
**Analysis of queueing models with multiple waiting lines:
complex-function methods**

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I. Introduction

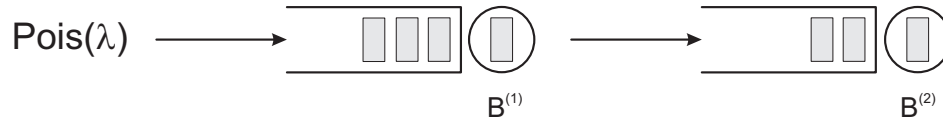
In queueing theory, there is a sharp division between **easy** and **hard**.

Single server queue: much is known.

Two-queue models: various techniques for special cases
(like the compensation approach and the boundary value technique).

N -queue models with $N > 2$: exact analysis in exceptional cases
(like product-form networks and polling systems).

Example: tandem queue.



$$B^{(i)} \sim \exp(\mu_i), i = 1, 2:$$

product-form network, independence of queue lengths X_i :

$$\mathbb{P}(X_1 = n_1, X_2 = n_2) = \prod_{i=1}^2 (1 - \rho_i) \rho_i^{n_i},$$

with $\rho_i := \lambda \mathbb{E}B^{(i)} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu_i} < 1$.

$B^{(2)}$ general: queue lengths still independent, product form.

$B^{(1)}$ general, $B^{(2)} \sim \exp$: boundary value problem

Blanc, Iasnogorodski and Nain (1988).

$B^{(1)}$ and $B^{(2)}$ general: hopeless?

Starting-point often: balance equations for queue lengths.

Two $M/M/1$ queues in series:

$$(\lambda + \mu_1 + \mu_2)p(m, n) = \lambda p(m-1, n)I_{m \geq 1} + \mu_1 p(m+1, n-1)I_{n \geq 1} + \mu_2 p(m, n+1).$$

Together with $\sum \sum p(m, n) = 1$, this contains *all* the information.

Now take **generating functions**, with $P(x, y) := \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^m y^n p(m, n)$:

$$K(x, y)P(x, y) = H(x, y)P(x, 0) + V(x, y)P(0, y) + O(x, y)P(0, 0).$$

In addition, $P(1, 1) = 1$, and $P(x, y)$ is analytic for $|x| \leq 1$, $|y| \leq 1$.

Together, this contains *all* the information needed to determine $P(x, y)$.

For the tandem queue, prove that

$$P(x, y) = \frac{1 - \rho_1}{1 - \rho_1 x} \frac{1 - \rho_2}{1 - \rho_2 y}.$$

$$K(x, y)P(x, y) = H(x, y)P(x, 0) + V(x, y)P(0, y) + O(x, y)P(0, 0).$$

Approach:

Consider all zeros (\hat{x}, \hat{y}) of kernel $K(x, y)$ with $|\hat{x}| \leq 1$, $|\hat{y}| \leq 1$.

Embarrassment of choice!

What is a good, systematic choice?

The **uniformization method** determines a suitable set of zero pairs $(\hat{x}(z), \hat{y}(z))$, $z \in L$, for some smooth closed contour L which is itself determined;

and $|\hat{x}(z)| \leq 1$, $|\hat{y}(z)| \leq 1$,

and $\hat{x}(z)$ analytic in L^+ , $\hat{y}(z)$ analytic in L^- .

Then necessarily, for all $z \in L$:

$$H(\hat{x}(z), \hat{y}(z))P(\hat{x}(z), 0) = -V(\hat{x}(z), \hat{y}(z))P(0, \hat{y}(z)) - O(\hat{x}(z), \hat{y}(z))P(0, 0).$$

analytic in L^+

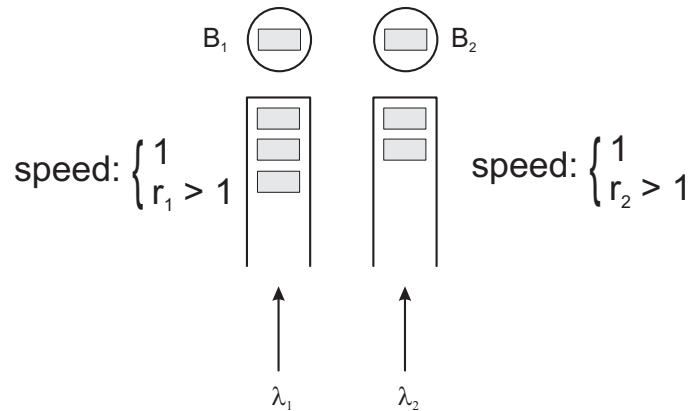
analytic in L^-

Now try to formulate a **boundary value problem**,
to solve $P(\hat{x}(z), 0)$, $z \in L^+$, and $P(0, \hat{y}(z))$, $z \in L^-$.

Some historical remarks:

Breakthrough for *two-dimensional* queues: [Fayolle and Iasnogorodski \(1979\)](#)

Joint queue length distribution for two coupled processors with exponential service times: reduction to a [Riemann-Hilbert](#) problem.



Further development of the theory: [Cohen and Boxma \(1983\)](#), [Cohen \(1992\)](#).
General service times, reduction to a [Riemann](#) or [Riemann-Hilbert](#) or [Wiener-Hopf](#) problem or [Fredholm](#) singular integral equation.

Outline of the talk

1. Introduction
2. The $GI/GI/1$ queue: The Wiener-Hopf boundary value technique
3. Two coupled processors: The Wiener-Hopf boundary value technique
4. Closing remarks: relation between the compensation approach and complex function techniques

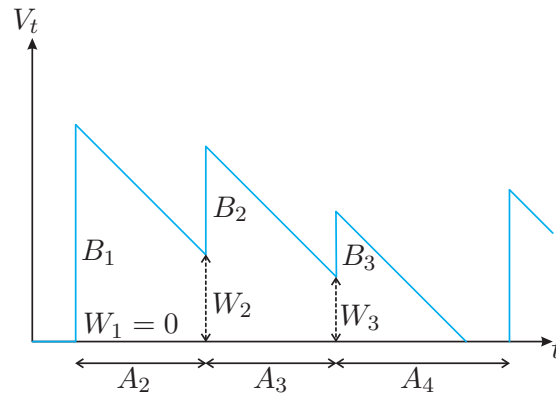
2. The $GI/GI/1$ queue: The Wiener-Hopf boundary value technique

Norbert Wiener and Eberhard Hopf (1931):

radiation of stars \implies integral equation \implies boundary value problem for analytic functions

i.i.d. interarrival times A_1, A_2, \dots ; LST $\alpha(s) = \mathbb{E}[e^{-sA_1}]$.

i.i.d. service times B_1, B_2, \dots ; LST $\beta(s) = \mathbb{E}[e^{-sB_1}]$. Load $\rho := \frac{\mathbb{E}B}{\mathbb{E}A} < 1$.



waiting time W_{n+1} : $W_{n+1} = \max(0, W_n + B_n - A_{n+1})$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Let $|r| \leq 1$ and

$$\Phi(r, s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n \mathbb{E}[e^{-sW_n} | W_1 = 0], \quad \operatorname{Re} s \geq 0,$$

$$\Psi(r, s) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n \mathbb{E}[e^{-s \min(0, W_n + B_n - A_{n+1})} | W_1 = 0], \quad \operatorname{Re} s \leq 0.$$

Use the identity

$$e^{-sW_{n+1}} = e^{-s(W_n + B_n - A_{n+1})} - e^{-s \min(0, W_n + B_n - A_{n+1})} + 1,$$

to get, for $|r| < 1$ and $\operatorname{Re} s = 0$:

$$\Phi(r, s)[1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)] = \frac{r}{1-r} - r\Psi(r, s).$$

Wiener-Hopf boundary value problem:

Find $\Phi(r, s)$ and $\Psi(r, s)$, such that,

(i) for $|r| < 1$ and $\operatorname{Re} s = 0$:

$$\Phi(r, s)[1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)] = \frac{r}{1-r} - r\Psi(r, s).$$

(ii) $\Phi(r, s)$ is analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s > 0$, continuous for $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 0$, bounded (by $\frac{r}{1-r}$) for $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 0$.

(iii) $\Psi(r, s)$ is analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s < 0$, continuous for $\operatorname{Re} s \leq 0$, bounded (by $\frac{r}{1-r}$) for $\operatorname{Re} s \leq 0$.

$$\Phi(r, s)[1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)] = \frac{r}{1 - r} - r\Psi(r, s).$$

Wiener-Hopf technique: rewrite

$$\frac{1}{1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)} = \phi_+(r, s)\phi_0(r)\phi_-(r, s),$$

with $\phi_+(r, s)$ ($\phi_-(r, s)$) analytic and non-zero in $\operatorname{Re} s > 0$ (< 0).

Then

$$\frac{\Phi(r, s)}{\phi_+(r, s)} = \left[\frac{1}{1 - r} - \Psi(r, s) \right] r\phi_0(r)\phi_-(r, s).$$

LHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s > 0$.

RHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s < 0$.

Let $Z(r, s) := LHS$ for $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 0$ and $Z(r, s) := RHS$ for $\operatorname{Re} s \leq 0$.

Then $Z(r, s)$ is analytic, and also bounded, in the whole s -plane.

Liouville's theorem: a function of s that is analytic and bounded in the whole s -plane is a *constant*. So here: $Z(r, s) = C(r)$.

Consequence:

$$\frac{\Phi(r, s)}{\phi_+(r, s)} = C(r), \quad \operatorname{Re} s \geq 0;$$

$$\left[\frac{1}{1-r} - \Psi(r, s) \right] r \phi_0(r) \phi_-(r, s) = C(r), \quad \operatorname{Re} s \leq 0.$$

Using $\Phi(r, 0) = \frac{r}{1-r}$ one obtains

$$\Phi(r, s) = C(r) \phi_+(r, s) = \frac{r}{1-r} \frac{\phi_+(r, s)}{\phi_+(r, 0)}, \quad \operatorname{Re} s \geq 0.$$

Similarly $\Psi(r, s)$.

The hard part: how to factorize

$$\frac{1}{1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)} = \phi_+(r, s)\phi_0(r)\phi_-(r, s).$$

Spitzer's identity (with $S_n := \sum_{k=1}^n (B_k - A_{k+1})$):

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s)} = \exp[-\ln(1 - r\alpha(-s)\beta(s))] \\ &= \exp\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{n} \{\alpha(-s)\beta(s)\}^n\right] = \exp\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{n} \mathbb{E}[e^{-sS_n}]\right] \\ &= \exp\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{n} \mathbb{E}[e^{-sS_n} I(S_n > 0)]\right] \exp\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{n} \mathbb{E}[e^{-sS_n} I(S_n < 0)]\right] \\ &\times \exp\left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{n} \mathbb{E}[e^{-sS_n} I(S_n = 0)]\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Special case: $M/G/1$; $\alpha(s) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda+s}$.

$$\Phi(r, s) \frac{\lambda - s - r\lambda\beta(s)}{\lambda - s} = \frac{r}{1 - r} - r\Psi(r, s), \quad |r| < 1, \quad \operatorname{Re} s = 0.$$

LHS: one pole $s = \lambda > 0$ and one zero $s = \delta(r)$ in $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 0$, for $|r| < 1$.
Hence

$$\Phi(r, s) \frac{\lambda - s - r\lambda\beta(s)}{s - \delta(r)} = \left[\frac{r}{1 - r} - r\Psi(r, s) \right] \frac{\lambda - s}{s - \delta(r)}.$$

LHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s > 0$; bounded. RHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s < 0$; bounded.

$$\Phi(r, s) \frac{\lambda - s - r\lambda\beta(s)}{s - \delta(r)} = \left[\frac{r}{1 - r} - r\Psi(r, s) \right] \frac{\lambda - s}{s - \delta(r)}.$$

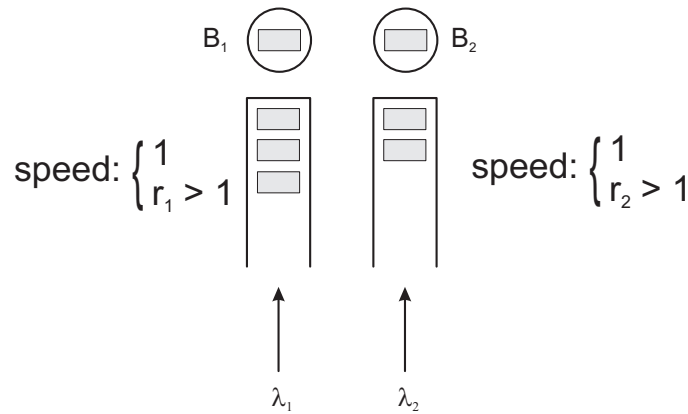
LHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s > 0$; bounded. RHS: analytic for $\operatorname{Re} s < 0$; bounded.

Liouville's theorem: both sides equal some function $D(r)$.

Taking $s = 0$ shows that $D(r) = -\frac{\lambda r}{\delta(r)}$.

2. Two coupled processors: The Wiener-Hopf boundary value technique

Example of the boundary value method for workloads: **Coupled processor model.**



Two $M/G/1$ queues, arrival rates λ_1 , λ_2 , general service requirements B_1 , B_2 . Coupled via speeds.

V_i steady-state workload at processor i , $i = 1, 2$.

$$\Psi(s_1, s_2) := \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 V_1 - s_2 V_2}], \quad \Psi_0 := \mathbb{P}(V_1 = 0, V_2 = 0),$$

$$\Psi_1(s_2) := \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_2 V_2} I(V_1 = 0)], \quad \Psi_2(s_1) := \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 V_1} I(V_2 = 0)].$$

Fundamental equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\lambda_1(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 B_1}]) - s_1 + \lambda_2(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_2 B_2}]) - s_2\} \Psi(s_1, s_2) = \\ & - [(r_1 - 1)s_1 + (r_2 - 1)s_2] \Psi_0 \\ & + [(r_1 - 1)s_1 - s_2] \Psi_2(s_1) + [(r_2 - 1)s_2 - s_1] \Psi_1(s_2). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{I})$$

Look for pairs of zeroes (s_1, s_2) with $\text{Re } s_1, s_2 \geq 0$ of the *kernel* $K(s_1, s_2) := \lambda_1(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 B_1}]) - s_1 + \lambda_2(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_2 B_2}]) - s_2$

$$K(s_1, s_2) = \lambda_1(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 B_1}]) - s_1 + \lambda_2(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_2 B_2}]) - s_2$$

is a *separable* kernel (makes sense!):

$$K(s_1, s_2) = \gamma_1(s_1) + \gamma_2(s_2) = \gamma_1(s_1) + w + \gamma_2(s_2) - w.$$

Uniformization method:

Look for zeroes of $\gamma_1(s_1) + w$ and of $\gamma_2(s_2) - w$.

Under certain conditions one may show that $\gamma_1(s_1) + w = 0$, for $\operatorname{Re} w \geq 0$, $w \neq 0$, has exactly one zero $s_1 = \delta_1(w)$ in $\operatorname{Re} s_1 \geq 0$, with multiplicity one; and $\delta_1(w)$ is analytic in $\operatorname{Re} w > 0$, continuous in $\operatorname{Re} w \geq 0$.

Similarly for $\gamma_2(s_2) - w$, but now with the w signs reversed: $s_2 = \delta_2(w)$.

Because of the analyticity of $\Psi(s_1, s_2)$ for these zero pairs (s_1, s_2) , the right hand side of (I) must be zero for those (s_1, s_2) .

Hence, for $\frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2} \neq 1$ (there is a simpler approach if $\frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2} = 1$), for $\operatorname{Re} w = 0$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{r_1}\right)\delta_1(w) - \frac{1}{r_1}\delta_2(w) \right] \left[\frac{1}{r_2}(\Psi_2(\delta_1(w))) - \Psi_0 \right] - \frac{\Psi_0}{r_1 r_2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2}} \\
 = & - \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{r_2}\right)\delta_2(w) - \frac{1}{r_2}\delta_1(w) \right] \left[\frac{1}{r_1}(\Psi_1(\delta_2(w))) - \Psi_0 \right] - \frac{\Psi_0}{r_1 r_2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2}}, \\
 & \tag{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $\Psi_1(\delta_2(w))$ is analytic for $\operatorname{Re} w < 0$, continuous for $\operatorname{Re} w \leq 0$, whereas $\Psi_2(\delta_1(w))$ is analytic for $\operatorname{Re} w > 0$, continuous for $\operatorname{Re} w \geq 0$.

A careful analysis of the factors in front of the Ψ functions in (2) reveals a way to factorize them as products of terms which are analytic in the left- and right half planes. One finally ends up with a **Wiener-Hopf** boundary value problem of the form: For $\text{Re } w = 0$ (the *boundary*),

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_L(w) \left[\frac{1}{r_2} (\Psi_2(\delta_1(w)) - \Psi_0) - \frac{\Psi_0}{r_1 r_2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2}} \right] = - \\
 A_R(w) \left[\frac{1}{r_1} (\Psi_1(\delta_2(w)) - \Psi_0) - \frac{\Psi_0}{r_1 r_2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2}} \right], \quad (3)
 \end{aligned}$$

where the left hand side is analytic for $\text{Re } w > 0$, continuous for $\text{Re } w \geq 0$, and the right hand side is analytic for $\text{Re } w < 0$, continuous for $\text{Re } w \leq 0$.

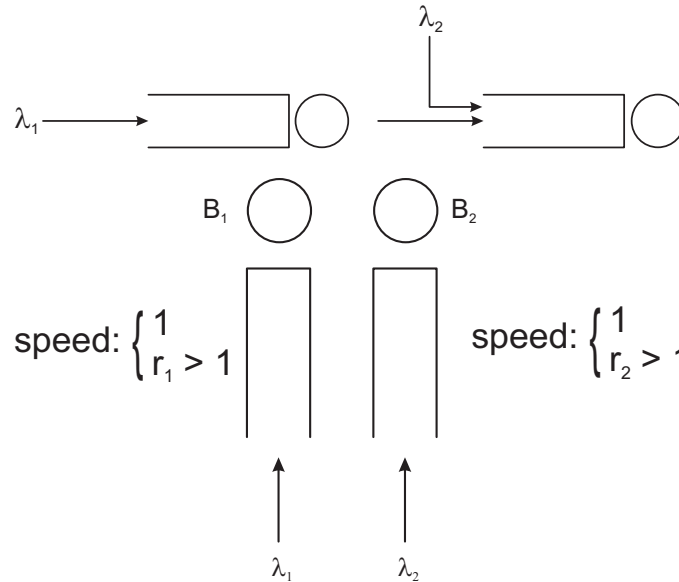
So both sides are each other's analytic continuations.

Liouville's theorem: both sides are constants.

This determines $\Psi_1(\delta_2(w))$ for $\operatorname{Re} w \leq 0$ and $\Psi_2(\delta_1(w))$ for $\operatorname{Re} w \geq 0$, and next $\Psi_1(s_2)$ for $\operatorname{Re} s_2 \geq 0$ and $\Psi_2(s_1)$ for $\operatorname{Re} s_1 \geq 0$ (this may first require analytic continuation).

Finally, $\Psi(s_1, s_2)$ follows from (I).

The case $r_1 = 1$, $r_2 = 2$: relation to a tandem queue with *continuous* outflow from Q_1 and Q_2 , and speeds 1 and 2.



Same two-dimensional workload process!

Generalization of the coupled processor model and of the tandem model:
Lévy input process instead of compound Poisson (joint work with Jevgenijs Ivanovs)

(tandem queue: [Miyazawa and Rolski \(2009\)](#)).

The **kernel**

$$K(s_1, s_2) = \lambda_1(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_1 B_1}]) - s_1 + \lambda_2(1 - \mathbb{E}[e^{-s_2 B_2}]) - s_2$$

becomes:

$$K(s_1, s_2) = \gamma_1(s_1) + \gamma_2(s_2),$$

with $\gamma_i(s_i)$ the Laplace exponent of the i th Lévy process.

Again a **separable** kernel;

again look for zeros of $\gamma_2(s_2) - w = 0$ (and of $\gamma_1(s_1) + w = 0$).

This is the inverse of the Laplace exponent.

Relation to entrance time of the Lévy process:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{-wT(u)}] = e^{-u\gamma_2^{-1}(w)} = e^{-u\delta_2(w)}.$$

4. Closing remarks: relation between the compensation approach and complex function techniques

Compensation approach (Ivo Adan) for a class of RW in first quadrant:

$$p_{m,n} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i \alpha_i^m \beta_i^n.$$

This corresponds to

$$P(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_i}{(1-\alpha_i x)(1-\beta_i y)},$$

$$\text{hence } P(x, 0) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_i}{1-\alpha_i x}, \quad P(0, y) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_i}{1-\beta_i y}.$$

These are meromorphic functions: the only singularities are isolated poles $\frac{1}{\alpha_i}, \frac{1}{\beta_i} \in C^-$.

The pairs (α_i, β_i) satisfy the balance equations in the interior.

The pairs $(\frac{1}{\alpha_i}, \frac{1}{\beta_i}) = (\hat{x}_i, \hat{y}_i)$ are zero pairs of the kernel $K(x, y)$.

Now consider the boundaries:

$$H(\hat{x}_i, \hat{y}_i)P(\hat{x}_i, 0) = -V(\hat{x}_i, \hat{y}_i)P(0, \hat{y}_i) - O(\hat{x}_i, \hat{y}_i)P(0, 0).$$

Each contribution of an \hat{x}_i pole is compensated by a contribution of a \hat{y}_i pole, which is subsequently compensated by a contribution of an \hat{x}_{i+1} pole, etc.

For the tandem queue, the process stops after one term, since $V(\hat{x}_0, \hat{y}_0) = 0$:

$$P(x, 0) = (1 - \rho_2) \frac{1 - \rho_1}{1 - \rho_1 x}.$$