

EP2200 Queuing theory and teletraffic systems

3rd lecture

Markov chains cont

Birth-death process

- Poisson process

Discrete time Markov chains

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Outline for today

Continuous time Markov-chains

- Recall: continuous time Markov chains
- Transient and steady state solutions
- Balance equations – local and global
- Birth-death process as special case
- Poisson process as special case

Discrete time Markov-chains

Continuous-time Markov chains (homogeneous case)

- Continuous time, discrete space stochastic process, with **Markov property**, that is:

$$P(X(t_{n+1}) = j \mid X(t_n) = i, X(t_{n-1}) = l, \dots, X(t_0) = m) =$$

$$P(X(t_{n+1}) = j \mid X(t_n) = i), \quad t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n < t_{n+1}$$

- State transition can happen in any point of time
- Determined by the transition intensity matrix

$$q_{ij} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(X(t + \Delta t) = j \mid X(t) = i)}{\Delta t}, \quad i \neq j$$

$$q_{ii} = -\sum_{i \neq j} q_{ij}$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{00} & q_{01} & \cdots & q_{0M} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \\ & & & q_{(M-1)M} \\ q_{M0} & \cdots & q_{M(M-1)} & q_{MM} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Continuous time Markov-chains

- Recall: continuous time Markov chains
- **Transient and steady state solutions**
- Balance equations – local and global
- Birth-death process as special case
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Discrete time Markov-chains

Transient solution

- The transient - time dependent – state probability distribution
- $\underline{p}(t) = \{p_0(t), p_1(t), p_2(t), \dots\}$ – probability of being in state i at time t , given $\underline{p}(0)$.

$$q_{ij} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(X(t + \Delta t) = j \mid X(t) = i)}{\Delta t} \Rightarrow P(X(t + \Delta t) = j \mid X(t) = i) = q_{ij}\Delta t + o(\Delta t)$$

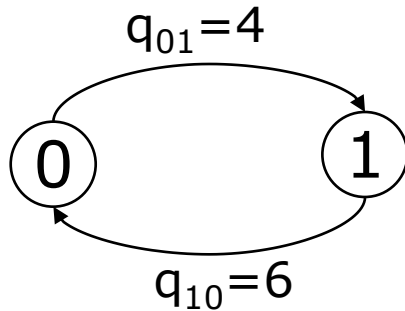
$$p_i(t + \Delta t) = p_i(t) - \underbrace{p_i(t) \sum_{j \neq i} q_{ij} \Delta t}_{\text{leaves the state}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j \neq i} p_j(t) q_{ji} \Delta t}_{\text{arrives to the state}} + o(\Delta t), \quad \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{o(\Delta t)}{\Delta t} = 0$$

$$p_i(t + \Delta t) - p_i(t) = p_i(t) q_{ii} \Delta t + \sum_{j \neq i} p_j(t) q_{ji} \Delta t + o(\Delta t) = \sum_j p_j(t) q_{ji} \Delta t + o(\Delta t) \quad \left(-\sum_{j \neq i} q_{ij} = q_{ii}\right)$$

$$\frac{p_i(t + \Delta t) - p_i(t)}{\Delta t} = \sum_j p_j(t) q_{ji} + \frac{o(\Delta t)}{\Delta t} \Rightarrow \frac{dp_i(t)}{dt} = \sum_j p_j(t) q_{ji}$$

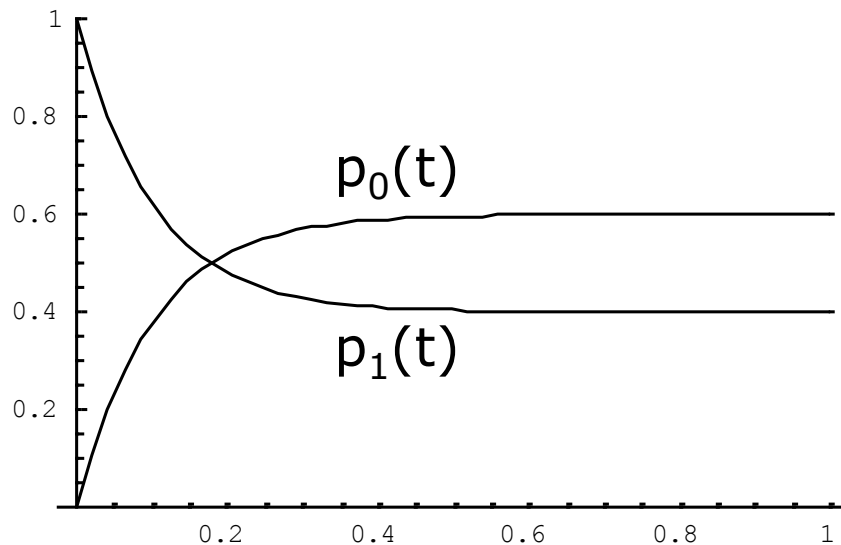
$$\frac{d\underline{p}(t)}{dt} = \underline{p}(t)\mathbf{Q}, \quad \underline{p}(t) = \underline{p}(0) \cdot e^{\mathbf{Q}t} \quad \text{Transient solution}$$

Example – transient solution

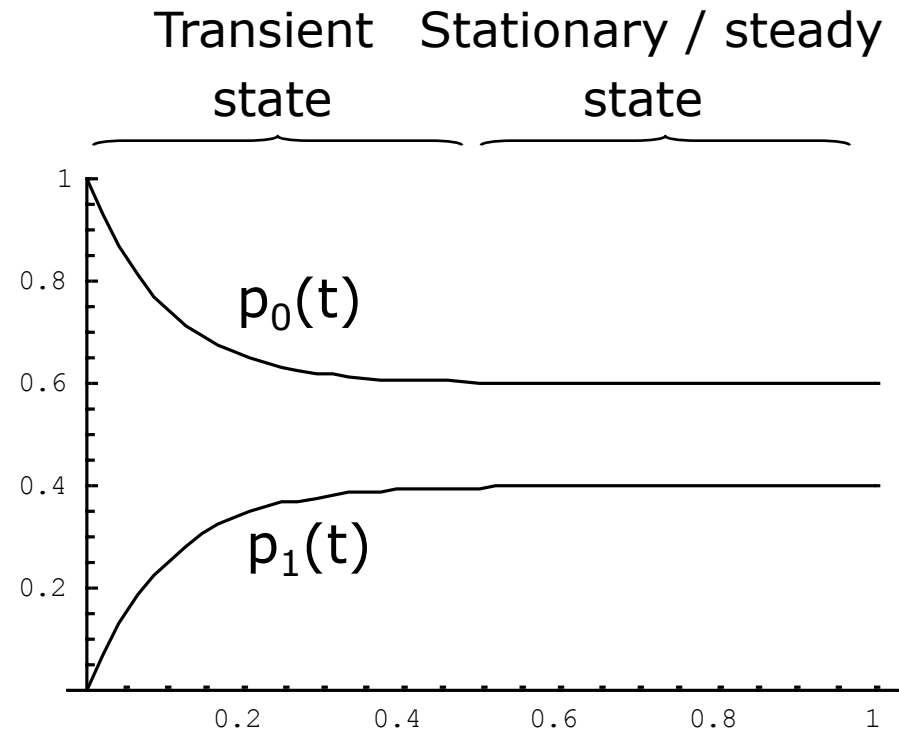


$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p(t) = p(0) \cdot e^{Qt}$$



A: $p_0(0)=0, p_1(0)=1$



B: $p_0(0)=1, p_1(0)=0$

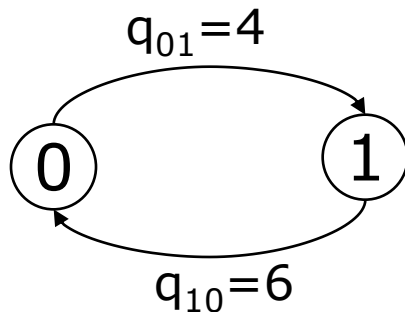
Stationary solution (steady state)

- Def: stationary state probability distribution (stationary solution)
 - $\underline{p} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p(t)$ exists
 - $\underline{p}$ is independent from $p(0)$
- The stationary solution $\underline{p}$ has to satisfy:

$$p(t)Q = \frac{dp(t)}{dt} = 0, \quad \sum p_i(t) = 1$$

Note: the rank of Q_{MM} is $M-1$!

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} q_{00} & q_{01} & \cdots & q_{0M} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \\ & & & q_{(M-1)M} \\ q_{M0} & \cdots & q_{M(M-1)} & q_{MM} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{aligned} [p_0, p_1] \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix} &= [0, 0], & p_0 + p_1 &= 1 \\ \hline p_0 &= 0.6, & p_1 &= 0.4 \end{aligned}$$

Stationary solution (steady state)

Important theorems – without the proof

- Stationary solution exists, if
 - The Markov chain is irreducible (there is a path between any two states) and
 - $\mathbf{pQ} = 0$, $\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{1} = 1$ has positive solution
- Equivalently, stationary solution exists, if
 - The Markov chain is irreducible
 - For all states: the mean time to return to the state is finite
- Finite state, irreducible Markov chains always have stationary solution.
- Markov chains with stationary solution are also ergodic:
 - p_i gives the portion of time a single realization spends in state i , and
 - the probability that one out of many realizations are in state i at arbitrary point of time

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- Recall: continuous time Markov chains
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- Balance equations – local and global
- Birth-death process as special case
- Poisson process as special case

Discrete time Markov-chains

Balance equations

- How can we find the stationary solution? $\underline{p}\mathbf{Q}=\underline{0}$

$$0 = \underline{p}\mathbf{Q} \Rightarrow$$

State 1:

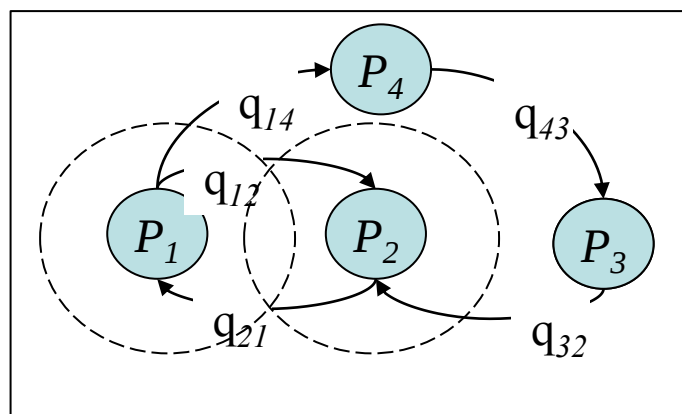
$$0 = -(q_{12} + q_{14})p_1 + q_{21}p_2$$

$$q_{21}p_2 = (q_{12} + q_{14})p_1$$

State 2:

$$0 = q_{12}p_1 - q_{21}p_2 + q_{32}p_3$$

$$\underbrace{q_{12}p_1 + q_{32}p_3}_{\text{flow in}} = \underbrace{q_{21}p_2}_{\text{flow out}}$$



$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} -(q_{12} + q_{14}) & q_{12} & 0 & q_{14} \\ q_{21} & -q_{21} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & q_{32} & -q_{32} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & q_{43} & -q_{43} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Global balance conditions
 - In equilibrium (for the stationary solution)
 - the transition rate out of a state – or a group of states - must equal the transition rate into the state (or states)
 - flow in = flow out
 - defines a global balance equation

Group work

- Global balance equation for state 1 and 2:

$$0 = pQ \Rightarrow$$

State 1:

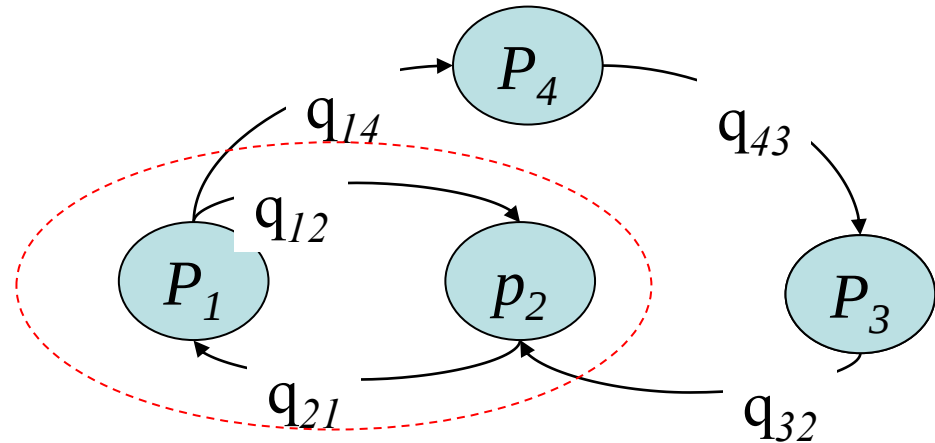
$$0 = -(q_{12} + q_{14})p_1 + q_{21}p_2$$

$$q_{21}p_2 = (q_{12} + q_{14})p_1$$

State 2:

$$0 = q_{12}p_1 - q_{21}p_2 + q_{32}p_3$$

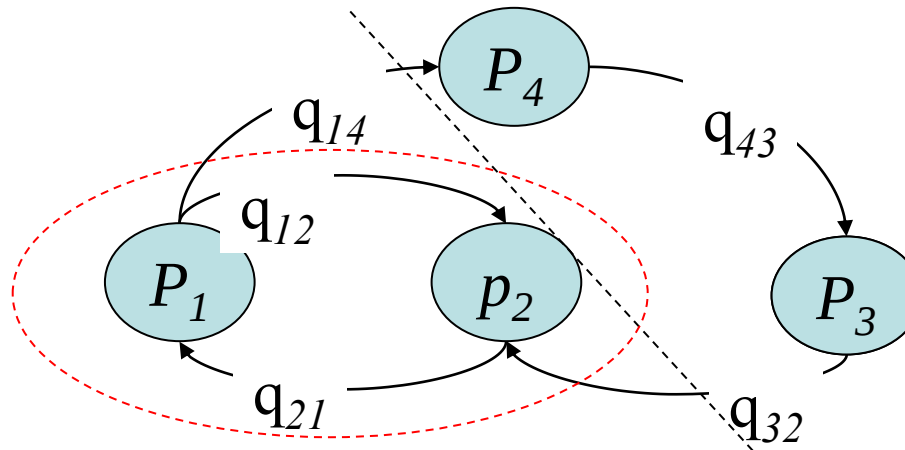
$$q_{12}p_1 + q_{32}p_3 = q_{21}p_2$$



- Is there a global balance equation for the circle around states 1 and 2?

Balance equations

- Local balance conditions in equilibrium
 - the local balance means that the total flow from one part of the chain must be equal to the flow back from the other part
 - for all possible cuts
 - defines a local balance equation
- The local balance equation is the same as a global balance equation around a set of states!



Balance equations

- Set of linear equations instead of a matrix equation

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{p}Q \Rightarrow$$

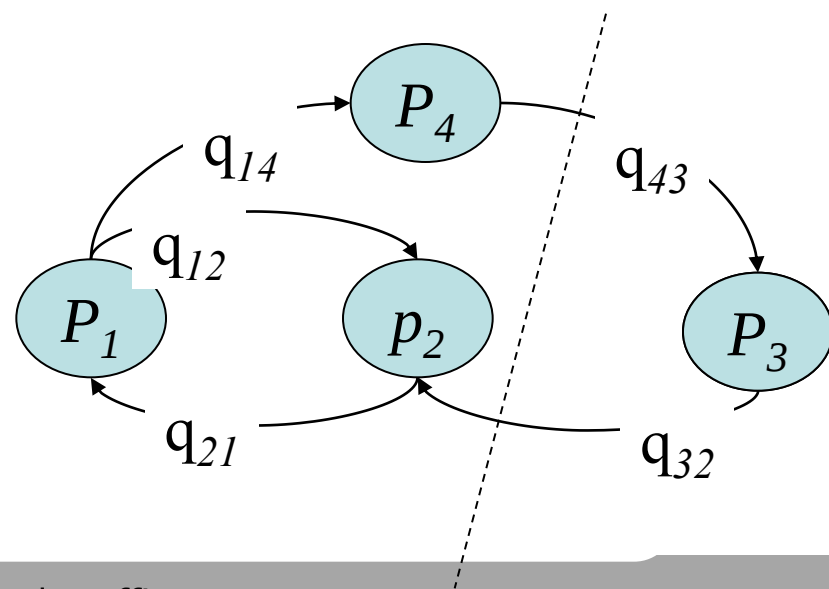
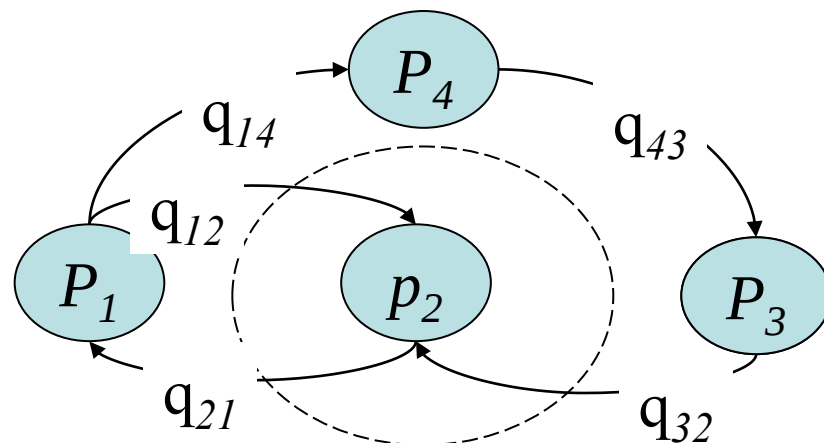
$$0 = q_{12}p_1 - q_{21}p_2 + q_{32}p_3$$

$$\underbrace{q_{12}p_1 + q_{32}p_3}_{\text{flow in}} = \underbrace{q_{21}p_2}_{\text{flow out}}$$

- Global balance :
 - flow in = flow out around a state
 - or around many states
- Local balance equation:
 - flow in = flow out across a cut

$$q_{43}p_4 = q_{32}p_3$$

- M states
 - M-1 independent equations
 - $\sum p_i = 1$



Outline for today

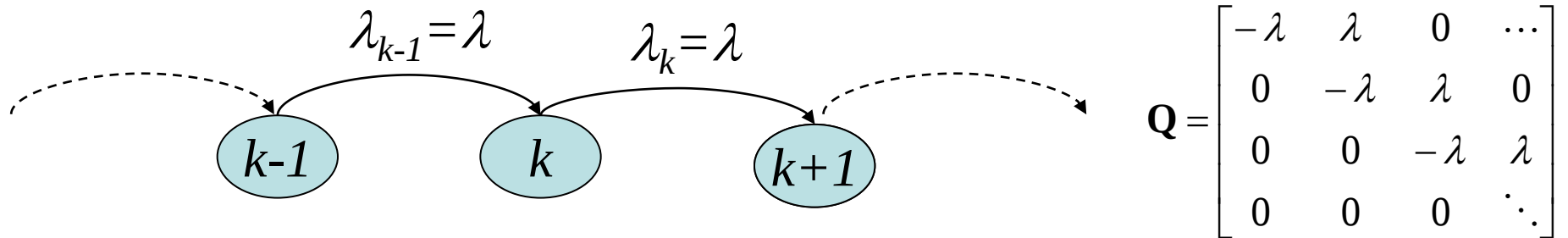
Continuous time Markov-chains

- Recall: continuous time Markov chains
- Transient and steady state solutions
- Balance equations – local and global
- Pure Birth process – Poisson process as special case
- Birth-death process as special case

Discrete time Markov-chains

Pure birth process

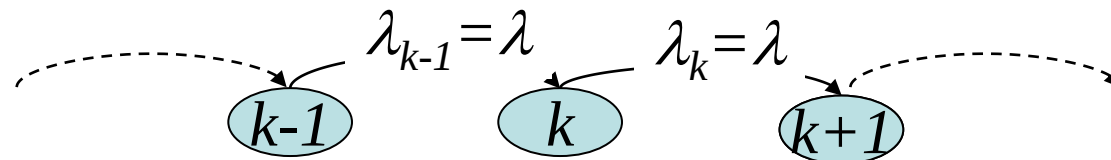
- Continuous time Markov-chain, infinite state space
- Transitions occur only between neighboring states
 - State independent birth intensity: $\lambda_i = \lambda, \quad \forall i$



- No stationary solution
- Transient solution:
 - $p_k(t) = P(\text{system in state } k \text{ at time } t)$
 - number of events (births) in an interval t

Pure birth process

- Transient solution – number of events (births) in an interval $(0,t]$



$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & \lambda & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & -\lambda & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\lambda & \lambda \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{p}'(t) = \underline{p}(t)Q, \quad p_0(0) = 1, \quad p_k(0) = 0 \quad \text{for } k \neq 0$$

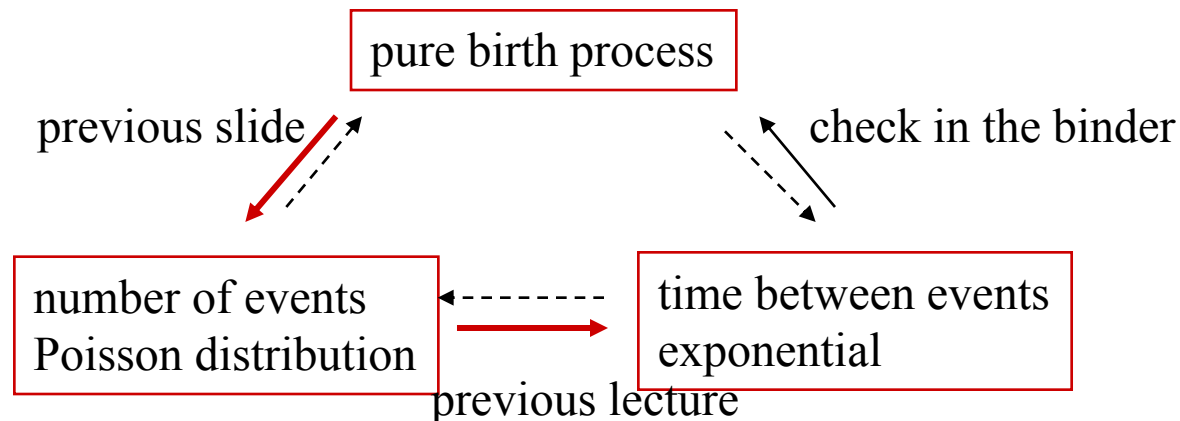
$$\begin{aligned} p'_0(t) &= -\lambda p_0(t) && \rightarrow p_0(t) = e^{-\lambda t} \\ p'_1(t) &= \lambda p_0(t) - \lambda p_1(t) && \rightarrow p'_1(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} - \lambda p_1(t) \rightarrow p_1(t) = \lambda t e^{-\lambda t} \\ &\vdots \\ p'_k(t) &= \lambda p_{k-1}(t) - \lambda p_k(t) && \Rightarrow p_k(t) = \frac{(\lambda t)^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

- Pure birth process gives Poisson process! – time between state transitions is $\text{Exp}(\lambda)$

Equivalent definitions of Poisson process

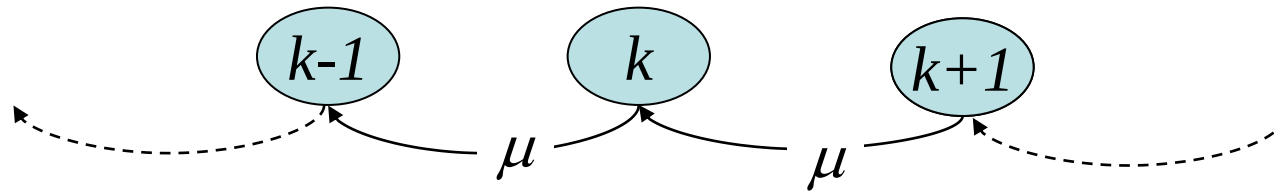
1. Pure birth process with intensity λ
2. The number of events in period $(0,t]$ has Poisson distribution with parameter λ
3. The time between events is exponentially distributed with parameter λ

$$P(X < t) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$



Pure death process

- Continuous time Markov-chain, infinite state space
- Transitions occur only between neighboring states
 - State independent death intensity: $\mu_i = \mu, \forall i \neq 0$



- No stationary solution
- Pure death process gives Poisson process until reaching state 0
- Time between state transitions is $\text{Exp}(\mu)$

Outline for today

Continuous time Markov-chains

- Recall: continuous time Markov chains
- Transient and steady state solutions
- Balance equations – local and global
- Pure Birth process – Poisson process as special case
- Birth-death process

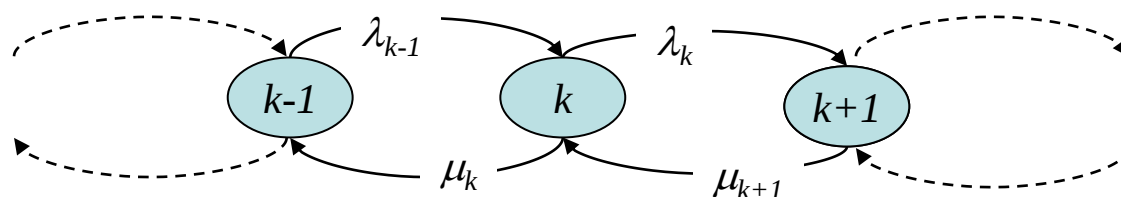
Discrete time Markov-chains

Birth-death process

- Continuous time Markov-chain
- Transitions occur only between neighboring states

$i \rightarrow i+1$ birth with intensity λ_i
 $i \rightarrow i-1$ death with intensity μ_i (for $i > 0$)

} models population



$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sum q_{0j} & q_{01} & q_{02} & \dots \\ q_{10} & -\sum q_{1j} & q_{12} & \dots \\ q_{20} & q_{21} & -\sum q_{2j} & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda_0 & \lambda_0 & 0 & \dots \\ \mu_1 & -(\lambda_1 + \mu_1) & \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_2 & -(\lambda_2 + \mu_2) & \lambda_2 \\ & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

- State holding time – length of time spent in a state k
 - Until transition to states $k-1$ or $k+1$
 - Minimum of the times to the first birth or first deaths $\rightarrow$ minimum of two Exponentially distributed random variables: $\text{Exp}(\lambda_k + \mu_k)$

B-D process - stationary solution

- Local balance equations, like for general Markov-chains
- Stability: positive solution for $\underline{p}$ (since the MC is irreducible)

$$\text{Cut 1: } \lambda_{k-1} p_{k-1} = \mu_k p_k \Rightarrow p_k = \frac{\lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_k} p_{k-1}$$

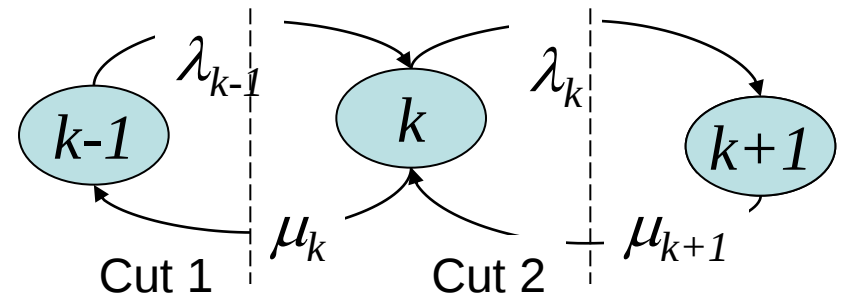
$$\text{Cut 2: } \lambda_k p_k = \mu_{k+1} p_{k+1} \Rightarrow p_{k+1} = \frac{\lambda_k}{\mu_{k+1}} p_k = \frac{\lambda_k \lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_{k+1} \mu_k} p_{k-1}$$

⋮

$$\Rightarrow p_k = \frac{\lambda_0 \cdots \lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_1 \cdots \mu_k} p_0 = \prod_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{\mu_{i+1}} p_0,$$

$$\sum p_k = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$p_0 = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \prod_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{\mu_{i+1}}},$$

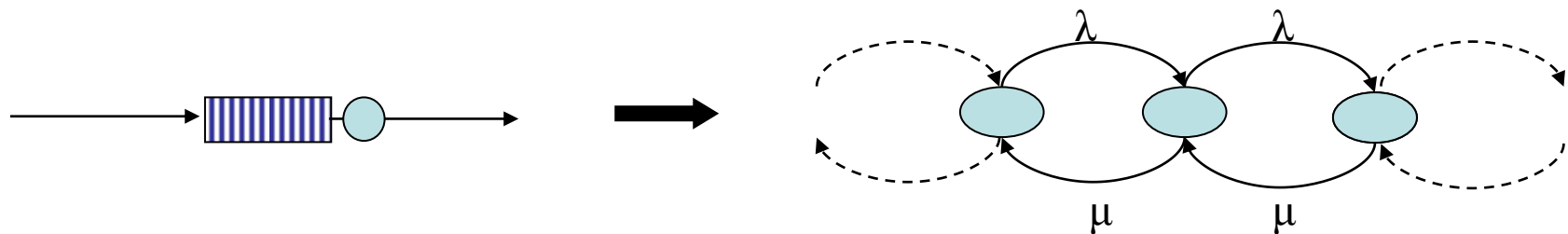


Group work: stationary solution for state independent transition rates:

$$\lambda_i = \lambda, \mu_i = \mu.$$

Markov-chains and queuing systems

- Why do we like Poisson and B-D processes?
How are they related to queuing systems?
 - If arrivals in a queuing system can be modeled as Poisson process $\rightarrow$ also as a pure birth process
 - If services in a queuing systems can be modeled with exponential service times $\rightarrow$ also as a (pure) death process
 - Then the queuing system can be modeled as a birth-death process

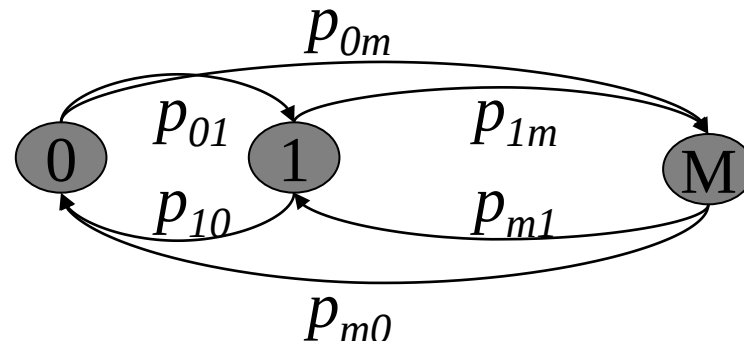


Summary – Continuous time Markov-chains

- Markovian property: next state depends on the present state only
- State lifetime: exponential
- State transition intensity matrix $\mathbf{Q}$
- Stationary solution: $\underline{p}\mathbf{Q}=\underline{0}$, or balance equations
- Poisson process
 - pure birth process (λ)
 - number of events has Poisson distribution, $E[X]=\lambda t$
 - interarrival times are exponential $E(\tau)=1/\lambda$
- Birth-death process: transition between neighboring states
- B-D process may model queuing systems!

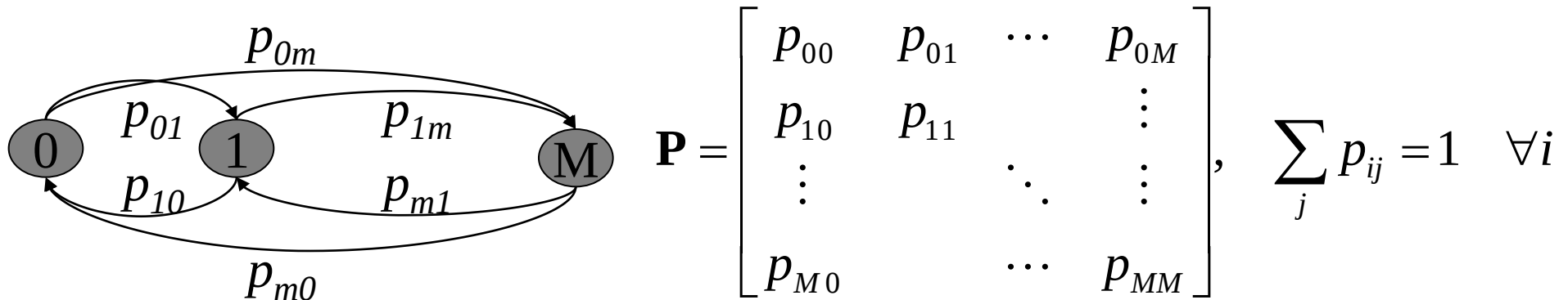
Discrete-time Markov-chains (detour)

- Discrete-time Markov-chain: the time is discrete as well
 - $X(0), X(1), \dots, X(n), \dots$
 - Single step state transition probability for homogeneous MC:
 $P(X(n+1)=j \mid X(n)=i) = p_{ij}, \forall n$
- Example
 - Packet size from packet to packet
 - Number of correctly received bits in a packet
 - Queue length at packet departure instants ...
(get back to it at non-Markovian queues)



Discrete-Time Markov-chains

- Transition probability matrix:
 - The transitions probabilities can be represented in a matrix
 - Row i contains the probabilities to go from i to state $j=0, 1, \dots, M$
 - P_{ii} is the probability of staying in the same state



Discrete-Time Markov-chains

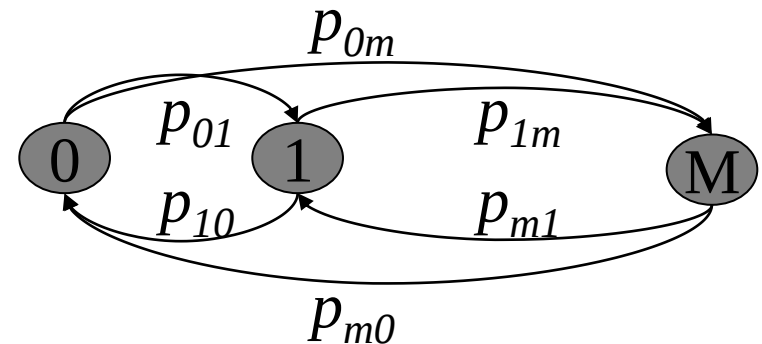
- The probability of finding the process in state j at time n is denoted by:
 - $p_j^{(n)} = P(X(n) = j)$
 - for all states and time points, we have:

$$\mathbf{p}^{(n)} = [p_0^{(n)} \quad p_1^{(n)} \quad \cdots \quad p_M^{(n)}]$$

- The time-dependent (transient) solution is given by:

$$p_i^{(n+1)} = p_i p_{ii} + \sum_{j \neq i} p_j^{(n)} p_{ji}$$

$$\mathbf{p}^{(n+1)} = \mathbf{p}^{(n)} \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{p}^{(n-1)} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P} = \cdots = \mathbf{p}^{(0)} \mathbf{P}^{n+1}$$



Discrete-Time Markov-chains

- Steady (or stationary) state exists if
 - The limiting probability vector exists
 - And is independent from the initial probability vector

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{p}^{(n)} = \mathbf{p} = [p_0 \quad p_1 \quad \cdots \quad p_M]$$

- Stationary state probability distribution is give by:

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p} \mathbf{P}, \quad \sum_{j=0}^M p_j = 1 \quad \left(\mathbf{p}^{(n+1)} = \mathbf{p}^{(n)} \mathbf{P} \right)$$

- Note also:
 - The probability to remain in a state j for m time units has geometric distribution
$$p_{jj}^{m-1} (1 - p_{jj})$$
 - The geometric distribution is a memoryless discrete probability distribution (the only one)

Summary

- Continuous-time Markov chains
- Balance equations (global, local)
- Pure birth process and Poisson process
- Birth-death process
- Discrete time Markov chains