the interval $[0, t]$.
- The arrival times are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.).

Order Statistics:

The arrival times A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n can be thought of as the order statistics of n uniformly distributed random variables in $[0, t]$.

Implication:

For $0 < a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n < t$, the joint distribution can be derived based on the properties of uniform distributions.



Derivation of Joint Distribution

Step 1: Conditioning on $N(t) = n$

We express the joint probability as:

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n | N(t) = n) \\ = \frac{P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n, N(t) = n)}{P(N(t) = n)}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Joint Probability Numerator

Given $N(t) = n$, the arrival times are uniformly distributed. The joint distribution of the order statistics is:

$$P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n | N(t) = n) = \frac{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n}{t^n} \cdot \frac{1}{n!},$$

where $\frac{1}{n!}$ accounts for the ordering of the arrival times.



Step 3: Denominator

For the Poisson process:

$$P(N(t) = n) = \frac{(\lambda t)^n e^{-\lambda t}}{n!}.$$

Combining Results:

Substituting the numerator and denominator, we have:

$$P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n | N(t) = n) = \frac{\frac{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n}{t^n} \cdot \frac{1}{n!}}{\frac{(\lambda t)^n e^{-\lambda t}}{n!}}.$$

Simplifying:

The $n!$ terms cancel out, leading to:

$$P(A_1 \leq a_1, A_2 \leq a_2, \dots, A_n \leq a_n | N(t) = n) = \frac{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n}{(\lambda t)^n} e^{-\lambda t}.$$



Problems on Poisson Process

Problem 1:

A call center receives an average of 10 calls per hour. What is the probability that exactly 5 calls are received in a 30-minute interval?

Solution:

Let $\lambda = 10$ calls/hour. In a 30-minute interval, $\lambda = 5$ calls (since $\frac{1}{2}$ hour).

$$\lambda t = \frac{10 \text{ calls}}{60 \text{ minutes}} \times 30 \text{ minutes} = 5 \text{ calls}$$

The number of calls follows a Poisson distribution:

$$P(N(0.5) = k) = \frac{(\lambda t)^k e^{-\lambda t}}{k!}.$$

For $k = 5$:

$$P(N(0.5) = 5) = \frac{(5)^5 e^{-5}}{5!} = \frac{3125 e^{-5}}{120} \approx 0.175.$$



Problems on Poisson Process (cont.)

Problem 2:

An airport experiences an average of 3 flight arrivals every 10 minutes. What is the probability that there are no arrivals in a 5-minute interval?

Solution:

First, calculate the rate λ for a 5-minute interval:

$$\lambda t = \frac{3}{10} \times 5 = 1.5.$$

The number of arrivals follows a Poisson distribution:

$$P(N(5) = 0) = \frac{(1.5)^0 e^{-1.5}}{0!} = e^{-1.5} \approx 0.223.$$



Problems on Poisson Process (cont.)

Problem 3:

A factory produces an average of 2 defective items per hour. What is the probability that in a 2-hour period, there are at most 3 defective items?

Solution:

For a 2-hour period, $\lambda t = 2 \times 2 = 4$. We need to find:

$$P(N(2) \leq 3) = P(N(2) = 0) + P(N(2) = 1) + P(N(2) = 2) + P(N(2) = 3).$$

Calculating each term:

$$P(N(2) = k) = \frac{4^k e^{-4}}{k!} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, 3.$$

Thus,

$$P(N(2) = 0) = \frac{4^0 e^{-4}}{0!} = e^{-4},$$



$$P(N(2) = 1) = \frac{4^1 e^{-4}}{1!} = 4e^{-4},$$

$$P(N(2) = 2) = \frac{4^2 e^{-4}}{2!} = \frac{16e^{-4}}{2} = 8e^{-4},$$

$$P(N(2) = 3) = \frac{4^3 e^{-4}}{3!} = \frac{64e^{-4}}{6} \approx 10.67e^{-4}.$$

Finally,

$$P(N(2) \leq 3) \approx e^{-4}(1 + 4 + 8 + 10.67) \approx e^{-4} \times 23.67.$$



Nonhomogeneous Poisson Process (NHPP)

A Nonhomogeneous Poisson Process is a stochastic process $N(t)$ characterized by the following properties:

- 1 **Time-Varying Intensity:** The rate of events $\lambda(t)$ is a non-negative function that varies with time.
- 2 **Poisson Distribution for Event Counts:** The number of events $N(t)$ that occur in the interval $(0, t]$ is distributed as:

$$N(t) \sim \text{Poisson}(\Lambda(0, t)) \quad \text{where } \Lambda(0, t) = \int_0^t \lambda(u) du$$

This parameter represents the expected number of events from time 0 to t .



- ③ **Independent Increments:** Counts of events in non-overlapping intervals are independent. For non-overlapping intervals $(a, b]$ and $(c, d]$:

$N(b) - N(a)$ and $N(d) - N(c)$ are independent.

- ④ **Initial State:** The process starts at zero: $N(0) = 0$, indicating that no events have occurred at the start of observation.



Examples of Nonhomogeneous Poisson Processes

1 Call Arrivals in a Call Center

- ▶ $\lambda(t) = 5 + 3 \sin\left(\frac{\pi t}{12}\right)$
- ▶ The call rate varies throughout the day, peaking during lunch and evening hours.

2 Customer Arrivals at a Retail Store

- ▶ $\lambda(t) = 10 + 2t \quad (0 \leq t \leq 10)$
- ▶ Customer arrivals increase as closing time approaches, reflecting higher foot traffic.

3 Earthquake Occurrences

- ▶ $\lambda(t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-0.1(t-50)}}$
- ▶ The likelihood of earthquakes increases over time due to geological pressures.

4 Webpage Visits

- ▶ $\lambda(t) = 20 + 10 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{24}\right)$
- ▶ Visits vary throughout the day, peaking during business hours and dropping overnight.



Proposition: Sum of Two Processes

- Let's denote two non-homogeneous Poisson processes as $N_1(t)$ and $N_2(t)$ with respective intensity functions $\lambda_1(t)$ and $\lambda_2(t)$. Then the total process

$$N(t) = N_1(t) + N_2(t)$$

is also a nonhomogeneous Poisson process with intensity function

$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_1(t) + \lambda_2(t)$$

- This means that for any time interval $[a, b]$, the number of events in that interval follows a Poisson distribution with parameter equal to the integral of the total intensity over that interval:

$$N(b) - N(a) \sim \text{Poisson} \left(\int_a^b \lambda(t) dt \right)$$



Example of a Non-Homogeneous Poisson Process

Consider a restaurant that experiences varying customer arrival rates throughout the day. Let $N(t)$ be the number of customers arriving at the restaurant by time t .

- The arrival rate $\lambda(t)$ varies over time:

$$\lambda(t) = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{for } 0 \leq t < 12 \quad (\text{morning}) \\ 20 & \text{for } 12 \leq t < 14 \quad (\text{lunch}) \\ 30 & \text{for } 14 \leq t < 17 \quad (\text{afternoon}) \\ 25 & \text{for } 17 \leq t < 21 \quad (\text{dinner}) \\ 5 & \text{for } t \geq 21 \quad (\text{late night}) \end{cases}$$



Calculating the Probability of Arrivals

To find the number of arrivals from $t = 12$ to $t = 14$:

$$\mathbb{E}[N(14) - N(12)] = \int_{12}^{14} \lambda(t) dt = \int_{12}^{14} 20 dt = 20 \times (14 - 12) = 40$$

Therefore:

$$N(14) - N(12) \sim \text{Poisson}(40)$$



Another Example of a Non-Homogeneous Poisson Process

Consider a retail store that experiences varying customer arrival rates throughout the day, modeled as a non-homogeneous Poisson process. Let $N(t)$ be the number of purchases made at the store by time t , where t is measured in hours from 9 AM:

$$\lambda(t) = \begin{cases} 2 + 2t & \text{for } 0 \leq t < 4 \quad (9 \text{ AM to } 1 \text{ PM}) \\ 10 + 1.5(t - 4) & \text{for } 4 \leq t < 8 \quad (1 \text{ PM to } 5 \text{ PM}) \\ 16 + 0.5(t - 8) & \text{for } 8 \leq t \leq 12 \quad (5 \text{ PM to } 9 \text{ PM}) \end{cases}$$



Expected Purchases: 9 AM to 1 PM

$$\mathbb{E}[N(4)] = \int_0^4 (2 + 2t) dt = [2t + t^2]_0^4 = 8 + 16 = 24$$



Expected Purchases: 1 PM to 5 PM

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[N(8) - N(4)] &= \int_4^8 (10 + 1.5(t - 4)) dt = \int_4^8 (4 + 1.5t) dt \\ &= \left[4t + 0.75t^2\right]_4^8 = (32 + 48) - (16 + 12) = 80 - 28 = 52\end{aligned}$$



Expected Purchases: 5 PM to 9 PM

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[N(12) - N(8)] &= \int_8^{12} (16 + 0.5(t - 8)) dt = \int_8^{12} (12 + 0.5t) dt \\ &= [12t + 0.25t^2]_8^{12} = (144 + 36) - (96 + 16) = 180 - 112 = 68\end{aligned}$$



Compound Poisson Processes

Let us define a process

$$X(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i$$

where $N(t)$ is a **Poisson process** with intensity λ and Y_i are *independent and identically distributed* (i.i.d.) random variables. Then the process $X(t)$ is called **Compound Poisson Process** in which $X(t)$ is defined as 0 if $N(t) = 0$.



Example:

- i) Suppose customers leave a supermarket in accordance with a Poisson process. If Y_i the amount spent by the i^{th} customer, $i = 1, 2, \dots$, are independent and identically distributed, then $[X(t), t \geq 0]$ is a compound Poisson process where $X(t)$ denotes the total amount of money spent by time t .
- ii) Suppose customers leave a supermarket in accordance with a Poisson process. If Y_i be the amount spent by the i^{th} customer $i = 1, 2, \dots$ are independent and identically distributed then $[X(t), t \geq 0]$ is a compound Poisson process, where $X(t)$ denotes the total amount of money spent by time t .



Mean of Compound Process:

$$E[X(t)] = E[E\{X(t) | N(t)\}] \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} E\left\{X(t) / N(t)\right\} &= E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i \mid N(t)\right] \\ &= E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i\right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} E(Y_i) \\ &= N(t)E(Y_i) \end{aligned}$$

From equation (1) we get,

$$\begin{aligned} E[X(t)] &= E[N(t)E(Y_i)] \\ &= \lambda t E(Y_i) \end{aligned}$$



Variance of Compound Process:

$$V[X(t)] = V[E\{X(t) | N(t)\}] + E[V\{X(t) | N(t)\}] \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} V\{X(t) | N(t)\} &= V\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i | N(t)\right] \\ &= V\left[\sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i\right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} V(Y_i) \\ &= N(t)V(Y_i) \end{aligned}$$

From equation (2)

$$\begin{aligned} V[X(t)] &= V[N(t)E(Y_i)] + E[N(t)V(Y_i)] \\ &= \lambda t [E(Y_i)]^2 + \lambda t V(Y_i) \\ &= \lambda t [E(Y_i)]^2 + V(Y_i) \\ &= \lambda t E(Y_i^2) \end{aligned}$$



Scenario

Consider a supermarket that receives customers throughout the day. Each customer makes a purchase, which varies in amount.

- Let $N(t)$ represent the number of customers who enter the supermarket by time t .
- Assume $N(t)$ follows a Poisson distribution with intensity λ :

$$\lambda = 5 \text{ customers per hour}$$

- Each customer's spending amount Y_i is modeled as an i.i.d. random variable.
- Assume the spending amounts are normally distributed:
 $Y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(50, 15^2)$.

The total spending amount $X(t)$ in the supermarket by all customers up to time t can be expressed as:

$$X(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i$$



Expected Number of Customers

The expected number of customers in one hour is:

$$\mathbb{E}[N(t)] = \lambda t$$

For $t = 1$ hour:

$$\mathbb{E}[N(1)] = 5$$

The expected spending amount is:

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = 50$$

The expected total spending in one hour is given by:

$$\mathbb{E}[X(1)] = \mathbb{E}[N(1)] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Y] = 5 \cdot 50 = 250$$



Calculating Variance

The variance of the spending can be computed as:

$$\text{Var}(X(1)) = \mathbb{E}[N(1)] \cdot \text{Var}(Y) + \text{Var}(N(1)) \cdot (\mathbb{E}[Y])^2$$

- Assuming the variance of spending is:

$$\text{Var}(Y) = 15^2 = 225$$

- For $N(1)$:

$$\text{Var}(N(1)) = 5$$

Thus,

$$\text{Var}(X(1)) = 5 \cdot 225 + 5 \cdot (50)^2 = 1125 + 12500 = 13625$$



Example 0.5. Suppose that families migrate to an area at a Poisson rate $\lambda = 2$ per week. If the number of people in each family is independent and takes on the values 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 with respective probabilities $1/4, 1/4, 1/3, 1/12, 1/12$, then what is the expected value and variance of the number of individuals migrating to this area during a fixed six-week period?



Answer. Let $N(t)$ be the number of families that migrate to the area over t weeks, and Y_i the size of each family. Then the number of individuals migrating to this area over t weeks is $X(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N(t)} Y_i$.

Since

$$E(Y_1) = \frac{5}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad E(Y_1^2) = \frac{1}{4} + 1 + 3 + \frac{41}{12} = \frac{23}{3},$$

we have

$$E(X(6)) = 2 \cdot 6 \cdot \frac{5}{2} = 30, \quad \text{Var}(X(6)) = 2 \cdot 6 \cdot \frac{23}{3} = 92$$



CLT of a Compound Poisson Process

As $t \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of

$$\frac{X(t) - \mathbb{E}[X(t)]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X(t))}} = \frac{X(t) - \lambda t \mu_Y}{\sqrt{\lambda t (\sigma_Y^2 + \mu_Y^2)}}$$

converges to a standard normal distribution $N(0, 1)$.

