



Exam Applied Stochastic Modeling

15 February 2006, duration: 3 hours

This exam consists of 4 problems, each consisting of several questions.

All answers should be motivated, including calculations, formulas used, etc.

It is allowed to use 1 sheet of paper (or 2 sheets written on one side) with **hand-written** notes.

The minimal note is 1. Question 1 can give 3 points, questions 2, 3 and 4 can give 2 points.

The use of a calculator and a dictionary are allowed.

Tables of the Poisson distribution and the standard normal distribution are attached.

1. Consider a system with 3 machines and 2 repairmen. Machines fail independently with rate λ . Each repairman repairs machines at rate μ . When one machine is down then only one repairman can work, when 2 or more machines are down both work.
 - a. Model this system as a birth-death process.
 - b. Calculate the stationary distribution and use this to derive the long-run expected number of machines that are functioning.
 - d. Derive the long-run distribution at moments that a machine fails.
 - e. Use this to derive the distribution of the long-run average time a machine waits before it is taken into service and calculate its expectation.

2. Consider a continuous-time multi-order deterministic-demand continuous-product inventory model with $\lambda = 5$, $K = 10$, $h = 1$ and $L = 1$.
 - a. Compute the optimal re-order level and re-order size.Now demand is stochastic; it occurs according to a Poisson process with rate $\lambda = 5$. For the rest the system is the same. Items that are not available are backordered.
 - b. We use the same re-order policy. Estimate the probability that backorders occur in a cycle.
 - c. It is the objective to avoid backorders in at least 9 out of 10 cycles. How should we choose the re-order policy to achieve this?

3. The numbers of arrivals to a service center are noted during 100 days. The number at day i is given by x_i . We have $\sum_{i=1}^{100} x_i = 1763$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{100} (x_i - 17.63)^2 = 2351$.

- a. Give a 95% confidence interval for the expected number of arrivals on a day.
- b. Somebody thinks that the number of arrivals per day has a Poisson distribution. Is this likely to be the case? Motivate your answer.

4. Consider an $M|G|1$ queue with arrival rate 0.5 and service time distribution $S = X + Y$, with X and Y both exponentially distributed with rates 1 and 2, respectively.

- a. Calculate $\mathbb{E}S$, $\mathbb{E}S^2$, $\sigma^2(S)$ and $c^2(S)$.
- b. Calculate the expected waiting time and the expected sojourn time for the $M|G|1$ queue.
- c. What is the probability that an arbitrary arrival finds an empty system?

Table with value of $P(X > k)$ with X with a Poisson distributed random variable with mean μ

[illegible]

Table with value of $P(0 < X < x+y)$ with X a random variable with a standard normal distribution

[illegible]