

Facility Logistics Management

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Discrete distributions: Poisson

• **Poisson** random variable *X* with parameter $\lambda > 0$

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

• Expectation and variance

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \lambda$$
, $Var[X] = \lambda$

• Probability plot for $\lambda = 1, 5, 10$





Discrete distributions: Geometric

• Geometric random variable X is the number of trials till the first success (with probability *p*)

$$P(X = k) = (1 - p)^{k-1}p, \quad k = 1, 2, ...$$

• Expectation and variance

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X
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ho},\quad ext{Var}\left[X
ight]=rac{1-
ho}{
ho}$$

• Probability plot for success probability p = 0.9, 0.5, 0.2





Continuous distributions: Exponential

• Exponential random variable X with parameter (or rate) $\lambda > 0$ has density

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

• Distribution, expectation and variance

$$\mathsf{P}(X \le x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}, \quad \mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}, \quad \mathsf{Var}[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

• Probability density plot for $\lambda = 1, 2, 3$





Memoryless property of Exponential



• For all t, s > 0

P(X > t + s | X > s) = P(X > t)

• This follows from

$$P(X > t + s | X > s) = \frac{P(X > t + s, X > s)}{P(X > s)}$$

= $\frac{P(X > t + s)}{P(X > s)} = \frac{e^{-\lambda(t+s)}}{e^{-\lambda s}} = e^{-\lambda t}$

- In words: "Overshoot" of X at time s is again Exponential with parameter λ so used is as good as new!
- Alternative form for small $\Delta > 0$

$$\mathsf{P}(X \le s + \Delta | X > s) = 1 - e^{-\lambda \Delta} \approx \lambda \Delta$$



Variability interactions - Queueing

- Arrival process:
 - Arrivals can consist of single jobs or batches, there may be single or multiple flows
- Service (or production) process:
 - Station can have a single server, or multiple (non-) identical ones
 - Service discipline can be:
 - First-come first-served (FCFS)
 - Last-come first-served (LCFS)
 - Shortest process time first (SPTF)
 - Random
- Queue (or buffer):
 - There may be ample (unlimited) queue space, or limited (or even no) queue space



Variability interactions - Queueing



• *A*/*B*/*c* notation:

- A specifies distribution of inter-arrival times
- *B* distribution of the service times
- c number of servers
- Implicit assumption: Service is FCFS and unlimited queueing space
- Possible letters for distribution: *M* (Exponential), *U* (Uniform), *D* (Deterministic), *G* (General)
- Examples: *D*/*D*/1, *M*/*M*/1, *M*/*G*/1, *G*/*G*/*c*
- Extensions: *M*/*M*/1/*b* (Limited queueing space of *b* places)

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Poisson arrival flow

- Times between arrivals are independent and Exponential with rate λ
- Memoryless property

$$P(\text{arrival in } (t, t + \Delta)) = 1 - e^{-\lambda \Delta} \approx \lambda \Delta$$

So "truly unpredictable arrivals": in each small interval Δ there is an arrival with probability $\lambda \Delta$!

• Number of arrivals in interval (0, t) is Poisson distributed with parameter λt

P(k arrivals in (0, t)) =
$$e^{-\lambda t} \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!}$$
, $k = 0, 1, 2, ...$

• Clustered arrivals (since inter-arrival time density $f(x) = \lambda e^{\lambda x}$ is maximal for x = 0)

• Merging of two Poisson flows with rates λ_1 and λ_2 is again Poisson with rate $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2$, since

$$\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{arrival in}\ (t, t + \Delta)) \approx \lambda_1 \Delta + \lambda_2 \Delta = (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \Delta$$

• Random splitting of Poisson flow with rate λ and splitting probability p is again Poisson with rate $p\lambda$, since

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 $\mathsf{P}(\mathsf{arrival} \mathsf{ in } (t, t + \Delta)) \approx \lambda \Delta p = p \lambda \Delta$



Single Exponential server

- Poisson arrivals with rate λ and single server with Exponential service times with rate μ
- Stability: $\rho = \lambda/\mu < 1$
- *p_i* is long-run probability (or fraction of time) of finding *i* jobs in the system



- Balance equations: Flow from state *i* to i 1 = Flow from state i 1 to *i*
- Balance equations: $p_i \mu = p_{i-1} \lambda$

$$p_i = p_{i-1} \frac{\lambda}{\mu} = p_{i-2} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^2 = \dots = p_0 \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^i = p_0 \rho^i$$

• p_0 is probability that server is idle: $p_0 = 1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu} = 1 - \rho$

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