

Parameter Estimation for Queues: A Tale of Six Observations Schemes

**Yoni Nazarathy, The University of Queensland,
Joint with Azam Asanjarani and Peter Taylor.**



INFORMS-APS 2019, Brisbane Australia

*The 20th INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference, July 2-4, 2019,
Brisbane Australia.*



INFORMS-APS 2019, Brisbane Australia

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A number of related events are being held before and after the INFORMS-APS conference:

- Queues, Modelling, and Markov Chains: A Workshop Honouring Prof. Peter Taylor, June 28 - July 1.
- Applied² Probability, July 5 taking place at The University of Queensland, Brisbane. This is a satellite workshop dealing with concrete applications and is organized by CARM.
- 12th International Conference on Monte Carlo Methods and Applications (MCM2019), July 8 - 13 taking place in Sydney, Australia.





Queues

About
300
papers

Statistics

Parameter and State Estimation in Queues
and Related Stochastic Models: A Bibliography

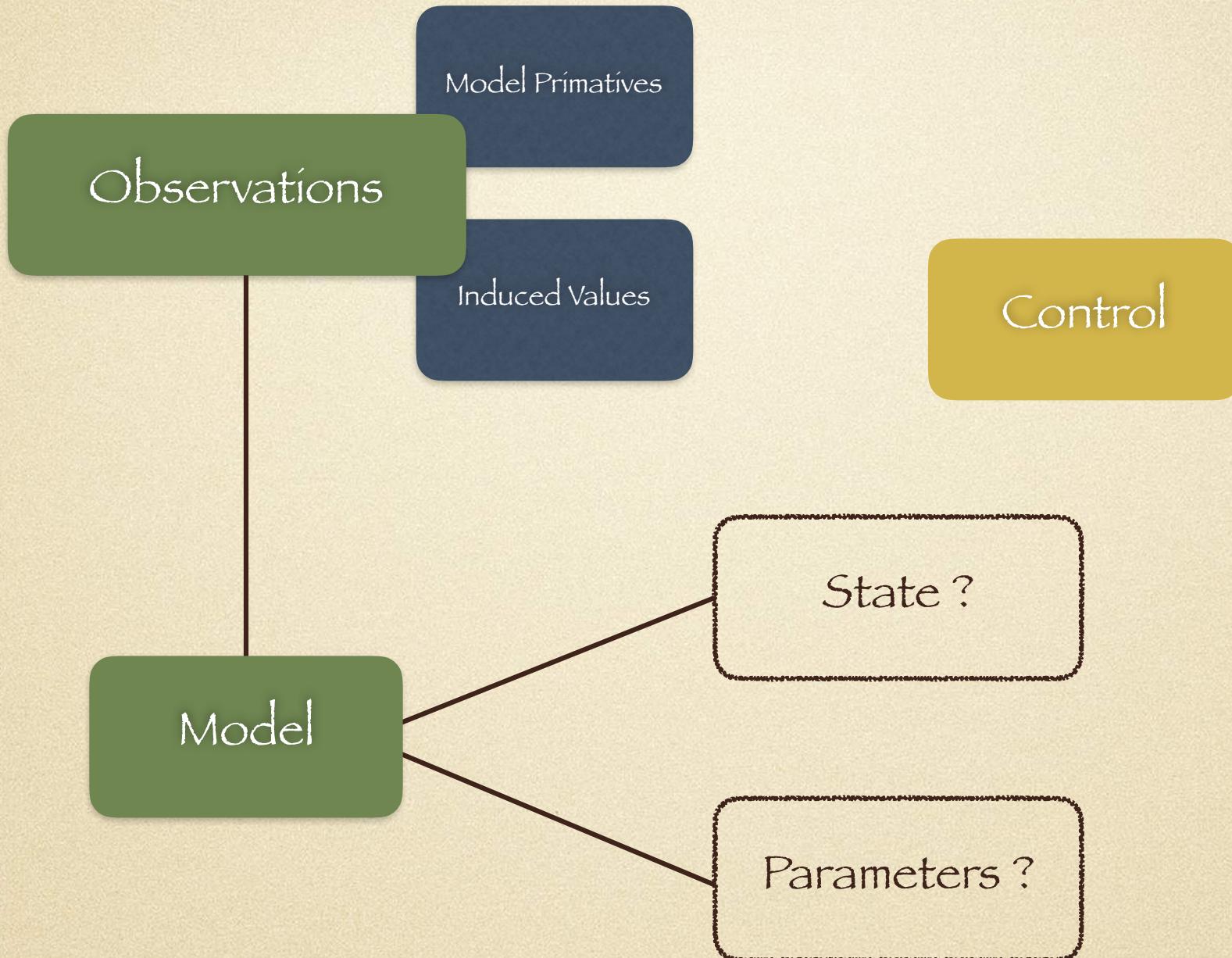
Azam Asanjarani, Yoni Nazarathy and Philip K. Pollett
The School of Mathematics and Physics, The University of Queensland,
Brisbane Australia

January 31, 2017

A Survey of Parameter and State Estimation in Queues

Azam Asanjarani, Yoni Nazarathy and Peter Taylor

June 8, 2018



Chapter 13

Statistical analysis of queueing systems¹

U. Narayan Bhat, Gregory K. Miller, and S. Subba Rao

ABSTRACT This paper provides an overview of the literature on the statistical analysis of queueing systems. Topics discussed include: model identification, parameter estimation using the maximum likelihood, method of moments and Bayesian frameworks, a discussion of covariance structure and autocorrelation in queueing systems, estimation from simulation experiments, hypothesis testing, and other related aspects. The bibliography, fairly exhaustive, should provide the reader with a source of articles that comprise the core of work done up to the present time.

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Past Surveys

Invited paper

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF QUEUEING SYSTEMS

U. NARAYAN BHAT

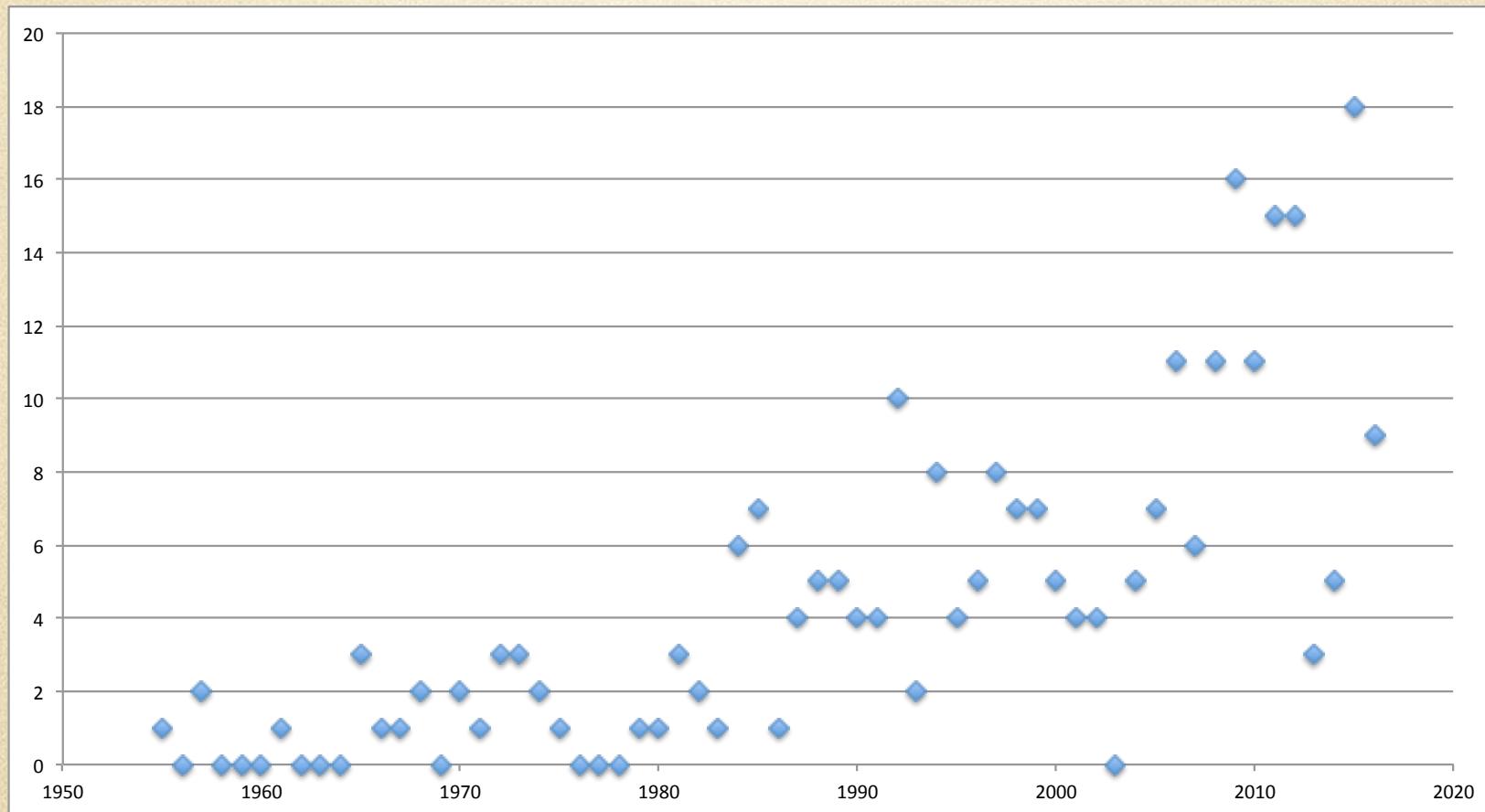
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and

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Number of Papers per year 1955 - 2016



Goal: Create a predictive
model based on observations.

Setting for this talk: Single Pass Queue



Computation

Exploring Julia: A Statistical Primer.

D R A F T

Hayden Klok, Yoni Nazarathy

June 4, 2018



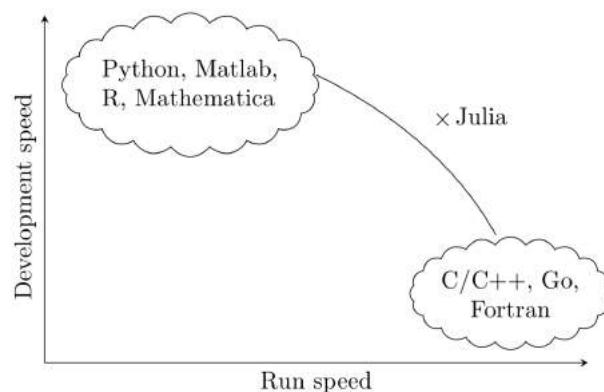
Springer



Search or jump to...



h-Klok / StatsWithJuliaBook



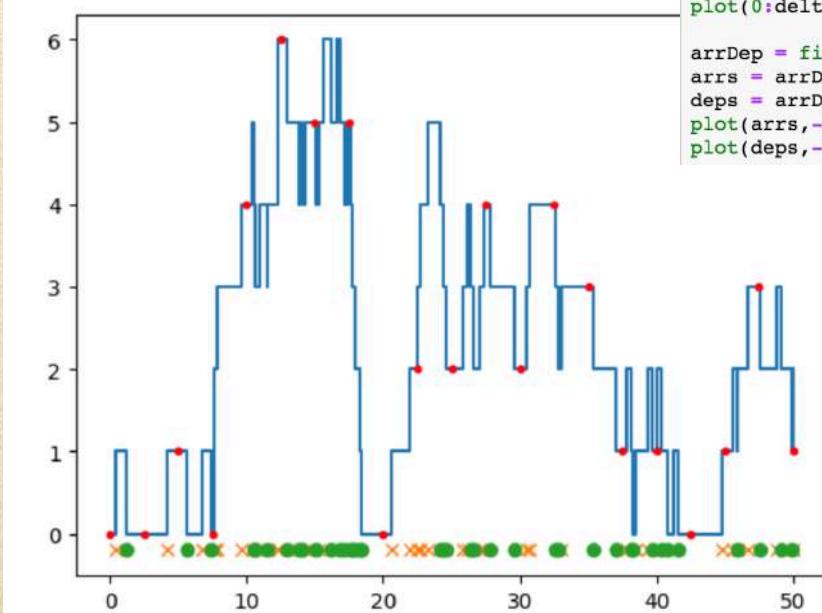
```
using DataStructures,Distributions

function simulateMM1(lambda,mu,Q0,T)
    t, Q = 0.0 , Q0
    tValues = [0.0]
    qValues = [Q0]
    while t < T
        if Q == 0 #arrival to an empty system
            t += rand(Exponential(1/lambda))
            Q = 1
        else #change of state when system is not empty
            t += rand(Exponential(1/(lambda + mu)))
            Q += 2(rand() < lambda/(lambda+mu)) - 1
        end
        push!(tValues,t)
        push!(qValues,Q)
    end
    return[tValues, qValues]
end

using PyPlot
T = 50
Q0 = 0
queueTraj = simulateMM1(0.9,1.0,Q0,T);
times = queueTraj[1]
qValues = queueTraj[2]
temp = stichSteps(times,qValues)
timesForPlot = temp[1]
qForPlot = temp[2]

delta = 2.5
qSampled = sampleQ(times,qValues,delta)
plot(timesForPlot,qForPlot)
plot(0:delta:T,qSampled,".",color="r")

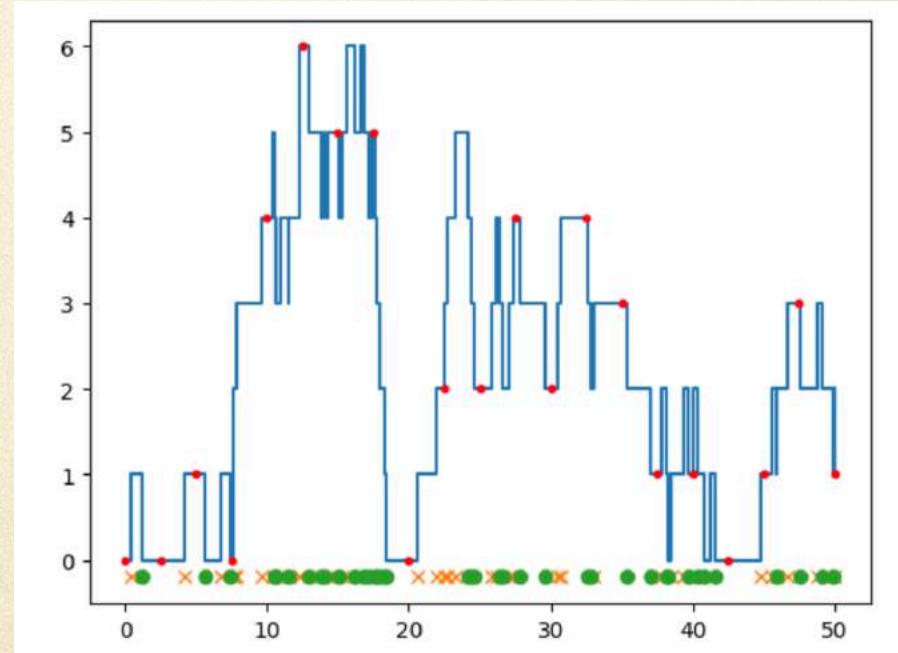
arrDep = findArrDep(times,qValues)
arrs = arrDep[1]
deps = arrDep[2]
plot(arrs,-0.2*ones(length(arrs)), "x")
plot(deps,-0.2*ones(length(deps)), "o");
```



julia

Six observation schemes

1. Full Observation
2. Discrete Intervals
3. Input and Output Process
4. Transactional Observations
5. Probing
6. Independent Primitives



1: Full Observation

$$\{Q(t) : t \in [0, T]\}$$

Some Problems of Statistical Analysis Connected with Congestion

D. R. COX, *Birkbeck College, University of London*

SUMMARY
Problem
previous work
simpler new p
ing models is
information a
and b) service
count of prob

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATES IN A SIMPLE QUEUE

BY A. BRUCE CLARKE¹

University of Michigan

0. Summary. The problem of estimating the parameters involved in a simple queueing process is considered. A method is given which applies this problem to that of estimating a distribution function. A useful and even simplifying approximation is obtained.

1. Introduction. By a simple approximation it can be shown that a negative exponential distribution is a good approximation to the empirical distribution function of a sample from a population with an unknown distribution function. This approximation is used here to obtain maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of a simple queueing process.

Received November 19,

¹ Research under contract with the University.

Queueing Systems, 3 (1988) 289–304

289

LARGE SAMPLE INFERENCE FROM SINGLE SERVER QUEUES *

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Received: 16 April 1987

Revised: 17 March 1988

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATES IN A SIMPLE QUEUE

By A. BRUCE CLARKE¹

Sample until “busy time” reaches a pre-assigned value

ν - Initial queue size

m - Total departures

T - Time of last departure

n - Total arrivals

$$L(\lambda, \mu ; \text{ data}) = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right) e^{-\mu T - \lambda T} \mu^{m-\nu} \lambda^{n+\nu} K$$

LARGE SAMPLE INFERENCE FROM SINGLE SERVER QUEUES *

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Received: 16 April 1987

Revised: 17 March 1988

- Rule 1: Observe the system until a fixed time t .
Rule 2: Observe the system until d departures.
Rule 3: Observe the system until m arrivals.
Rule 4: Stop after n transitions.

$$L_T(\theta, \phi) = \prod_{k=1}^{A(T)} f(u_k; \theta) \prod_{k=1}^{D(T)} g(v_k; \phi) \times \bar{F}_\theta(T - \sum_{k=1}^{A(T)} u_k) \bar{G}_\phi(T - \sum_{k=1}^{D(T)} v_k)$$

2: Discrete Intervals

$$\{Q(n\Delta), n = 1, \dots, N\}$$

Statistical inference for discretely observed Markov jump processes.

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Estimation for queues from queue length data

J. V. Ross · T. Taimre · P. K. Pollett

Statistical inference for discretely observed Markov jump processes.

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$$L_{\tau}^{(c)}(Q) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j \neq i} q_{ij}^{N_{ij}(\tau)} e^{-q_{ij} R_i(\tau)}$$

An EM algorithm:

E-step, Calculate: $g : Q \rightarrow E_{Q_0}(\log L_{\tau}^{(c)}(Q) \mid Y = y)$

M-step, Calculate: $Q_0 = \operatorname{argmax}_Q g(Q)$

M/M/c

Let c grow...

$$\lambda \sim ac \quad \frac{\lambda}{\mu c} \rightarrow x_0 < 1$$

Estimation for queues from queue length data

J. V. Ross · T. Taimre · P. K. Pollett

Get an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process...

$$E[Q(t) \mid Q(0)] \approx x_0 + e^{-\mu t}(Q(0) - x_0)$$

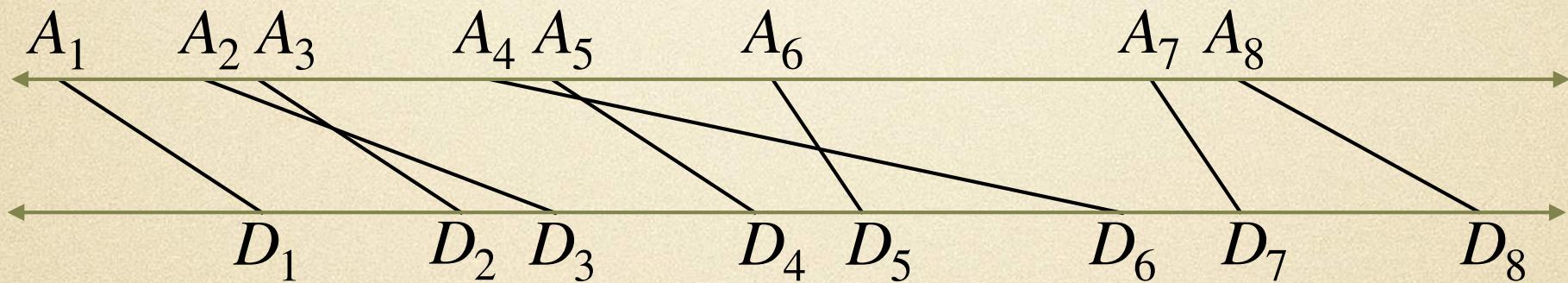
$$var(Q(t) \mid Q(0)) \approx \frac{\lambda}{\mu c^2}(1 - e^{-2\mu t})$$

$$cov(Q(s), Q(s+t)) \approx \frac{\rho}{c^2}e^{-\mu|t|}$$

Strategy: MLE for the OU process...

3: Input and Output Processes

$$\{A_1, \dots, A_N\}, \{D_1, \dots, D_N\}$$



Most Attention Given to M/G/ ∞

Why do we like Infinite Servers?

$$c(t) = \text{Cov}(Q(0), Q(t)) = \begin{cases} \frac{2\lambda(1-\lambda)}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{(\sin \theta)^2 e^{-t(1+\lambda-2\sqrt{\lambda} \cos \theta)}}{(1+\lambda-2\sqrt{\lambda} \cos \theta)^3} d\theta & \text{for M/M/1,} \\ \frac{\lambda}{\mu^2} e^{-\mu t} & \text{for M/M/}\infty. \end{cases}$$

AN $M/G/\infty$ ESTIMATION PROBLEM¹

BY MARK BROWN

Cornell University

CDF of the time since the last arrival at a
departure point: $H(x) = 1 - (1 - G(x))e^{-\lambda x}$

J. Appl. Prob. **50**, 1044–1056 (2013)
Printed in England
© Applied Probability Trust 2013

SOJOURN TIME ESTIMATION IN AN $M/G/\infty$ QUEUE WITH PARTIAL INFORMATION

NAFNA BLANGHAPS,*
YUVAL NOV * ** AND
GIDEON WEISS,* *University of Haifa*

NON-PARAMETRIC ESTIMATION FOR THE $M/G/\infty$ QUEUE

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J. R. Statist. Soc. B (2004)
66, Part 4, pp. 861–875

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Nonparametric inference about service time distribution from indirect measurements

Peter Hall

Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

and Juhyun Park

Nonparametric fun

Adv. Appl. Prob. **48**, 1117–1138 (2016)

doi:10.1017/apr.2016.67

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NONPARAMETRIC ESTIMATION OF THE SERVICE TIME DISTRIBUTION IN THE $M/G/\infty$ QUEUE

ALEXANDER GOLDENSHLUGER,* University of Haifa

Bernoulli **24**(4A), 2018, 2531–2568
<https://doi.org/10.3150/17-BEJ936>

The $M/G/\infty$ estimation problem revisited

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Output process only (of M/G/1):



Statistics and Computing 14: 261–266, 2004
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*Filtering recursions for calculating
likelihoods for queues based on
inter-departure time data*

PAUL FEARNHEAD

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4: Transactional Observations

$$\{(D_1, \dots, D_N), B\}$$

MANAGEMENT SCIENCE

Vol. 36, No. 5, May 1990

Printed in U.S.A.

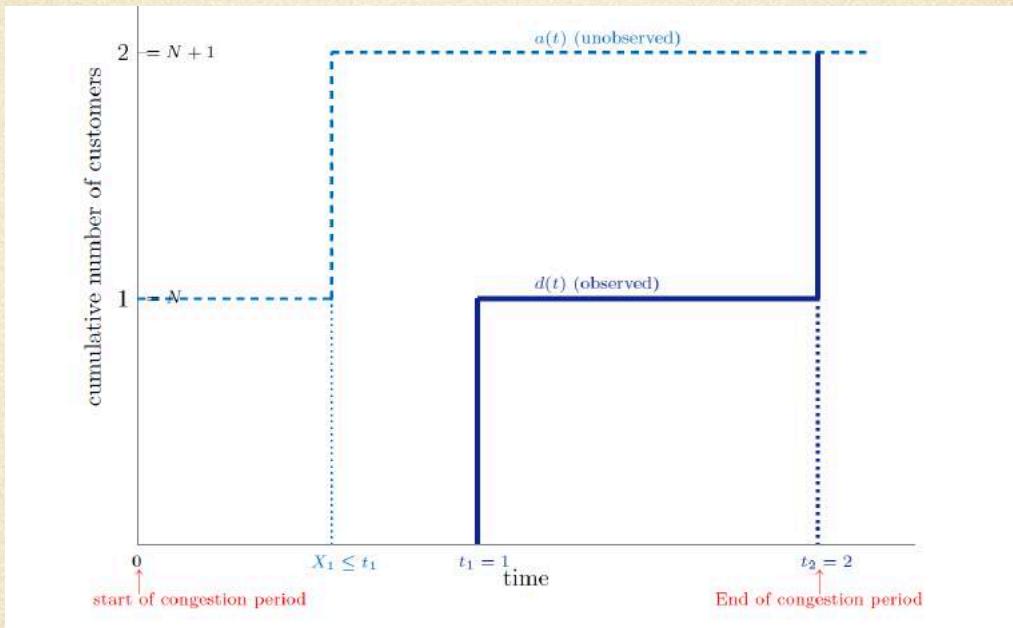
THE QUEUE INFERENCE ENGINE: DEDUCING QUEUE STATISTICS FROM TRANSACTIONAL DATA*

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The transactional data of a queueing system are the recorded times of service commencement and service completion for each customer served. With increasing use of computers to aid or even perform service one often has machine readable transactional data, but virtually no information about the queue itself. In this paper we propose a way to deduce the queueing behavior of Poisson arrival queueing systems from only the transactional data and the Poisson assumption. For each congestion period in which queues may form (in front of a single or multiple servers), the key quantities obtained are mean wait in queue, time-dependent mean number in queue, and probability distribution of the number in queue observed by a randomly arriving customer. The methodology builds on arguments of order statistics and usually requires a computer to evaluate a recursive function. The results are exact for a homogeneous Poisson arrival process (with unknown parameter) and approximately correct for a slowly time varying Poisson process.
(QUEUES; INFERENCE; DATA ANALYSIS; POISSON)

Example: Consider a simple “transactional observation”



You observe:

- At time 0 server starts working
- At time 1 a customer departs (and server continues to work)
- At time 2 a second customer departs and server stops working

With Poisson arrivals:

$$E[n_Q(t)] = \begin{cases} t, & t \in [0,1], \\ 0, & t \in [1,2]. \end{cases}$$

Transactional data (QIE) fun

Inferring most likely queue length from transactional data

Dragomir D. Dimitrijevic*

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Received 1 September 1992; revised 1 April 1996

Operations Research Letters 38 (2010) 420–426



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Operations Research Letters

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/orl



Queue inference from periodic reporting data

Jesse C. Frey^{a,*}, Edward H. Kaplan^{b,c,d}

Estimating characteristics of queueing networks using transactional data

Avi Mandelbaum and Sergey Zeltyn

Faculty of Industrial Engineering and Management, Technion, Haifa 32000, Israel

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Computers & Industrial Engineering



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/caie

Analysis of an unobservable queue using arrival and departure times[☆]

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DEDUCING QUEUEING FROM TRANSACTIONAL DATA: THE QUEUE INFERENCE ENGINE, REVISITED

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(Received April 1990; revision received February 1991; accepted July 1991)

Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect



Operations Research Letters



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/orl

Remarks on queue inference from departure data alone and the importance of the queue inference engine

Lee K. Jones

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MOMENT ESTIMATION OF CUSTOMER LOSS RATES FROM TRANSACTIONAL DATA

D.J. DALEY¹

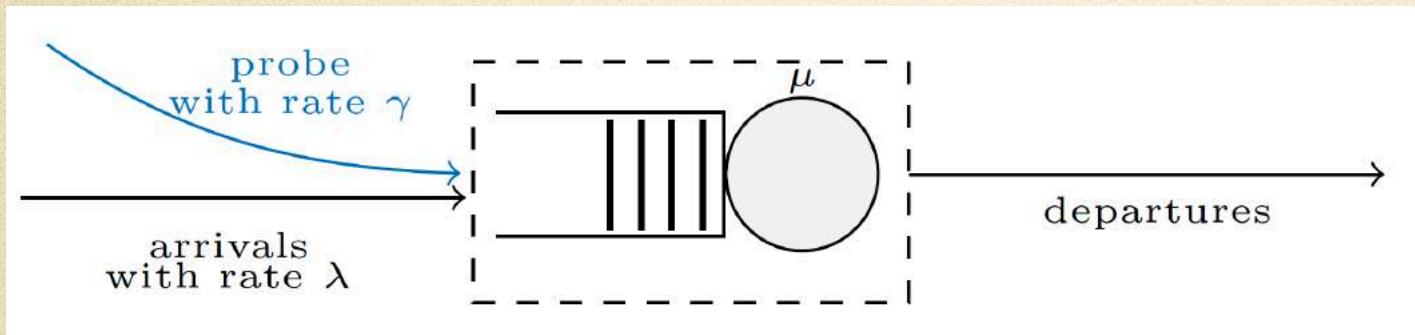
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5: Probing

$$\{S_1^{\text{probe}}, \dots, S_N^{\text{probe}}\}$$



Queueing Syst (2009) 63: 59–107
DOI 10.1007/s11134-009-9150-9

INVITED PAPER

Inverse problems in queueing theory and Internet probing

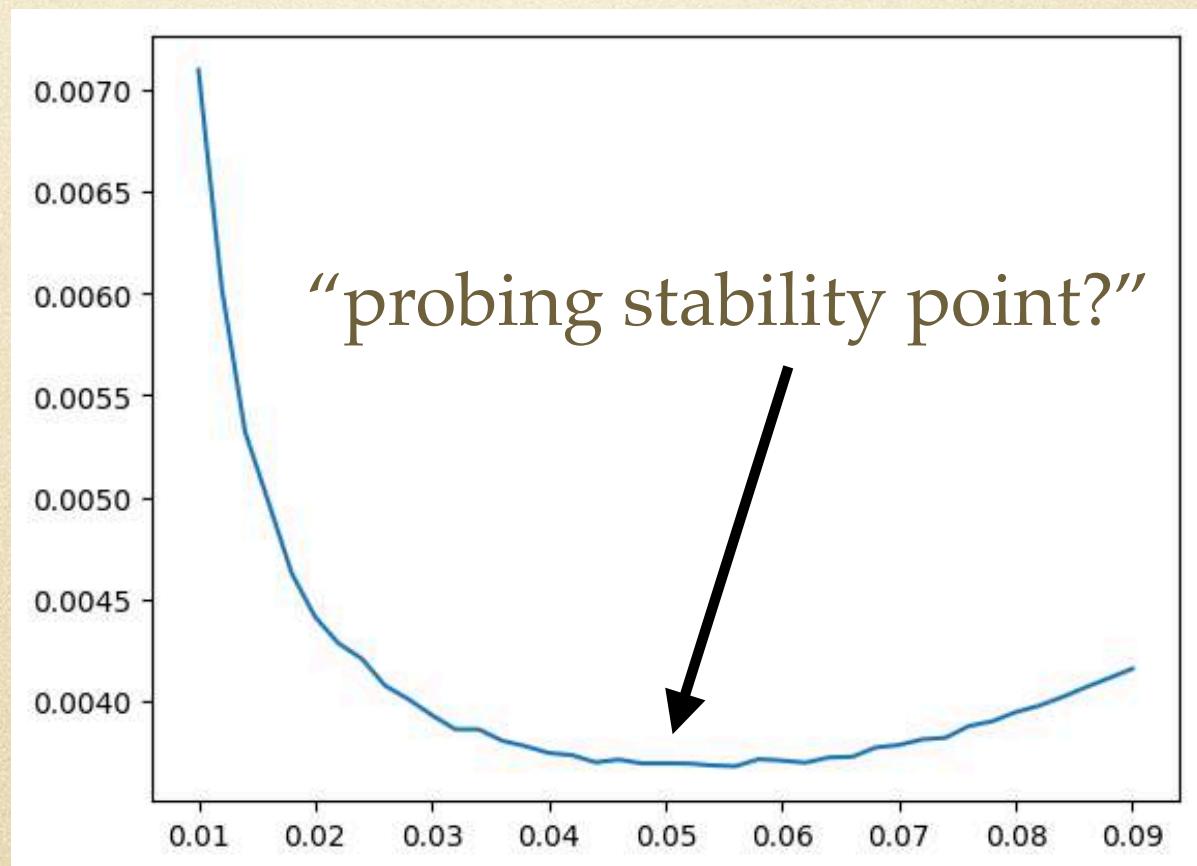
F. Baccelli · B. Kauffmann · D. Veitch

Best probe rate?

$$\hat{\lambda} = \mu - \lambda_{\text{probes}} - \frac{1}{\text{mean probe sojourn}}$$

E.g. $T=1000$ $\lambda = 0.9$ $\mu = 1$

MSE
Simulated 10^5 times
for each point on the grid



λ_{probes}

```

#This function returns a sequence of sojourn times of an M/M/1 queue
#that starts empty
#gamma is arrival of probes
#alpha is service rate

flip(p) = (rand() < p)

function simulateMM1SojournWithProbes(gamma,alpha,lambda,mu,T)

    pProbe = gamma/(gamma+lambda)

    tNextArr = rand(Exponential(1/(lambda+gamma)))
    tNextDep = Inf
    t = tNextArr

    waitingRoom = Queue(Tuple{Float64,Bool})
    arrTimeOfCustomerInService = NaN
    isCustomerInServiceProbe = false
    sojournTimes = Array{Float64}([])

    initQueue = rand(Geometric(lambda/mu))
    for i in 1:initQueue
        enqueue!(waitingRoom,(NaN,false))
    end

    while t<T
        if t == tNextArr
            if isnan(arrTimeOfCustomerInService)
                isCustomerInServiceProbe = flip(pProbe)
                tNextDep = t + rand(Exponential(1/(isCustomerInServiceProbe ? alpha : mu )))
                arrTimeOfCustomerInService = t
            else
                enqueue!(waitingRoom,(t,flip(pProbe)))
            end
            tNextArr = t + rand(Exponential(1/(lambda+gamma)))
        else #departure
            if length(waitingRoom) == 0
                tNextDep = Inf
                if isCustomerInServiceProbe
                    push!(sojournTimes, t-arrTimeOfCustomerInService)
                end
                arrTimeOfCustomerInService = NaN
            else
                if isCustomerInServiceProbe
                    push!(sojournTimes, t-arrTimeOfCustomerInService)
                end
                arrTimeOfCustomerInService,isCustomerInServiceProbe = dequeue!(waitingRoom)
                tNextDep = t + rand(Exponential(1/(isCustomerInServiceProbe ? alpha : mu)))
            end
        end
        t = min(tNextArr,tNextDep)
    end

    if length(sojournTimes) == 0
        sojournTimes = [1/mu] #QQQQ
    end
    return sojournTimes
end

```

Inferring Network Characteristics via Moment-Based Estimators

Sara Alouf, Philippe Nain

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The M+M/M/1/K Queue

The M+M/D/1/K Queue

Straightforward inverse estimation formulas

Parameter Estimation for Partially Observed Queues

Thomas M. Chen, *Member, IEEE*, Jean Walrand, *Fellow, IEEE*, and David G. Messerschmitt, *Fellow, IEEE*

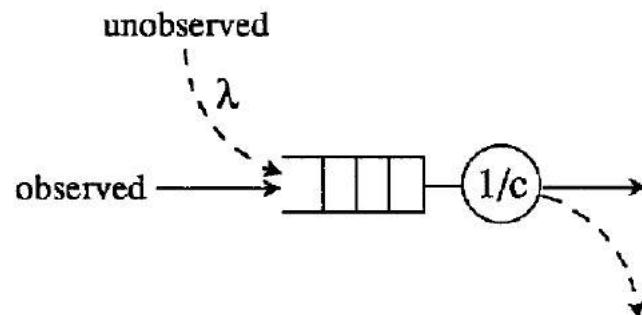


Fig. 2. Partially observed queue.

$$L_k(\lambda) = \prod_{n=2}^k p_n(\tau_n \mid \tau_{n-1}; \lambda)$$

$$F(x, t \mid x_0; \lambda) \equiv P(V(t) \leq x \mid V(0) = x_0)$$

$$p_n(x \mid y; \lambda) = f(x - c, a_n - a_{n-1} \mid y; \lambda)$$

6: Independent Primitives

$$\{(A_1, \dots, A_N), (S_1, \dots, S_M)\}$$

Volume 1, Number 2

OPERATIONS RESEARCH LETTERS

April 1982

SOME CONSEQUENCES OF ESTIMATING PARAMETERS FOR THE M/M/1 QUEUE *

Lee SCHRUBEN and Radhika KULKARNI

Technical Note: Traffic Intensity Estimation

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SOME CONSEQUENCES OF ESTIMATING PARAMETERS FOR THE M/M/1 QUEUE *

Lee SCHRUBEN and Radhika KULKARNI

Data: $\{(A_1, \dots, A_N), (S_1, \dots, S_M)\}$

$$\hat{\lambda} = \frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^m A_i} \quad \hat{\mu} = \frac{m}{\sum_{i=1}^m S_i}$$

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{\hat{\lambda}}{\hat{\mu}}$$

If $\hat{\rho} \geq 1$ then resample.

$$\frac{\hat{\rho}}{\rho} \sim F(2m, 2n)$$

Problem:

$$E\left[\frac{\hat{\rho}}{1 - \hat{\rho}} \mathbf{1}\{\hat{\rho} < 1\}\right] = \infty$$

Technical Note: Traffic Intensity Estimation

Peter C. Kiessler, Robert Lund

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$$V(t) = V(0) + \sum_{n=1}^{A(t)} S_n - \int_0^t \mathbf{1}\{V(\tau) > 0\} d\tau$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\text{virtual}} = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \mathbf{1}\{V(\tau) > 0\} d\tau$$

Bias bounding:

$$\left| E[\hat{\rho}_{\text{virtual}}] - \rho \right| \leq \frac{c + V(0)}{t}$$

Bayesian Celebration...

The Annals of Applied Statistics
2010, Vol. 4, No. 3, 1533–1557
DOI: 10.1214/10-AOAS336
© Institute of Mathematical Statistics, 2010

BAYESIAN INFERENCE FOR DOUBLE PARETO LOGNORMAL QUEUES

BY PEPA RAMIREZ-COB¹, ROSA E. LILLO,
SIMON WILSON AND MICHAEL P. WIPER

CNRS France, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Trinity College Dublin
and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

In this article we describe a method for carrying out Bayesian estimation for the double Pareto lognormal ($dPIN$) distribution which has been proposed as model for heavy-tailed phenomena. We apply our approach to estimate the $dPIN/M/1$ and $M/dPIN/1$ queueing systems. These systems cannot be analyzed using standard techniques due to a Laplace transform problem. Some recent approaches to the estimation of these systems are also discussed. The results are illustrated with applications to real data sets.

Queueing Systems 15 (1994) 419–426

+ Many Other Papers

419

Short communication

Bayesian inference in Markovian queues

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Received 25 January 1992; revised 19 January 1993

In summary:

1. Full Observation
2. Discrete Intervals
3. Input and Output Process
4. Transactional Observations
5. Probing
6. Independent Primitives