

Example Sheet 6: Queues

SOLUTIONS

(6-1)

For  $n=0$

$P_0(t+h) = P(0 \text{ customers in system at time } t+h)$

$= P(0 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive in } [t, t+h]) | 0 \text{ at time } t$   
 $+ P(1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h]) | 1 \text{ at time } t$   
 $+ \text{terms involving } h^2$

$= P_0(t) (1-h + \text{terms in } h^2)$   
 $+ P_1(t) (2h + \text{terms in } h^2)$   
 $+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$= P_0(t) - h P_0(t) + 2h P_1(t) + \text{terms in } h^2$

$$\frac{P_0(t+h) - P_0(t)}{h} = -P_0 + 2P_1 + \text{terms in } h$$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{dP_0}{dt} = -P_0 + 2P_1$$

$n \geq 1$

$P_n(t+h) = P(n \text{ customers in system at time } t+h)$

$= P(n-1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one arrives in } [t, t+h]) | (n-1 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ P(n \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive or served in } [t, t+h]) | n \text{ at time } t$   
 $+ P(n+1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h]) | (n+1 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ \text{terms involving } h^2$

$$P_n(t+h) = P_{n-1}(t) (h + \text{terms in } h^2) \quad (6-2)$$

$+ P_n(t) (1-h-2h + \text{terms in } h^2)$   
 $+ P_{n+1}(t) (2h + \text{terms in } h^2)$   
 $+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$$P_n(t+h) - P_n(t) = h P_{n-1}(t) - 3h P_n(t) + 2h P_{n+1}(t) + \text{terms in } h^2$$

$$\frac{P_n(t+h) - P_n(t)}{h} = P_{n-1} - 3P_n + 2P_{n+1} + \text{terms in } h$$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{dP_n}{dt} = P_{n-1} - 3P_n + 2P_{n+1} \quad n \geq 1$$

(b) Equilibrium probabilities  $P_0, P_1, P_2, \dots$

$$P_0 = 2P_1$$

$$P_1 = \frac{P_0}{2}$$

$$P_0 - 3P_1 + 2P_2 = 0$$

$$2P_2 = P_1$$

$$P_2 = \frac{P_1}{2} = \frac{P_0}{4}$$

$$P_1 - 3P_2 + 2P_3 = 0$$

$$2P_3 = P_2$$

$$P_3 = \frac{P_2}{2} = \frac{P_0}{8}$$

$$P_2 - 3P_3 + 2P_4 = 0$$

$$2P_4 = P_3$$

$$P_4 = \frac{P_3}{2} = \frac{P_0}{16}$$

$$P_n = \frac{P_0}{2^n} \quad n \geq 0$$

$$P_0 + P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + \dots = 1$$

$$P_0 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots \right) = 1$$

$$P_0 \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = 1$$

$$2P_0 = 1$$

$$P_0 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P_n = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \quad n \geq 0$$

(c)  $N$  = number of people in queue at equilibrium (excluding person currently being served)

$$\begin{aligned} E[N] &= 1 \cdot P_1 + 2 \cdot P_2 + 3 \cdot P_3 + 4 \cdot P_4 + \dots \\ &= 1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{8}\right) + 4 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{16}\right) + \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left( 1 + 2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$E[N^2] = 1^2 \cdot P_1 + 2^2 \cdot P_2 + 3^2 \cdot P_3 + 4^2 \cdot P_4 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[N^2] &= 1^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 3^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{8}\right) + 4^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{16}\right) + \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left( 1^2 + 2^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{\frac{1}{8}} \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var} N &= E[N^2] - (E[N])^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \\ &= \frac{5}{4} \end{aligned}$$

2 For  $n=0$

$P_0(t+h) = P(0 \text{ customers in system at time } t+h)$

$= P(0 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive in } [t, t+h]) + P(1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h]) + \text{terms involving } h^2$

$= P_0(t) (1 - \lambda h + \text{terms in } h^2) + P_1(t) (h + \text{terms in } h^2) + \text{terms in } h^2$

$= P_0(t) + h P_1(t) - 2h P_0(t) + \text{terms in } h^2$

$\frac{P_0(t+h) - P_0(t)}{h} = P_1 - 2P_0 + \text{terms in } h$

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Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

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$$\frac{dp_0}{dt} = p_1 - 2p_0$$

$n \geq 1$

$p_n(t+h) = P(n \text{ customers in system at time } t+h)$

$= P(n-1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one arrives in } [t, t+h] | n-1 \text{ at time } t)$

$+ P(n \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive or served in } [t, t+h] | n \text{ at time } t)$

$+ P(n+1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h] | n+1 \text{ at time } t)$

+ terms involving  $h^2$

$$= p_{n-1}(t) \left( \frac{2}{n} h + \text{terms involving } h^2 \right)$$

$$+ p_n(t) \left( 1 - \frac{2}{n} h - h + \text{terms involving } h^2 \right)$$

$$+ p_{n+1}(t) (h + \text{terms involving } h^2)$$

+ terms involving  $h^2$

$$p_{n+1}(t+h) - p_n(t) = \frac{2}{n} h p_{n-1} - \left( \frac{2}{n} + 1 \right) h p_n + h p_{n+1}$$

+ terms involving  $h^2$

$$\frac{p_{n+1} - p_n}{h} = \frac{2}{n} p_{n-1} - \left( \frac{2}{n} + 1 \right) p_n + p_{n+1}$$

+ terms in  $h$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

(6-6)

$$\frac{dp_n}{dt} = p_{n+1} + \frac{2}{n} p_{n-1} - \left( \frac{2}{n} + 1 \right) p_n \quad \text{for } n \geq 1$$

as required

Equilibrium probabilities  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots$

$$p_1 = 2p_0$$

$$p_2 + \frac{2}{1} p_0 - \left( \frac{2}{1} + 1 \right) p_1 = 0$$

$$p_2 = p_1 = 2p_0$$

$$p_3 + \frac{2}{2} p_1 - \left( \frac{2}{2} + 1 \right) p_2 = 0$$

$$p_3 = \frac{2}{3} p_2 = \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2p_0$$

$$p_4 + \frac{2}{3} p_2 - \left( \frac{2}{3} + 1 \right) p_3 = 0$$

$$p_4 = \frac{2}{4} p_3 = \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{1} \cdot \frac{2}{1} p_0 = \frac{2^4}{4!} p_0$$

Similarly  $p_5 = \frac{2^5}{5!} p_0, p_6 = \frac{2^6}{6!} p_0, \dots, p_n = \frac{2^n}{n!} p_0$

$$1 = p_0 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + \dots$$

$$= p_0 \left( 1 + \frac{2}{1} + \frac{2^2}{2!} + \frac{2^3}{3!} + \frac{2^4}{4!} + \dots \right)$$

$$= p_0 e^2$$

$$\left( 1 - \frac{2h}{h+2} + o(h^2) \right) (1 - \ell + o(h))$$

As  $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$

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Hence  $p_0 = e^{-2}$

$p_n = \frac{2^n}{n!} p_0 = \frac{2^n}{n!} e^{-2}$

Poisson mean 2.

3. Let  $p_n(t) = P(n \text{ lines occupied at time } t) \quad n=0,1,2,3,4$

$n=0$

$p_0(t+h) = P(0 \text{ lines occupied at time } t+h)$

$= P(0 \text{ lines occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(\text{no calls arrive in } [t, t+h] | 0 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ P(1 \text{ line occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(1 \text{ served in } [t, t+h] | 1 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$= p_0(t) (1 - \frac{2}{3}h + \text{terms in } h^2)$

$+ p_1(t) (\frac{1}{3}h + \text{terms in } h^2)$

$+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$p_0(t+h) - p_0(t) = -\frac{2}{3}p_0(t)h + \frac{1}{3}p_1(t)h + \text{terms in } h^2$

$\frac{p_0(t+h) - p_0(t)}{h} = -\frac{2}{3}p_0 + \frac{1}{3}p_1 + \text{terms in } h$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$\frac{dp_0}{dt} = -\frac{2}{3}p_0 + \frac{1}{3}p_1$

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Similarly for  $n=1$

$p_1(t+h) = P(1 \text{ line occupied at time } t+h)$

$= P(0 \text{ lines occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(1 \text{ call arrives in } [t, t+h] | 0 \text{ at time } t)$

$+ P(1 \text{ line occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(\text{none arrive or served in } [t, t+h] | 1 \text{ at time } t)$

$+ P(2 \text{ lines occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(1 \text{ served in } [t, t+h] | 2 \text{ at time } t)$

$+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$= p_0(t) (\frac{2}{3}h + \text{terms in } h^2)$

$+ p_1(t) (1 - \frac{2}{3}h - \frac{1}{3}h + \text{terms in } h^2)$

$+ p_2(t) (2 \cdot \frac{1}{3}h + \text{terms in } h^2)$

$+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$p_1(t+h) - p_1(t) = \frac{2}{3}p_0(t)h - \frac{5}{3}p_1(t)h + \frac{2}{3}p_2(t)h + \text{terms in } h^2$

$\frac{p_1(t+h) - p_1(t)}{h} = \frac{2}{3}p_0(t) - \frac{5}{3}p_1(t) + \frac{2}{3}p_2(t) + \text{terms in } h$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$\frac{dp_1}{dt} = \frac{2}{3}p_0 - \frac{5}{3}p_1 + \frac{2}{3}p_2$

Similarly

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$$\frac{dp_2}{dt} = \frac{4}{3} p_1 - \frac{6}{3} p_2 + \frac{3}{3} p_3$$

$$\frac{dp_3}{dt} = \frac{4}{3} p_2 - \frac{7}{3} p_3 + \frac{4}{3} p_4$$

$P_4(t+h) = P(4 \text{ lines occupied at time } t+h)$

$= P(4 \text{ lines occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(\text{no calls served in } [t, t+h]) / 4 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ P(3 \text{ lines occupied at time } t)$   
 $\times P(\text{one call arrives in } [t, t+h]) / 3 \text{ at time } t)$   
 $+ \text{terms in } h^2$

$$= P_4(t) (1 - 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} h + \text{terms in } h^2)$$

$$+ P_3(t) (\frac{4}{3} h + \text{terms in } h^2)$$

$$+ \text{terms in } h^2$$

$$P_4(t+h) - P_4(t) = -\frac{4}{3} P_4(t) h + \frac{4}{3} P_3(t) h + \text{terms in } h^2$$

$$\frac{P_4(t+h) - P_4(t)}{h} = -\frac{4}{3} P_4 + \frac{4}{3} P_3 + \text{terms in } h$$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{dp_4}{dt} = -\frac{4}{3} p_4 + \frac{4}{3} p_3$$

Equilibrium probabilities  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4$

$$\frac{1}{3} p_1 = \frac{4}{3} p_0$$

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$$p_1 = 4 p_0$$

$$\frac{4}{3} p_0 - \frac{5}{3} p_1 + \frac{2}{3} p_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{4}{3} p_1 = \frac{2}{3} p_2$$

$$p_2 = \frac{4}{2} p_1 = \frac{4}{2} \cdot \frac{4}{3} p_0 = \frac{4^2}{2!} p_0$$

$$\frac{4}{3} p_1 - \frac{6}{3} p_2 + \frac{3}{3} p_3 = 0$$

$$\frac{3}{3} p_3 = \frac{4}{3} p_2$$

$$p_3 = \frac{4}{3} p_2 = \frac{4^3}{3!} p_0$$

$$p_4 = p_3$$

$$1 = p_0 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4$$

$$= p_0 \left( 1 + 4 + \frac{4^2}{2} + \frac{4^3}{3!} + \frac{4^4}{4!} \right)$$

$$= p_0 (1 + 4 + 8 + 10.6667 + 10.6667)$$

$$= p_0 \times 34.3334$$

$$p_0 = 0.0291$$

$$p_4 = 10.6667 p_0 = 0.3107$$

31.07% of calls lost

If number of lines increased to six a similar argument gives

$$P_0, P_1 = \frac{4}{1!} P_0, P_2 = \frac{4^2}{2!} P_0, \dots, P_6 = \frac{4^6}{6!} P_0 \quad (6-11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= P_0 + P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + P_5 + P_6 \\ &= P_0 \left( 1 + 4 + \frac{4^2}{2!} + \frac{4^3}{3!} + \frac{4^4}{4!} + \frac{4^5}{5!} + \frac{4^6}{6!} \right) \\ &= P_0 (1 + 4 + 8 + 10.6667 + 10.6667 + 8.5334 + 5.6889) \\ &= P_0 \times 48.5557 \end{aligned}$$

$$P_0 = 0.0206$$

$$P_6 = 5.6889 \times P_0 = 0.1172$$

11.72% of calls lost

4 Let  $p_n(t) = P(n \text{ customers in the system at time } t)$

(a) For  $n=0$

$$\begin{aligned} P_0(t+h) &= P(0 \text{ customers in system at time } t+h) \\ &= P(0 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive in } [t, t+h]) + P(1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h]) \\ &\quad + \text{terms involving } h^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= P_0(t) (1 - 2h + \text{terms in } h^2) \\ &\quad + P_1(t) (h + \text{terms in } h^2) \\ &\quad + \text{terms in } h^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_0(t+h) - P_0(t) &= -2h P_0 + h P_1 + \text{terms in } h^2 \\ \frac{P_0(t+h) - P_0(t)}{h} &= -2P_0 + P_1 + \text{terms in } h \end{aligned}$$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{dP_0}{dt} = -2P_0 + P_1$$

$n=1$

$P_1(t+h) = P(1 \text{ customer in system at time } t+h)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= P(0 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one arrives in } [t, t+h]) + P(1 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{none arrive or served in } [t, t+h]) \\ &\quad + P(2 \text{ at time } t) P(\text{one served in } [t, t+h]) \\ &\quad + \text{terms in } h^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$= P_0(t) (2h + \text{terms in } h^2)$$

$$+ P_1(t) (1 - 2h - h + \text{terms in } h^2)$$

$$+ P_2(t) (2h + \text{terms in } h^2)$$

+ terms in  $h^2$

$$P_1(t+h) - P_1(t) = 2h P_0 - 3h P_1 + 2h P_2 + \text{terms in } h^2$$

$$\frac{P_1(t+h) - P_1(t)}{h} = 2P_0 - 3P_1 + 2P_2 + \text{terms in } h$$

Let  $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{dP_1}{dt} = 2P_0 - 3P_1 + 2P_2$$

Similarly

$$\frac{dp_2}{dt} = 2p_1 - 4p_2 + 3p_3$$

$$\frac{dp_3}{dt} = 2p_2 - 5p_3 + 4p_4$$

$$\frac{dp_4}{dt} = 2p_3 - 6p_4 + 4p_5$$

$$\frac{dp_5}{dt} = 2p_4 - 6p_5 + 4p_6$$

and for  $n \geq 6$

$$\frac{dp_n}{dt} = 2p_{n-1} - 6p_n + 4p_{n+1}$$

Equilibrium queue size distribution  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots$

$$2p_0 = p_1$$

$$p_1 = 2p_0$$

$$2p_0 - 3p_1 + 2p_2 = 0$$

$$2p_1 = 2p_2$$

$$p_2 = p_1 = 2p_0$$

$$2p_1 - 4p_2 + 3p_3 = 0$$

$$2p_2 = 3p_3$$

$$p_3 = \frac{2}{3} p_2 = \frac{4}{3} p_0$$

$$2p_2 - 5p_3 + 4p_4 = 0$$

$$2p_3 = 4p_4$$

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$$p_4 = \frac{2}{4} p_3 = \frac{2}{3} p_0$$

$$2p_3 - 6p_4 + 4p_5 = 0$$

$$p_5 = \frac{2}{4} p_4 = \frac{1}{3} p_0$$

$$\text{Similarly } p_6 = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} p_0, \quad p_7 = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 p_0$$

$$p_n = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-5} p_0 \quad n \geq 3$$

$$1 = p_0 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + \dots$$

$$= p_0 \left(1 + 2 + 2 + \frac{4}{3} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \dots\right)$$

$$= p_0 \left[5 + \frac{4}{3} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots\right)\right]$$

$$= p_0 \left(5 + \frac{4/3}{1 - 1/2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{23}{3} p_0$$

$$p_0 = \frac{3}{23} \quad p_1 = \frac{6}{23} \quad p_2 = \frac{6}{23} \quad p_3 = \frac{4}{23}, \quad p_4 = \frac{2}{23}, \quad p_5 = \frac{1}{23}$$

$$p_n = \frac{1}{23} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-5} \quad n \geq 3$$

(b) Expected queue size (excluding the customers currently being served)

$$EQ = 1 \cdot p_5 + 2 \cdot p_6 + 3 \cdot p_7 + 4p_8 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{23} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{23} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{23} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{23} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots$$

$$EQ = \frac{1}{23} \left( 1 + 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \right) \quad \boxed{6-15}$$

$$= \frac{1}{23} \left( \frac{1}{(1-\frac{1}{2})^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{4}{23}$$

(c) Expected time a typical individual spends in the system (including the service time)

$$E(S) = P_0 \cdot 1 + P_1 \cdot 1 + P_2 \cdot 1 + P_3 \cdot 1 + 2P_4 + 3P_5 + 4P_6 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{3}{23} + \frac{6}{23} + \frac{4}{23} + 2 \cdot \frac{2}{23} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{23} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{23} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{15}{23} + \frac{4}{23} \left( 1 + 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \dots \right)$$

$$= \frac{15}{23} + \frac{4}{23} \left( \frac{1}{(1-\frac{1}{2})^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{15}{23} + \frac{16}{23}$$

$$= \frac{31}{23}$$