

MATH180C: Introduction to Stochastic Processes II

<https://mathweb.ucsd.edu/~ynemish/teaching/180c>

Today: Yule process. Death process

Next: PK 6.3

Week 2:

- HW1 due Friday, April 14 on Gradescope

The Yule process

$$(*) \begin{cases} \tilde{P}_1'(t) = -\beta \tilde{P}_1(t) & \tilde{P}_1(0) = 1 \\ \tilde{P}_2'(t) = -2\beta \tilde{P}_2(t) + \beta \tilde{P}_1(t) & \tilde{P}_2(0) = 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \tilde{P}_n'(t) = -n\beta \tilde{P}_n(t) + (n-1)\beta \tilde{P}_{n-1}(t) & \tilde{P}_n(0) = 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{cases}$$

The same system with shifted indices

$$\tilde{P}_1(t) = P_0(t) \quad \tilde{P}_n(t) = P_{n-1}(t) \quad \text{with } \lambda_n = \beta(n+1)$$

$$P_n(t) = \lambda_0 \cdots \lambda_{n-1} \left(B_{0n} e^{-\lambda_0 t} + \cdots + B_{nn} e^{-\lambda_n t} \right) \quad \lambda_0 \cdots \lambda_{n-1} = \beta^n n!$$

$$B_{kn} = \prod_{\substack{e=0 \\ e \neq k}}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_e - \lambda_k}$$

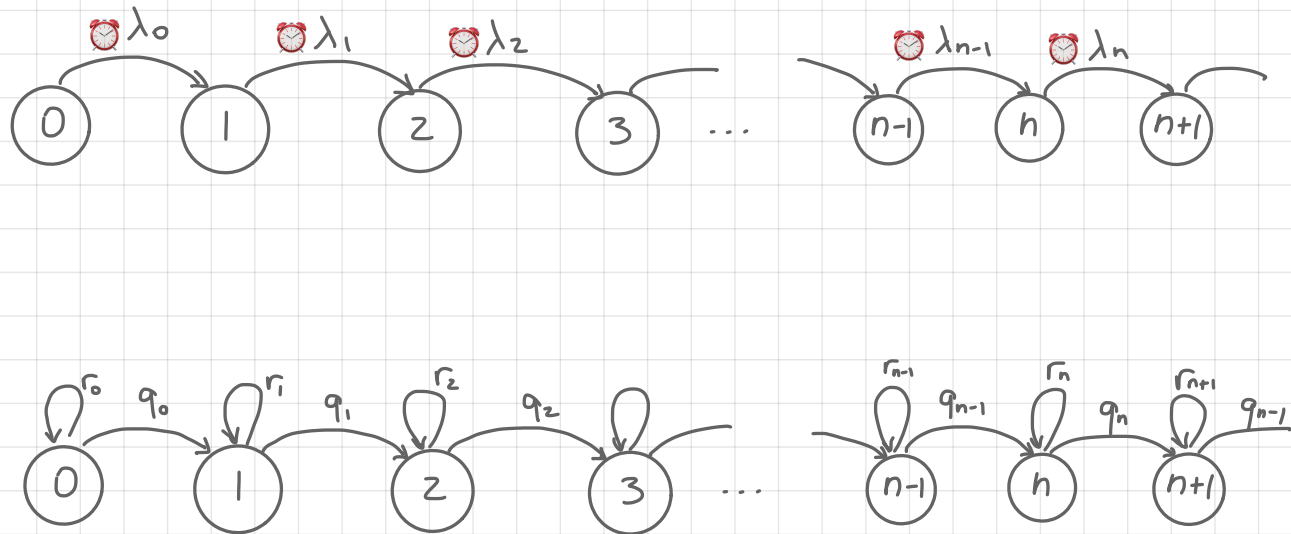
$$B_{kn} =$$

The Yule process

$$P_n(t) = \lambda_0 \cdots \lambda_{n-1} \left(B_{0n} e^{-\lambda_0 t} + \cdots + B_{nn} e^{-\lambda_n t} \right)$$

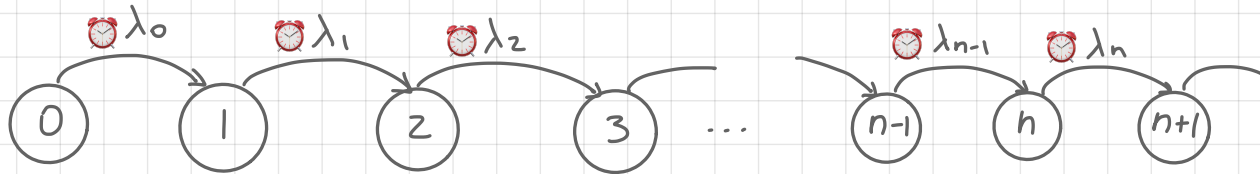
$$= \sum_{k=0}^n \cancel{\beta^n} n! \frac{(-1)^k}{\cancel{\beta^n} k! (n-k)!} e^{-\beta(n+1)t}$$

Graphical representation. Exponential sojourn times



Pure death processes

Pure birth process



What if the chain moves in the opposite direction?



Pure death process:

- exponential sojourn times with rates μ_i
- only negative jumps of magnitude 1 allowed

Pure death processes

Infinitesimal description:

Pure death process $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ of rates $(\mu_k)_{k=1}^N$ is a continuous time MC taking values in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1, N\}$ (state 0 is absorbing) with stationary infinitesimal transition probability functions

$$(a) P_{k, k-1}(h) = \mu_k h, \quad k=1, \dots, N$$

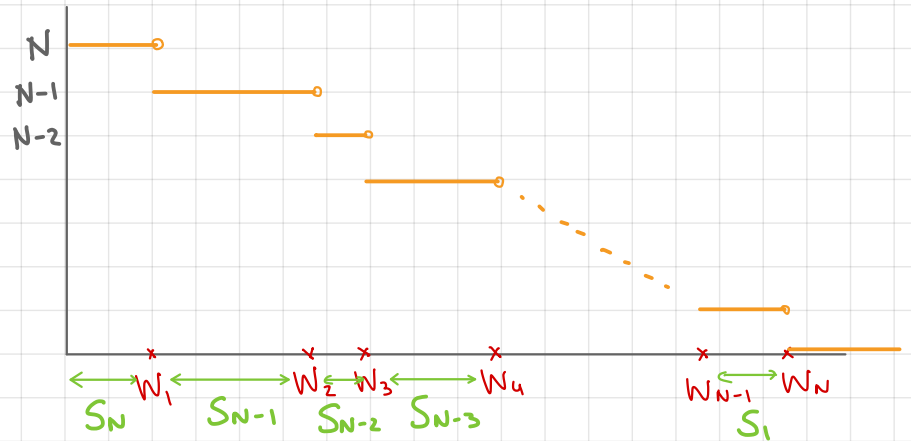
$$(b) P_{kk}(h) = -\mu_k h, \quad k=1, \dots, N$$

$$(c) P_{kj}(h) = 0 \quad \text{for } j > k.$$

State 0 is absorbing ($\mu_0 = 0$)

Pure death process

$$S_k \sim \text{Exp}(\mu_k)$$



Sojourn time / jump description:

Pure death process of rates $(\mu_k)_{k=1}^N$ is a nonincreasing right-continuous process taking values in $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$

- with sojourn times $S_1, S_2, S_3, \dots, S_N$ being independent exponential r.v.s of rates $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_N$ and
- jumps $X_{W_{i+1}} - X_{W_i} = -1$ of magnitude 1

Differential equations for pure birth processes

Define $P_n(t) = P(X_t = n \mid X_0 = N)$ distribution of X_t
↑ starting in state N

(a), (b), (c) implies (check)

$$\begin{cases} P_n'(t) = \\ P_N'(t) = \end{cases}$$

for $n = 0 \dots N-1$

(note that $\mu_0 = 0$)

Initial conditions:

Solve recursively: $P_N(t) = \dots \rightarrow P_{N-1}(t) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P_0(t)$

General solution (assume $\mu_i \neq \mu_j$)

$$P_n(t) = \mu_{n+1} \dots \mu_N \left(A_{n,n} e^{-\mu_n t} + \dots + A_{N,n} e^{-\mu_N t} \right), \quad A_{k,n} = \prod_{\substack{\ell=n \\ \ell \neq k}}^N \frac{1}{\mu_\ell - \mu_k}$$

Linear death process

Similar to Yule process:

death rate is proportional to the size of the population

Compute $P_n(t)$: • $\mu_{n+1} \cdots \mu_N = \alpha^{N-n} \frac{N!}{n!}$

$$\bullet A_{kn} = \prod_{\substack{e=n \\ e+k}}^N \frac{1}{\mu_e - \mu_k} = \frac{1}{\alpha^{N-n} (-1)^{n-k} (k-n)! (N-k)!}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu_e - \mu_k = \alpha(e-k) \end{array} \right.$$

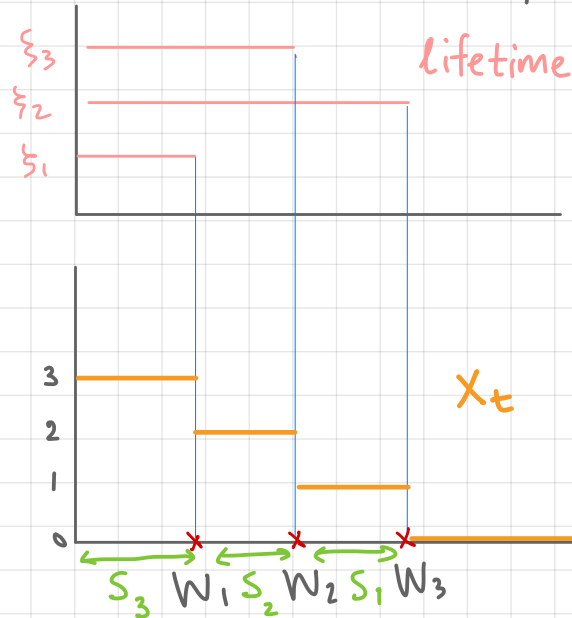
$$\bullet P_n(t) = \alpha^{N-n} \frac{N!}{n!} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha^{N-n}} \sum_{k=n}^N \frac{1}{(-1)^{n-k} (k-n)! (N-k)!} \cdot e^{-k\alpha t} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} j = k-n \\ k = j+n \end{array} \right.$$

$$= \frac{N!}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^{N-n} \frac{(-1)^j e^{-(j+n)\alpha t}}{j! (N-n-j)!}$$

$$= \frac{N!}{n!} e^{-n\alpha t} \sum_{j=0}^{N-n} \frac{1}{j! (N-n-j)!} (-e^{-\alpha t})^j = \frac{N!}{n! (N-n)!} e^{-n\alpha t} (1 - e^{-\alpha t})^{N-n}$$

Interpretation of $X_t \sim \text{Bin}(n, e^{-\alpha t})$

Consider the following process: Let $\xi_i, i=1 \dots N$, be i.i.d. r.v.s, $\xi_i \sim \text{Exp}(\alpha)$. Denote by X_t the number of ξ_i 's that are bigger than t (ξ_i is the lifetime of an individual, X_t = size of the population at t). $X_0 = N$.



Then: $S_k \sim$, independent

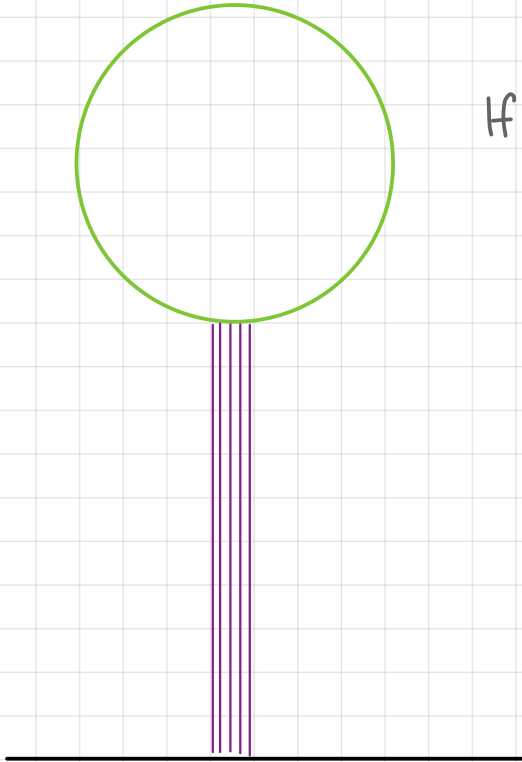
$\hookrightarrow (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a pure death process

Probability that an individual survives to time t is

Probability that exactly n individuals survive to time t is

$$\binom{N}{n} e^{-\alpha n t} (1 - e^{-\alpha t})^{N-n} = P(X_t = n)$$

Example . Cable

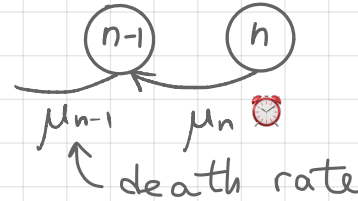
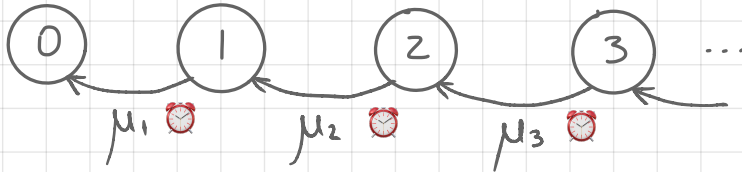
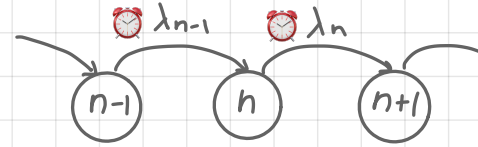
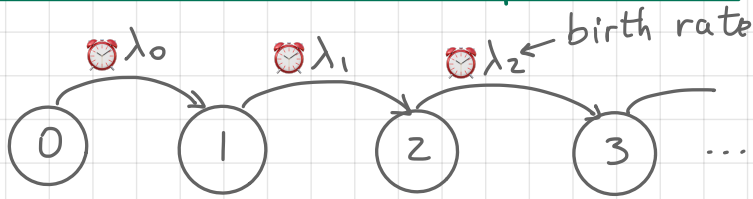


X_t = number of fibers in the cable

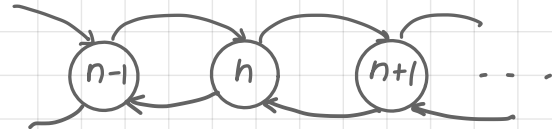
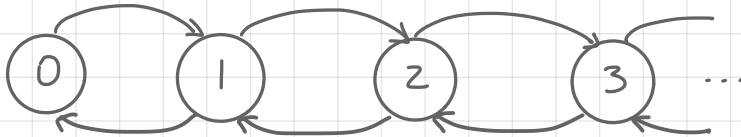
If a fiber fails, then this increases the load on the remaining fibers, which results in a shorter lifetime.

↳ pure death process

Birth and death processes



Combine both



Birth and death processes

Infinitesimal definition

Def. Let $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a continuous time MC, $X_t \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ with stationary transition probabilities. Then $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is called a birth and death process with birth rates (λ_k) and death rates (μ_k) if

1. $P_{i, i+1}(h) =$

2. $P_{i, i-1}(h) =$

3. $P_{i, i}(h) =$

4. $P_{ij}(0) = \left(P(X_0=j | X_0=i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases} \right)$

5. $\mu_0 = 0, \lambda_0 > 0, \lambda_i, \mu_i > 0$

Example: Linear growth with immigration

Dynamics of a certain population is described by the following principles:

during any small period of time of length h

- each individual gives birth to one new member with probability λh independently of other members;
- each individual dies with probability μh independently of other members;
- one external member joins the population with probability νh

Can be modeled as a Markov process

Example: Linear growth with immigration

Let $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ denote the size of the population.

Using a similar argument as for the Yule/pure death models:

- $P_{n,n+1}(h) =$

- $P_{n,n-1}(h) =$

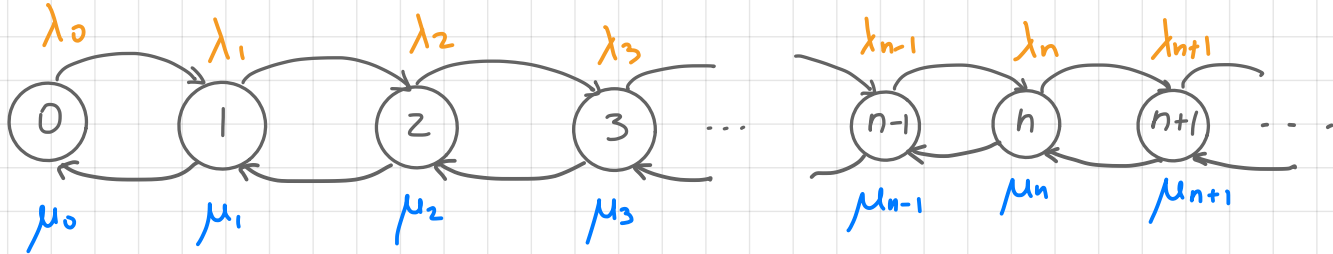
- $P_{n,n}(h) =$

↳ birth and death process with

$$\lambda_n =$$

$$\mu_n =$$

Alternative (jump and hold) characterization



Sojourn times S_k are independent,

Each transition has two parts

- wait in state i for time \sim
- then choose where to go:

go \rightarrow $(i+1)$ with probability $\frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_i + \mu_{i+1}}$

go \leftarrow $(i-1)$ with probability $\frac{\mu_{i+1}}{\lambda_i + \mu_{i+1}}$