

MIT 2.853/2.854

Introduction to Manufacturing Systems

# Markov Processes and Queues

Stanley B. Gershwin

Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

`gershwin@mit.edu`

# Stochastic processes

- $t$  is time.
- $X()$  is a *stochastic process* if  $X(t)$  is a random variable for every  $t$ .
- $t$  is a scalar — it can be discrete or continuous.
- $X(t)$  can be discrete or continuous, scalar or vector.

# Stochastic processes

## Markov processes

- A *Markov process* is a stochastic process in which the probability of finding  $X$  at some value at time  $t + \delta t$  depends only on the value of  $X$  at time  $t$ .
- Or, let  $x(s), s \leq t$ , be the history of the values of  $X$  before time  $t$  and let  $A$  be a possible value of  $X$ .

$$P\{X(t + \delta t) = A | X(s) = x(s), s \leq t\} = P\{X(t + \delta t) = A | X(t) = x(t)\}$$

# Stochastic processes

## Markov processes

- In words: if we know what  $X$  was at time  $t$ , we don't gain any more useful information about  $X(t + \delta t)$  by *also* knowing what  $X$  was at any time earlier than  $t$ .
- *This is **ONLY** the definition of a class of mathematical models. It is NOT a statement about reality!!* That is, not everything is a Markov process.

# Markov processes

## Example

Example:

- I have \$100 at time  $t=0$ .
- At every time  $t \geq 1$ , I have  $\$N(t)$ .
  - ★ A (possibly biased) coin is flipped.
  - ★ If it lands with H showing,  $N(t+1) = N(t) + 1$ .
  - ★ If it lands with T showing,  $N(t+1) = N(t) - 1$ .

$N(t)$  is a Markov process. *Why?*

# Discrete state, discrete time

## States and transitions

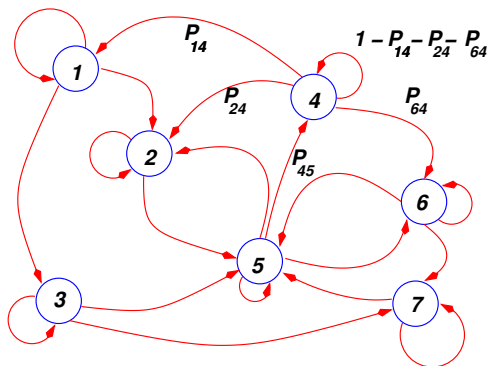
- States can be numbered  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (or with multiple indices if that is more convenient).
- Time can be numbered  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (or  $0, \Delta, 2\Delta, 3\Delta, \dots$  if more convenient).
- The probability of a transition from  $j$  to  $i$  in one time unit is often written  $P_{ij}$ , where

$$P_{ij} = P\{X(t+1) = i | X(t) = j\}$$

# States and transitions

## Transition graph

### Transition graph



$P_{ij}$  is a probability. Note that  $P_{ii} = 1 - \sum_{m, m \neq i} P_{mi}$ . This is the *self-loop* probability.



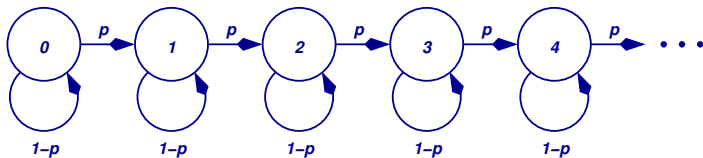
# States and transitions

## Transition graph



*Example* :  $H(t)$  is the number of Hs after  $t$  coin flips.

Assume probability of H is  $p$ .



This is a system with an infinite state space.

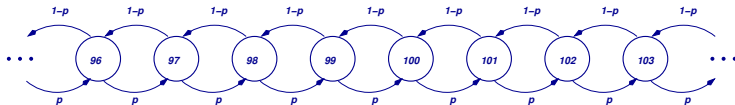


# States and transitions

## Transition graph

*Example* : Coin flip bets on Slide 5.

Assume probability of H is  $p$ .



# Markov processes

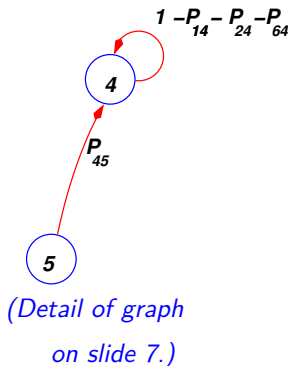
## Notation

- $\{X(t) = i\}$  is the event that random quantity  $X(t)$  has value  $i$ .
  - ★ *Example:*  $X(t)$  is any state in the graph on Slide 7.  $i$  is a *particular* state.
- Define  $\pi_i(t) = P\{X(t) = i\}$ .
- Normalization equation:  $\sum_i \pi_i(t) = 1$ .

# Markov processes

## Transition equations

Transition equations: application of the law of total probability.



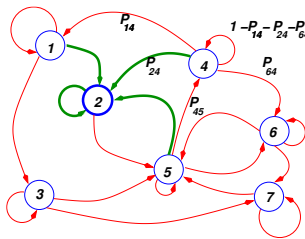
$$\begin{aligned}\pi_4(t+1) &= \pi_5(t)P_{45} \\ &\quad + \pi_4(t)(1 - P_{14} - P_{24} - P_{64})\end{aligned}$$

(Remember that

$$\begin{aligned}P_{45} &= P\{X(t+1) = 4 | X(t) = 5\}, \\ P_{44} &= P\{X(t+1) = 4 | X(t) = 4\} \\ &= 1 - P_{14} - P_{24} - P_{64}\end{aligned}$$

# Markov processes

## Transition equations



$$P\{X(t+1) = 2\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= P\{X(t+1) = 2 | X(t) = 1\}P\{X(t) = 1\} \\
 &+ P\{X(t+1) = 2 | X(t) = 2\}P\{X(t) = 2\} \\
 &+ P\{X(t+1) = 2 | X(t) = 4\}P\{X(t) = 4\} \\
 &+ P\{X(t+1) = 2 | X(t) = 5\}P\{X(t) = 5\}
 \end{aligned}$$

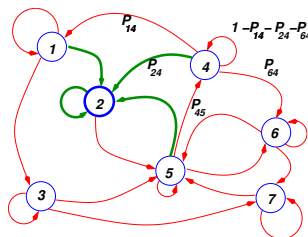
# Markov processes

## Transition equations

- Define  $P_{ij} = P\{X(t+1) = i | X(t) = j\}$
- Transition equations:  $\pi_i(t+1) = \sum_j P_{ij} \pi_j(t)$ .  
An application of the (*Law of Total Probability*)
- Normalization equation:  $\sum_i \pi_i(t) = 1$ .

# Markov processes

## Transition equations



Therefore, since

$$P_{ij} = P\{X(t+1) = i | X(t) = j\} \text{ and}$$

$$\pi_i(t) = P\{X(t) = i\},$$

we can write

$$\pi_2(t+1) = P_{21}\pi_1(t) + P_{22}\pi_2(t) + P_{24}\pi_4(t) + P_{25}\pi_5(t).$$

Note that  $P_{22} = 1 - P_{52}$ .

# Markov processes

## Transition equations — Matrix-Vector Form

For an  $n$ -state system,



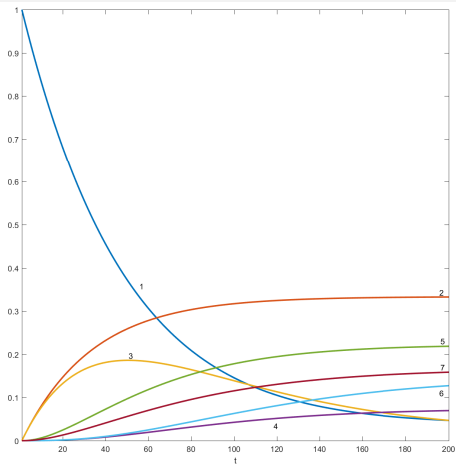
- Define

$$\pi(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_1(t) \\ \pi_2(t) \\ \dots \\ \pi_n(t) \end{bmatrix}, \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & \dots & P_{1n} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & \dots & P_{2n} \\ & & \dots & \\ P_{n1} & P_{n2} & \dots & P_{nn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \nu = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \dots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Transition equations:  $\pi(t+1) = P\pi(t)$
- Normalization equation:  $\nu^T \pi(t) = 1$
- Other facts:
  - $\nu^T P = \nu^T$  (Each column of  $P$  sums to 1.)
  - $\pi(t) = P^t \pi(0)$

# Markov processes

## Steady state



State probabilities vs.  $t$  for system in Slide 7



# Markov processes

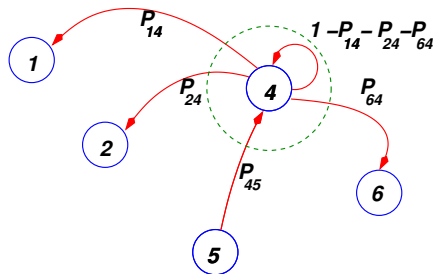
## Steady state

\* ★ ▲

- Steady state:  $\pi_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_i(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P^t \pi(0)$ , if it exists.
- Steady-state transition equations:  $\pi_i = \sum_j P_{ij} \pi_j$ .
- *Alternatively*, steady-state balance equations:  
$$\pi_i \sum_{m, m \neq i} P_{mi} = \sum_{j, j \neq i} P_{ij} \pi_j$$
- Normalization equation:  $\sum_i \pi_i = 1$ .

# Markov processes

## Balance equations



Balance equation:

$$(P_{14} + P_{24} + P_{64})\pi_4 = P_{45}\pi_5$$

in steady state only.

*Intuitive meaning:* The average number of transitions *into* the circle per unit time equals the average number of transitions *out of* the circle per unit time.

# Markov processes

## Steady state

### How to calculate the steady-state probability distribution $\pi$

- Assume that the system has  $N$  states, where  $N$  is finite.
- Assume that there is a unique steady-state probability distribution.
- The transition equations form a set of  $N$  linear equations in  $N$  unknowns.
- The normalization equation is also a linear equation.
- *Problem?* We have  $N + 1$  equations in  $N$  unknowns.
- *No problem:* there is one redundant equation because each column sums to 1.
- Delete one transition equation and replace it with the normalization equation.
- Solve the system of  $N$  linear equations in  $N$  unknowns.

# Markov processes

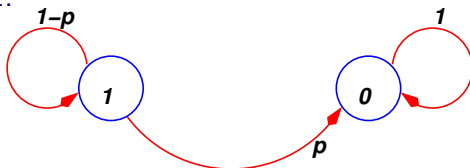
## Steady state

- A system that has a unique steady-state solutions is called *ergodic* . The probability distribution approaches that limit no matter the initial probability distribution was.
- For systems that have more than one steady-state solution, the limiting distribution depends on the initial probability.
- The balance equations can be used to find the limiting distribution instead of the transition equations. As before, one equation has to be replaced by the normalization equation.
- If a system has an infinite number of states and it has a steady state probability distribution, there are two possibilities for finding it:
  - ★ It might be possible to solve the equations analytically. We will see an example of that.
  - ★ Truncate the system. That is, solve a system with a large but finite subset of the states. If you understand the system, you can guess which are the highest probability states. Keep those. This provides an approximate solution.

# Markov processes

## Geometric distribution

Consider a two-state system. The system can go from 1 to 0, but not from 0 to 1.



Let  $p$  be the conditional probability that the system is in state 0 at time  $t + 1$ , given that it is in state 1 at time  $t$ . Then

$$p = P \left[ \alpha(t + 1) = 0 \middle| \alpha(t) = 1 \right].$$

# Markov processes

## Geometric distribution — Transition equations

Let  $\pi(\alpha, t)$  be the probability of being in state  $\alpha$  at time  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(0, t+1) &= P \left[ \alpha(t+1) = 0 \middle| \alpha(t) = 1 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 1] \\ &\quad + P \left[ \alpha(t+1) = 0 \middle| \alpha(t) = 0 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 0],\end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(0, t+1) &= p\pi(1, t) + \pi(0, t), \\ \pi(1, t+1) &= (1-p)\pi(1, t),\end{aligned}$$

and the normalization equation

$$\pi(1, t) + \pi(0, t) = 1.$$

# Markov processes

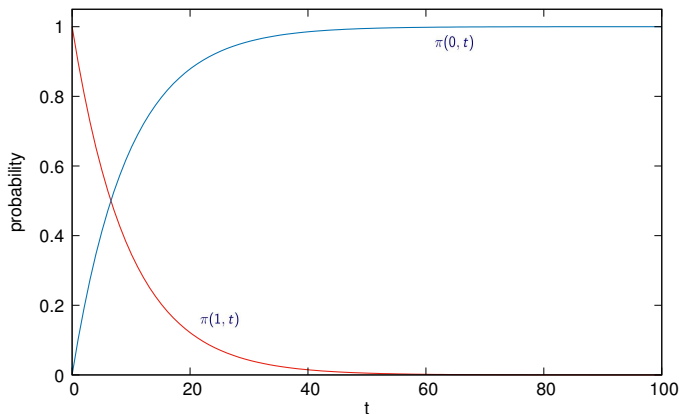
## Geometric distribution — transient probability distribution

Assume that  $\pi(1, 0) = 1$ . Then the solution is

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(0, t) &= 1 - (1 - p)^t, \\ \pi(1, t) &= (1 - p)^t.\end{aligned}$$

# Markov processes

## Geometric distribution — transient probability distribution





# Markov processes

## Geometric distribution

We have shown that the probability that the state goes from 1 to 0 at time  $t$  is

$$P(t) = (1 - p)^{t-1}p$$

The mean time for the state to go from 1 to 0 is then

$$\bar{t} = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} tP(t) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t(1 - p)^{t-1}p$$

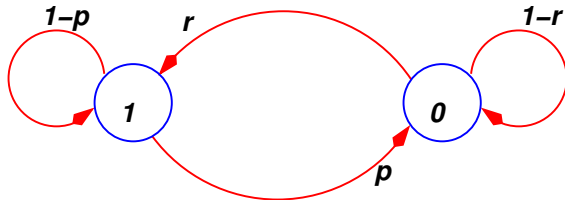
It is not hard to show that

$$\bar{t} = \frac{1}{p}$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine

1=up; 0=down.



Mean up time = Mean time to fail = MTTF =  $1/p$

Mean down time = Mean time to repair = MTTR =  $1/r$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine — transient probability distribution

The probability distribution satisfies

$$\pi(0, t + 1) = \pi(0, t)(1 - r) + \pi(1, t)p,$$

$$\pi(1, t + 1) = \pi(0, t)r + \pi(1, t)(1 - p).$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine — transient probability distribution

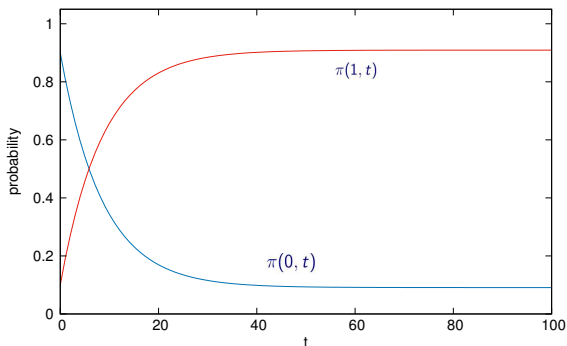
It is not hard to show that

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(0, t) &= \pi(0, 0)(1 - p - r)^t \\ &\quad + \frac{p}{r + p} [1 - (1 - p - r)^t],\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(1, t) &= \pi(1, 0)(1 - p - r)^t \\ &\quad + \frac{r}{r + p} [1 - (1 - p - r)^t].\end{aligned}$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine — transient probability distribution



# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine — steady-state probability distribution

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\pi(0, t) \rightarrow \frac{p}{r + p},$$

$$\pi(1, t) \rightarrow \frac{r}{r + p}$$

which is the solution of

$$\pi(0) = \pi(0)(1 - r) + \pi(1)p,$$

$$\pi(1) = \pi(0)r + \pi(1)(1 - p).$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine — efficiency

If a machine makes one part per time unit when it is operational, its average production rate is

$$\pi(1) = \frac{r}{r + p}$$

This quantity is the *efficiency* ( $e$ ) of the machine. If the machine makes one part per  $\tau$  time units when it is operational, its average production rate is

$$P = \frac{1}{\tau} \left( \frac{r}{r + p} \right)$$

Note that we can also write

$$e = \frac{\text{MTTF}}{\text{MTTF} + \text{MTTR}}$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

- States can be numbered  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  (*or with multiple indices if that is more convenient*).
- Time is a real number, defined on  $(-\infty, \infty)$  or a smaller interval.
- The probability of a transition from  $j$  to  $i$  during  $[t, t + \delta t]$  is approximately  $\lambda_{ij}\delta t$ , where  $\delta t$  is small, and

$$\lambda_{ij}\delta t \approx P\{X(t + \delta t) = i | X(t) = j\} \text{ for } i \neq j$$



# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

More precisely,

$$\lambda_{ij}\delta t = P\{X(t + \delta t) = i | X(t) = j\} + o(\delta t) \\ \text{for } i \neq j$$

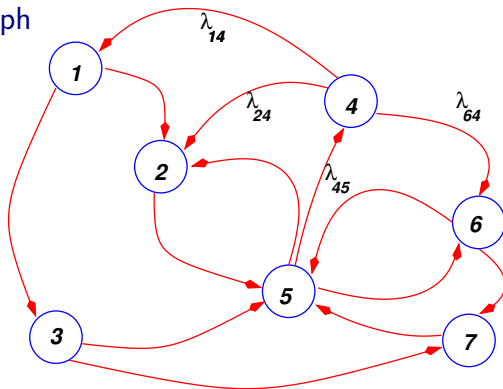
where  $o(\delta t)$  is a function that satisfies  $\lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{o(\delta t)}{\delta t} = 0$

This implies that for small  $\delta t$ ,  $o(\delta t) \ll \delta t$ .

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

Transition graph



$\lambda_{ij}$  is a probability rate.  $\lambda_{ij}\delta t$  is a probability.

Compare with the discrete-time graph.

\* □

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

One of the transition equations:

Define  $\pi_i(t) = P\{X(t) = i\}$ .

$$\pi_5(t + \delta t) \approx$$

$$(1 - \lambda_{25}\delta t - \lambda_{45}\delta t - \lambda_{65}\delta t)\pi_5(t) +$$

$$\lambda_{52}\delta t\pi_2(t) + \lambda_{53}\delta t\pi_3(t) + \lambda_{56}\delta t\pi_6(t) + \lambda_{57}\delta t\pi_7(t) +$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

Or,

$$\pi_5(t + \delta t) \approx$$

$$\pi_5(t) - (\lambda_{25} + \lambda_{45} + \lambda_{65})\pi_5(t)\delta t$$

$$+ (\lambda_{52}\pi_2(t) + \lambda_{53}\pi_3(t) + \lambda_{56}\pi_6(t) + \lambda_{57}\pi_7(t))\delta t$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

Or,

$$\lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\pi_5(t + \delta t) - \pi_5(t)}{\delta t} =$$

$$\frac{d\pi_5}{dt}(t) = -(\lambda_{25} + \lambda_{45} + \lambda_{65})\pi_5(t)$$

$$+ \lambda_{52}\pi_2(t) + \lambda_{53}\pi_3(t) + \lambda_{56}\pi_6(t) + \lambda_{57}\pi_7(t)$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

Define

*for convenience*

$$\lambda_{55} = -(\lambda_{25} + \lambda_{45} + \lambda_{65})$$

Then

$$\frac{d\pi_5}{dt}(t) = \lambda_{55}\pi_5(t) +$$

$$\lambda_{52}\pi_2(t) + \lambda_{53}\pi_3(t) + \lambda_{56}\pi_6(t) + \lambda_{57}\pi_7(t)$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## States and transitions

- Define  $\pi_i(t) = P\{X(t) = i\}$
- It is *convenient* to define  $\lambda_{ii} = -\sum_{j \neq i} \lambda_{ji}$  \* \* \*
- Transition equations:  $\frac{d\pi_i(t)}{dt} = \sum_j \lambda_{ij} \pi_j(t)$ .
- Normalization equation:  $\sum_i \pi_i(t) = 1$ .

\* \* \* *Often confusing!!!*

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Transition equations — Matrix-Vector Form

- Define  $\pi(t), \nu$  as before \*.

$$\text{Define } \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} & \dots & \lambda_{1n} \\ \lambda_{21} & \lambda_{22} & \dots & \lambda_{2n} \\ & & \dots & \\ \lambda_{n1} & \lambda_{n2} & \dots & \lambda_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Transition equations:  $\frac{d\pi(t)}{dt} = \Lambda\pi(t)$ .

- Normalization equation:  $\nu^T \pi = 1$ .

- Other facts:

$$\star \nu^T P = 0 \text{ (Each column of } P \text{ sums to 0.)}$$

$$\star \pi(t) = e^{\Lambda t} \pi(0)$$



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Steady State

- *Steady state:*  $\pi_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_i(t)$ , if it exists.
- Steady-state transition equations:  $0 = \sum_j \lambda_{ij} \pi_j$ .
- *Alternatively,* steady-state balance equations:  
$$\pi_i \sum_{m, m \neq i} \lambda_{mi} = \sum_{j, j \neq i} \lambda_{ij} \pi_j$$
- Normalization equation:  $\sum_i \pi_i = 1$ .

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Steady State — Matrix-Vector Form

- *Steady state*:  $\pi = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi(t)$ , if it exists.
- Steady-state transition equations:  $0 = \Lambda\pi$ .
- Normalization equation:  $\nu^T \pi = 1$ .

# Discrete state, continuous time

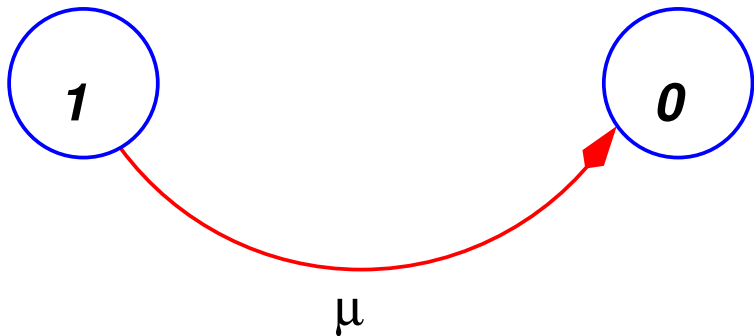
## Sources of confusion in continuous time models

- *Never* Draw self-loops in continuous time Markov process graphs.
- *Never* write  $1 - \lambda_{14} - \lambda_{24} - \lambda_{64}$ . Write
  - ★  $1 - (\lambda_{14} + \lambda_{24} + \lambda_{64})\delta t$ , or
  - ★  $-(\lambda_{14} + \lambda_{24} + \lambda_{64})$
- $\lambda_{ii} = -\sum_{j \neq i} \lambda_{ji}$  is *NOT* a rate and *NOT* a probability. It is *ONLY* a convenient notation.

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

Exponential random variable  $T$ : the time to move from state 1 to state 0.



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

$$\pi(0, t + \delta t) =$$

$$P \left[ \alpha(t + \delta t) = 0 \middle| \alpha(t) = 1 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 1] +$$

$$P \left[ \alpha(t + \delta t) = 0 \middle| \alpha(t) = 0 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 0].$$

or

$$\pi(0, t + \delta t) = \mu \delta t \pi(1, t) + \pi(0, t) + o(\delta t)$$

or

$$\frac{d\pi(0, t)}{dt} = \mu \pi(1, t).$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

$$\pi(1, t + \delta t) =$$

$$P \left[ \alpha(t + \delta t) = 1 \middle| \alpha(t) = 1 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 1] +$$

$$P \left[ \alpha(t + \delta t) = 1 \middle| \alpha(t) = 0 \right] P[\alpha(t) = 0].$$

or

$$\pi(1, t + \delta t) = (1 - \mu\delta t)\pi(1, t) + (0)\pi(0, t) + o(\delta t)$$

or

$$\frac{d\pi(1, t)}{dt} = -\mu\pi(1, t).$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

$$\text{Transition equations} \begin{cases} \frac{d\pi(0, t)}{dt} = \mu\pi(1, t) \\ \frac{d\pi(1, t)}{dt} = -\mu\pi(1, t) \end{cases}$$

If  $\pi(0, 0) = 0$ ,  $\pi(1, 0) = 1$ , then

$$\pi(1, t) = e^{-\mu t}$$

and

$$\pi(0, t) = 1 - e^{-\mu t}$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

The probability that the transition takes place at some  $T \in [t, t + \delta t]$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f(t)\delta t &= P[\alpha(t + \delta t) = 0 \text{ and } \alpha(t) = 1] \\ &\approx P[\alpha(t + \delta t) = 0 | \alpha(t) = 1]P[\alpha(t) = 1] \\ &= (\mu\delta t)(e^{-\mu t}) \end{aligned}$$

The exponential density function is therefore  $f(t) = \mu e^{-\mu t}$  for  $t \geq 0$  and 0 for  $t < 0$ .

The time of the transition from 1 to 0 is said to be *exponentially distributed* with rate  $\mu$ .

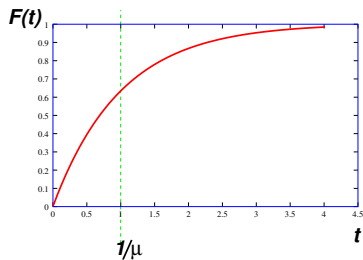
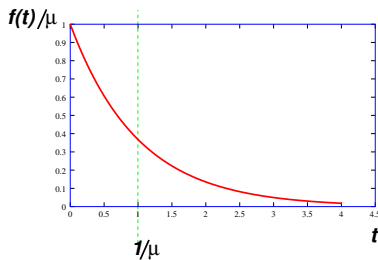
The expected transition time is  $\frac{1}{\mu} = \int_0^{\infty} te^{-\mu t}$ .



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution

- $f(t) = \mu e^{-\mu t}$  for  $t \geq 0$ ;  $f(t) = 0$  otherwise;  
 $F(t) = 1 - e^{-\mu t}$  for  $t \geq 0$ ;  $F(t) = 0$  otherwise.
- $ET = 1/\mu$ ,  $V_T = 1/\mu^2$ . Therefore,  $\sigma = ET$  so  $cv=1$ .

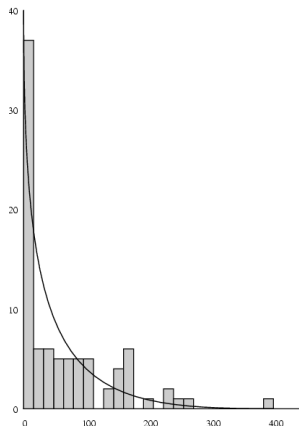


# Markov processes

## Exponential

### *Density function*

Exponential density function and a small number of samples.



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Exponential distribution: some properties

- Memorylessness:

$$P(T > t + x | T > x) = P(T > t)$$

- $P(t \leq T \leq t + \delta t | T \geq t) \approx \mu \delta t$  for small  $\delta t$ .

# Discrete state, continuous time

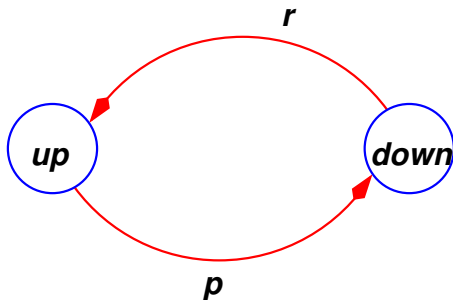
## Exponential distribution: some properties

- If  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  are independent exponentially distributed random variables with parameters  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n$ , and
- $T = \min(T_1, \dots, T_n)$ , then
- $T$  is an exponentially distributed random variable with parameter  $\mu = \mu_1 + \dots + \mu_n$ .
- Consequently, the time that the system stays in any state is exponentially distributed. ▼

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Unreliable machine

Continuous time unreliable machine.



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Unreliable machine

From the *Law of Total Probability*:

$$P(\{\text{the machine is up at time } t + \delta t\}) =$$

$$P(\{\text{the machine is up at time } t + \delta t \mid \text{the machine was up at time } t\}) \times \\ P(\{\text{the machine was up at time } t\}) +$$

$$P(\{\text{the machine is up at time } t + \delta t \mid \text{the machine was down at time } t\}) \times \\ P(\{\text{the machine was down at time } t\}) \\ + o(\delta t)$$

and similarly for  $P(\{\text{the machine is down at time } t + \delta t\})$ .

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Unreliable machine

*Probability distribution notation and dynamics:*

$\pi(1, t)$  = the probability that the machine is up at time  $t$ .

$\pi(0, t)$  = the probability that the machine is down at time  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{the machine is up at time } t + \delta t \mid \text{the machine was up at time } t) \\ = 1 - p\delta t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{the machine is up at time } t + \delta t \mid \text{the machine was down at time } t) \\ = r\delta t \end{aligned}$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Unreliable machine

Therefore

$$\pi(1, t + \delta t) = (1 - p\delta t)\pi(1, t) + r\delta t\pi(0, t) + o(\delta t)$$

Similarly,

$$\pi(0, t + \delta t) = p\delta t\pi(1, t) + (1 - r\delta t)\pi(0, t) + o(\delta t)$$



# Discrete state, continuous time

## Unreliable machine

or,

$$\pi(1, t + \delta t) - \pi(1, t) = -p\delta t\pi(1, t) + r\delta t\pi(0, t) + o(\delta t)$$

or,

$$\frac{\pi(1, t + \delta t) - \pi(1, t)}{\delta t} = -p\pi(1, t) + r\pi(0, t) + \frac{o(\delta t)}{\delta t}$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

or,

$$\frac{d\pi(1, t)}{dt} = \pi(0, t)r - \pi(1, t)p$$

$$\frac{d\pi(0, t)}{dt} = -\pi(0, t)r + \pi(1, t)p$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine

### *Solution*

$$\pi(0, t) = \frac{p}{r+p} + \left[ \pi(0, 0) - \frac{p}{r+p} \right] e^{-(r+p)t}$$

$$\pi(1, t) = 1 - \pi(0, t).$$

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(0) &\rightarrow \frac{p}{r+p}, \\ \pi(1) &\rightarrow \frac{r}{r+p}\end{aligned}$$

# Markov processes

## Unreliable machine

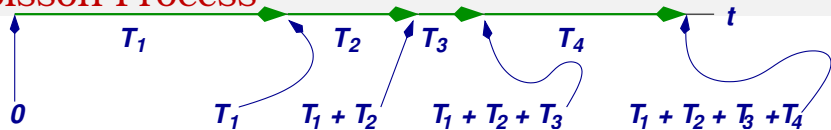
Note that  $MTTF=1/p$ ;  $MTTR=1/r$ . Units are natural time units, not operation times.

If the machine makes  $\mu$  parts per time unit on the average when it is operational, the steady-state average production rate is

$$\mu\pi(1) = \mu \frac{r}{r+p} = \mu \frac{MTTF}{MTTF + MTTR} = \mu e$$

# Discrete state, continuous time

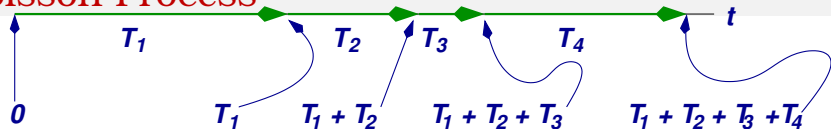
## Poisson Process



- Let  $T_i, i = 1, \dots$  be a set of independent exponentially distributed random variables with parameter  $\lambda$ . Each random variable may represent the time between occurrences of a repeating event.
  - ★ Examples: customer arrivals, clicks of a Geiger counter
- Then  $\sum_{i=1}^n T_i$  is the time required for  $n$  such events.

# Discrete state, continuous time

## Poisson Process

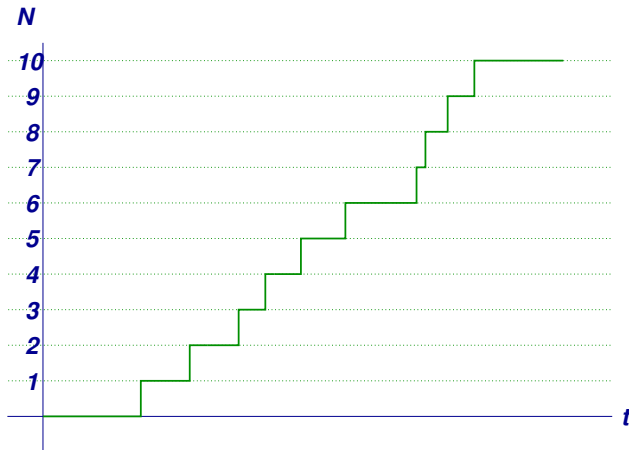


- *Informally:*  $N(t)$  is the number of events that occur between 0 and  $t$ .
- *Formally:* Define
 
$$N(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } T_1 > t \\ n & \text{such that } \sum_{i=1}^n T_i \leq t, \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} T_i > t \end{cases}$$
- Then  $N(t)$  is a *Poisson process* with parameter  $\lambda$ .

# Queueing theory

## $M/M/1$ Queue

Number of events  $N(t)$  during  $[0, t]$



# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue



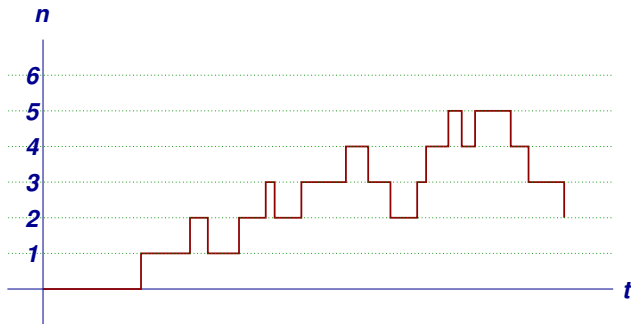
- Simplest model is the  $M/M/1$  queue:
  - ★ Exponentially distributed inter-arrival times — mean is  $1/\lambda$ ;  $\lambda$  is *arrival rate* (customers/time). (*Poisson arrival process.*)
  - ★ Exponentially distributed service times — mean is  $1/\mu$ ;  $\mu$  is *service rate* (customers/time).
  - ★ The arrival and service processes are independent.
  - ★ 1 server.
  - ★ Infinite waiting area.
- Define the *utilization*  $\rho = \lambda/\mu$ .



# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue

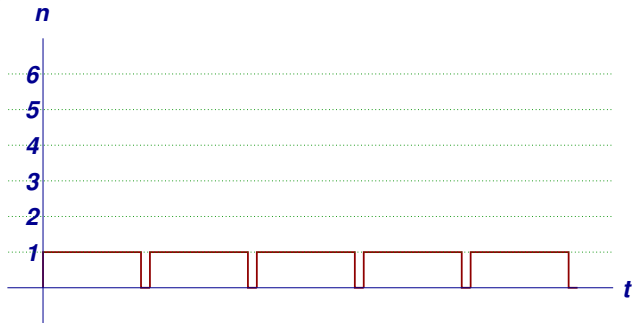
Number of customers in the system as a function of time for a M/M/1 queue.



# Queueing theory

## D/D/1 Queue

Number of customers in the system as a function of time for a D/D/1 queue.

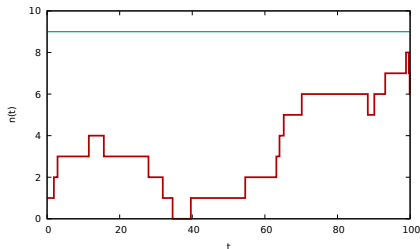


# Queueing theory

## Sample path

- Suppose customers arrive in a Poisson process with *average* inter-arrival time  $1/\lambda = 1$  minute; and that service time is exponentially distributed with *average* service time  $1/\mu = 54$  seconds.

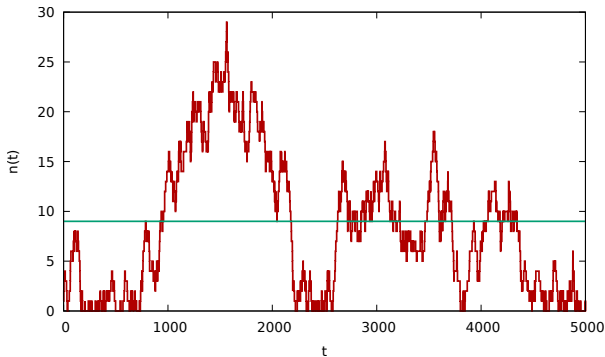
★ The average number of customers in the system is 9.



Queue behavior over a short time interval — initial transient

# Queueing theory

## Sample path

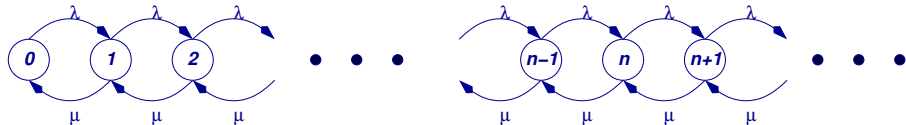


Queue behavior over a long time interval

# Queueing theory

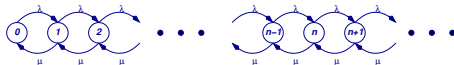
## M/M/1 Queue

### State space



# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue



Let  $\pi(n, t)$  be the probability that there are  $n$  parts in the system at time  $t$ . Then,

For  $n > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(n, t + \delta t) = & \pi(n-1, t)\lambda\delta t + \pi(n+1, t)\mu\delta t + \\ & \pi(n, t)(1 - (\lambda\delta t + \mu\delta t)) + o(\delta t) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\pi(0, t + \delta t) = \pi(1, t)\mu\delta t + \pi(0, t)(1 - \lambda\delta t) + o(\delta t).$$

# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue

Or,

$$\frac{d\pi(n, t)}{dt} = \pi(n-1, t)\lambda + \pi(n+1, t)\mu - \pi(n, t)(\lambda + \mu), \quad n > 0$$

$$\frac{d\pi(0, t)}{dt} = \pi(1, t)\mu - \pi(0, t)\lambda.$$

If a steady state distribution exists, it satisfies

$$0 = \pi(n-1)\lambda + \pi(n+1)\mu - \pi(n)(\lambda + \mu), \quad n > 0$$

$$0 = \pi(1)\mu - \pi(0)\lambda.$$

Why “if”?

# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue – Steady State

Let  $\rho = \lambda/\mu$ . These equations are satisfied by

$$\pi(n) = (1 - \rho)\rho^n, n \geq 0$$

if  $\rho < 1$ .

The average number of parts in the system is

$$\bar{n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n\pi(n) = \frac{\rho}{1 - \rho} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu - \lambda}.$$



# Queueing theory

## Little's Law

- True for most systems of practical interest (*not just  $M/M/1$* ).
- Steady state only.
- $L$  = the average number of customers in a system.
- $W$  = the average delay experienced by a customer in the system.

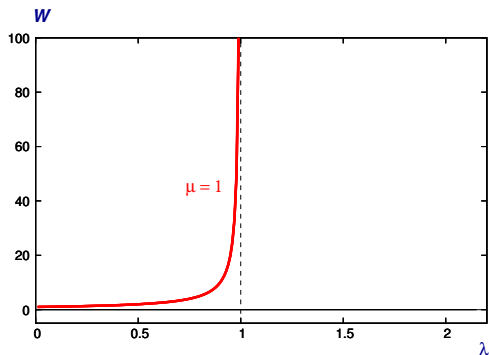
$$L = \lambda W$$

In the  $M/M/1$  queue,  $L = \bar{n}$  and

$$W = \frac{1}{\mu - \lambda}.$$

# Queueing theory

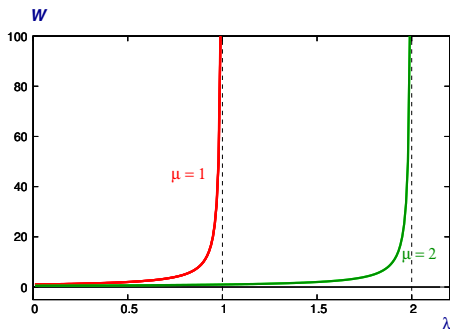
## M/M/1 Queue capacity



- $\mu$  is the *capacity* of the system.
- If  $\lambda < \mu$ , system is stable and waiting time remains bounded.
- If  $\lambda > \mu$ , waiting time grows over time.

# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue capacity



- To increase capacity, increase  $\mu$ .
- To decrease delay for a given  $\lambda$ , increase  $\mu$ .

# Queueing theory

## Other Single-Stage Models

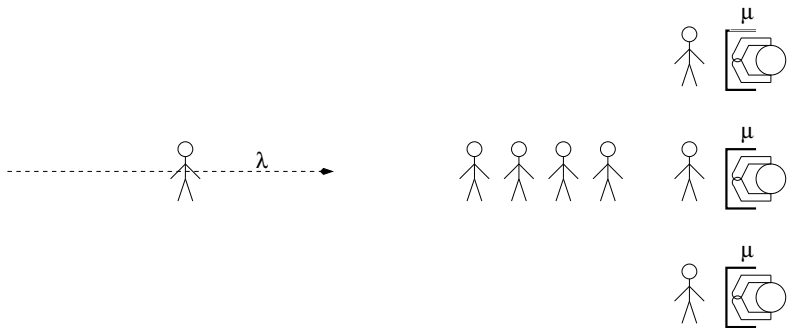
Things get more complicated when:

- There are multiple servers.
- There is finite space for queueing.
- The arrival process is not Poisson.
- The service process is not exponential.

Closed formulas and approximations exist for some, but not all, cases.

# Queueing theory

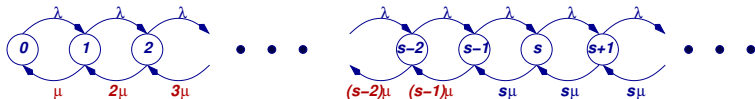
## M/M/s Queue



s-Server Queue,  $s = 3$

# Queueing theory

## M/M/s Queue



- The departure rate when there are  $k > s$  customers in the system is  $s\mu$  since all  $s$  servers are always busy.
- The departure rate when there are  $k \leq s$  customers in the system is  $k\mu$  since only  $k$  of the servers are busy.

# Queueing theory

## M/M/s Queue

$$P(k) = \begin{cases} \pi(0) \frac{s^k \rho^k}{k!}, & k \leq s \\ \pi(0) \frac{s^s \rho^k}{s!}, & k > s \end{cases}$$

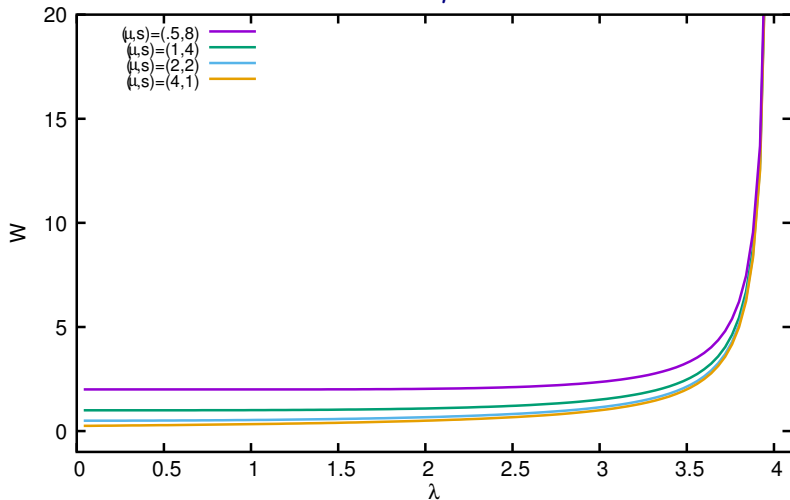
where

$$\rho = \frac{\lambda}{s\mu} < 1; \quad \pi(0) \text{ chosen so that } \sum_k P(k) = 1$$

# Queueing theory

## M/M/s Queue

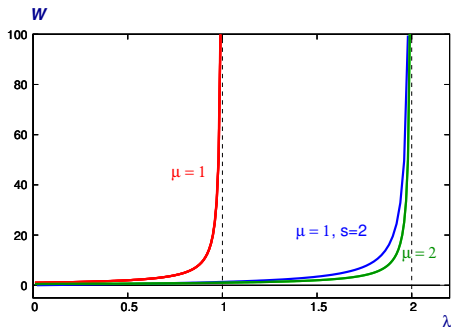
$W$  vs.  $\lambda$ ;  $s\mu = 4$





# Queueing theory

## M/M/1 Queue capacity



To increase capacity or reduce delay,

- increase  $\mu$ , or
- add servers in parallel  
... but that will not reduce delay as much.

# Queueing theory

## Networks of Queues

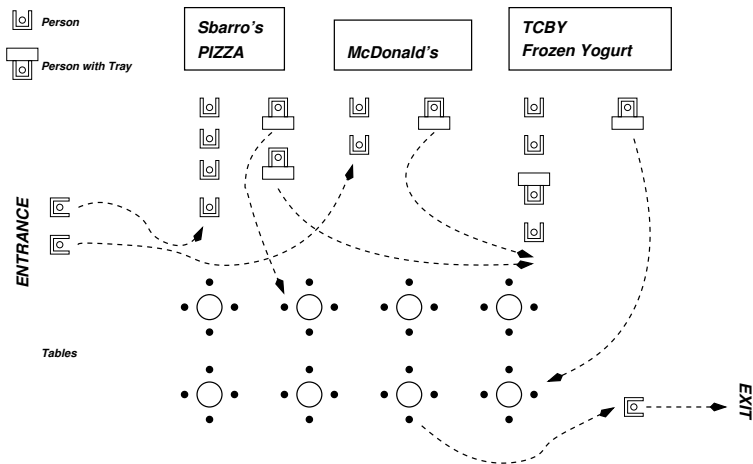
- Set of queues where customers can go to another queue after completing service at a queue.
- *Open network*: where customers enter and leave the system.  $\lambda$  is known and we must find  $L$  and  $W$ .
- *Closed network*: where the population of the system is constant.  $L$  is known and we must find  $\lambda$  and  $W$ .

# Queueing theory

## Networks of Queues

### *Examples of open networks*

- internet traffic
- emergency room (*arrive*, triage, waiting room, treatment, tests, *exit* or *hospital admission*)
- food court
- airport (*arrive*, ticket counter, security, passport control, gate, *board plane*)
- factory with no *centralized* material flow control after material enters

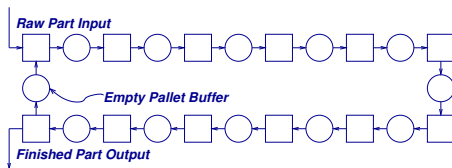


# Queueing theory

## Networks of Queues

### *Examples of closed networks*

- factory with limited fixtures or pallets



- factory with material controlled by keeping the number of items constant (CONWIP)

# Queueing theory

## Jackson Networks

Queueing networks are often modeled as *Jackson networks*.

- Relatively easy to compute performance measures (capacity, average time in system, average queue lengths).
- Easily provides intuition.
- Easy to optimize and to use for design.
- Valid (or good approximation) for a large class of systems ...

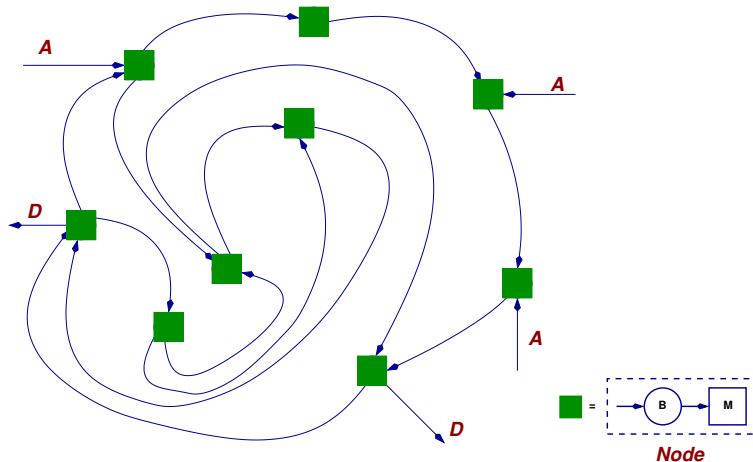
# Queueing theory

## Jackson Networks

- ... but not all. Storage areas must be assumed to be infinite (which means blocking is assumed not to happen).
- ★ This assumption leads to bad results for systems with bottlenecks at locations other than the first station.

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks





# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

- Items *arrive* from outside the system to node  $i$  according to a Poisson process with rate  $\alpha_i$ .
- $\alpha_i > 0$  for at least one  $i$ .
- When an item's service at node  $i$  is finished, it goes to node  $j$  next with probability  $p_{ij}$ .
- If  $p_{i0} = 1 - \sum_j p_{ij} > 0$ , items *depart* from the network from node  $i$ .
- $p_{i0} > 0$  for at least one  $i$ .
- We will focus on the special case in which each node has a single server with exponential processing time. The service rate of node  $i$  is  $\mu_i$ .

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

### *Goals of analysis:*

- to determine if the system is feasible
- to determine how much inventory is in this system (on the average) and how it is distributed
- to determine the average waiting time at each node and the average time a part spends in the system.

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

- Define  $\lambda_i$  as the total arrival rate of items to node  $i$ . This includes items entering the network at  $i$  and items coming from all other nodes.
- $p_{ji}\lambda_j$  is the portion of the flow arriving at node  $j$  that goes to node  $i$ .
- Then  $\lambda_i = \alpha_i + \sum_j p_{ji}\lambda_j$
- In matrix form, let  $\lambda$  be the vector of  $\lambda_i$ ,  $\alpha$  be the vector of  $\alpha_i$ , and  $P$  be the matrix of  $p_{ij}$ . Then

$$\lambda = \alpha + P^T \lambda$$

- Solving for  $\lambda$ ,

$$\lambda = (I - P^T)^{-1} \alpha$$

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

*Probability distribution:*

- If  $\lambda_i < \mu_i$  for each  $i$ , define  $\rho_i = \lambda_i / \mu_i$  and

$$\pi_i(n_i) = (1 - \rho_i)\rho_i^{n_i}$$

- This is the solution of an M/M/1 queue with arrival rate  $\lambda_i$  calculated on the previous slide and service rate  $\mu_i$  specified by the given problem data.
- If  $\lambda_i \geq \mu_i$  for some  $i$ , *the demand is not feasible*. The system cannot handle the demand placed on it.

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

### *Solution:*

- Define  $\pi(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k)$  to be the steady-state probability that there are  $n_i$  items at node  $i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

- Then the probability distribution for the entire system is

$$\pi(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) = \prod_i \pi_i(n_i)$$

- At each node  $i$

$$\bar{n}_i = En_i = \frac{\rho_i}{1 - \rho_i}$$

# Queueing theory

## Open Jackson Networks

- The solution is product form. It says that the probability of the system being in a given state is the product of the probabilities of the queue at each node being in the corresponding state.
- This exact analytic formula is the reason that the Jackson network model is of interest. It is relatively easy to use to calculate the performance of a complex system.
- The product form solution holds for some more general cases.
- However, it is restricted to models of systems with unlimited storage space. *Consequently, it cannot model blocking.*
  - ★ It is a good approximation for systems where blocking is rare, for example when the arrival rate of material is much less than the capacity of the system.
  - ★ It will not work so well where blocking occurs often.

# Queueing theory

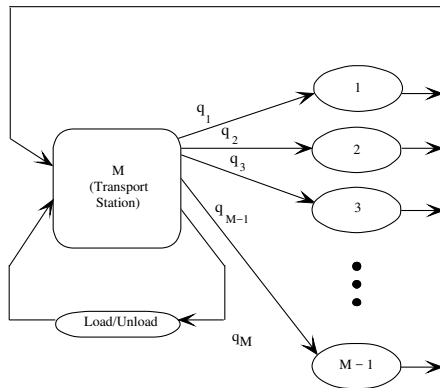
## Closed Jackson Networks

- Consider an extension in which
  - ★  $\alpha_i = 0$  for all nodes  $i$ .
  - ★  $p_{i0} = 1 - \sum_j p_{ij} = 0$  for all nodes  $i$ .
- Then
  - ★ Since nothing is entering and nothing is departing from the network, the number of items in the network is *constant* .  
That is,  $\sum_i n_i(t) = N$  for all  $t$ .
  - ★  $\lambda_i = \sum_j p_{ji} \lambda_j$  does not have a unique solution.
  - ★ This means that a different solution approach is needed to analyze the system. It is used in the example that follows.

# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

Solberg's "CANQ" model.



Let  $\{p_{ij}\}$  be the set of routing probabilities, as defined on Slide 89.

$$p_{iM} = 1 \text{ if } i \neq M$$

$$p_{Mj} = q_j \text{ if } j \neq M$$

$$p_{ij} = 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

Service rate at Station  $i$  is  $\mu_i$ .



# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

- Input data:  $M, N, q_j, \mu_j, s_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, M$ )
  - ★  $M$  = number of stations, including transportation system
  - ★  $N$  = number of pallets
  - ★  $q_j$  = fraction of parts going from the transportation system to Station  $j$
  - ★  $\mu_j$  = processing rate of machines at Station  $j$
  - ★  $s_j$  = number of machines at Station  $j$
- Output data:  $P, W, \rho_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, M$ )
  - ★  $P$  = production rate
  - ★  $W$  = average time a part spends in the system
  - ★  $\rho_j$  = utilization per machine of Station  $j$

# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

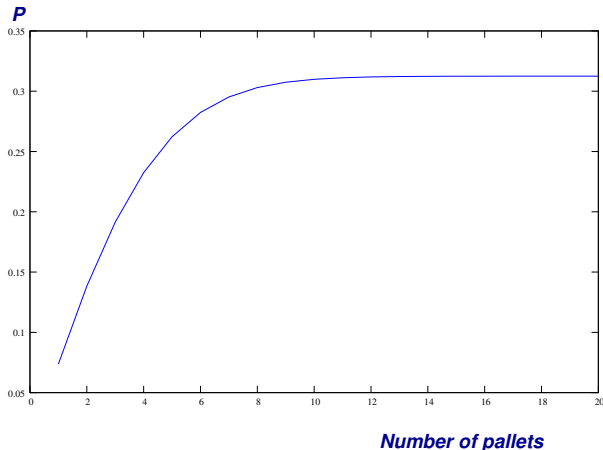
For the following graphs,

- Base input data:  $M, N, q_j, \mu_j, s_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, M$ )
  - ★  $M = 5$
  - ★  $N = 10$
  - ★  $q_j = .1, .2, .2, .25, .25$
  - ★  $1/\mu_j = 3., 4., 3.44, 1.41, 5.$
  - ★  $s_j = 2, 1, 2, 1, 15$

We see the effect of one of the variables on the performance measures in the following graphs.

# Queueing theory

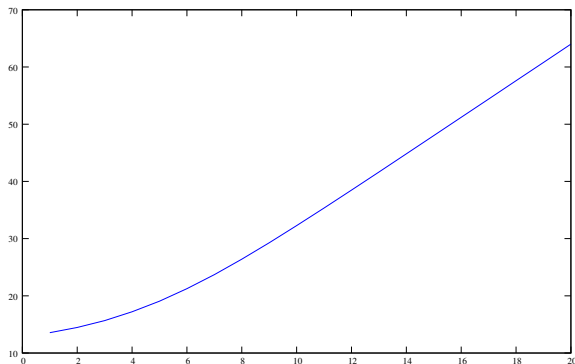
## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS



# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

*Average time in system*

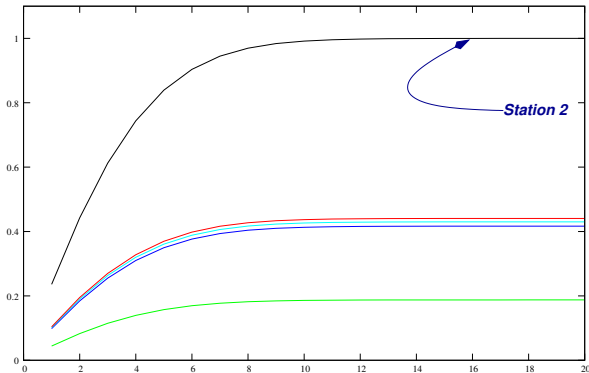


*Number of Pallets*

# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

*Utilization*

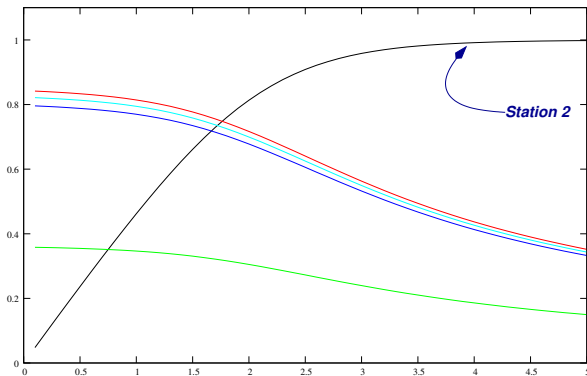


*Number of Pallets*

# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

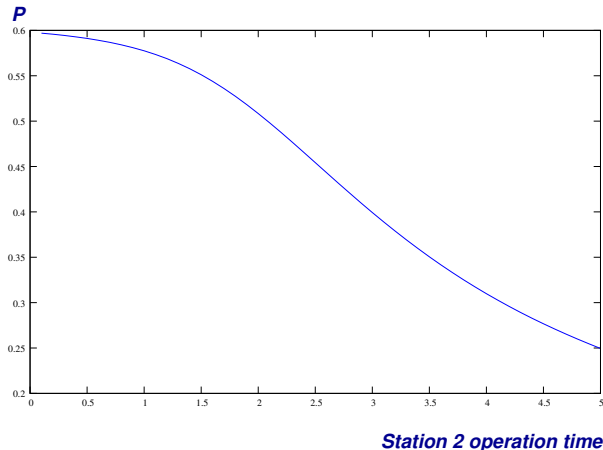
**Utilization**



**Station 2 operation time**

# Queueing theory

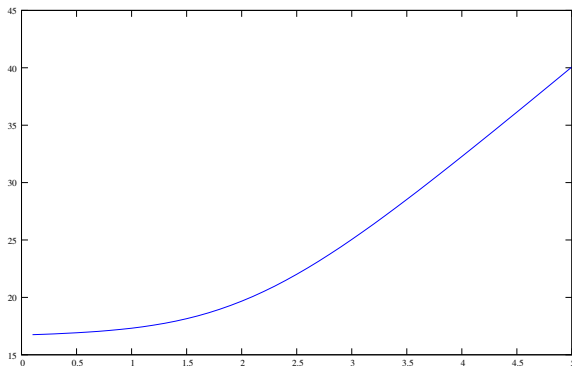
## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS



# Queueing theory

## Closed Jackson Network model of an FMS

*Average time in system*



*Station 2 operation time*