

Distributions of phase type

Bo Friis Nielsen¹

¹DTU Informatics

02407 Stochastic Processes 8, October 29, 2013



Today:

- ▶ Phase type distributions
 - ▶ Definition
 - ▶ Basic properties
 - ▶ Closure properties

Next week

- ▶ Phase type distributions
- ▶ Conditional Expectation, Martingales

Two weeks from now

- ▶ Brownian motion



Definition of Phase type distributions

Finite state space Markov chain

One absorbing state

All other states transient

Transition matrix/generator

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{0} & \{0, 1\} \end{bmatrix}$$

Initial distribution amongs states (α, α_p) .

Representation (α, \mathbf{S}) (not unique)



Probability functions

	Discrete case	continuous case
Density	$\alpha \mathbf{S}^{x-1} \mathbf{s}$	$\alpha e^{\mathbf{S}x} \mathbf{s}$
Survival function	$\alpha \mathbf{S}^x \mathbf{1}$	$\alpha e^{\mathbf{S}x} \mathbf{1}$
Distribution function	$1 - \alpha \mathbf{S}^x \mathbf{1}$	$1 - \alpha e^{\mathbf{S}x} \mathbf{1}$



$$X \sim \text{PH}(\alpha, \mathbf{S}), Y \sim \text{PH}(\beta, \mathbf{T})$$

$$Z = X + Y$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{s}\beta \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{T} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}$$

thus $Z \sim \text{PH}(\gamma, \mathbf{L})$ with $\gamma = (\alpha, \alpha_{p_1+1}\beta)$



$$X \sim \text{PH}(\alpha, \mathbf{S}), Y \sim \text{PH}(\beta, \mathbf{T})$$

$$Z = \min(X, Y)$$

State space of dimension $p_1 \times p_2$

Combination of two independent chains



Kronecker product

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}\mathbf{B} & a_{12}\mathbf{B} & \dots & a_{1k}\mathbf{B} \\ a_{21}\mathbf{B} & a_{22}\mathbf{B} & \dots & a_{2k}\mathbf{B} \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{\ell 1}\mathbf{B} & a_{\ell 2}\mathbf{B} & \dots & a_{\ell k}\mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Consider the matrices \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{B} , and \mathbf{I} given by:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 7 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 11 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 17 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$



Then $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$, $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{B}$ is given by

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 13 & 2 \cdot 4 & 7 \cdot 13 & 7 \cdot 4 & 1 \cdot 13 & 1 \cdot 4 \\ 2 \cdot 0 & 2 \cdot 17 & 7 \cdot 0 & 7 \cdot 17 & 1 \cdot 0 & 1 \cdot 17 \\ 3 \cdot 13 & 3 \cdot 4 & 5 \cdot 13 & 5 \cdot 4 & 11 \cdot 13 & 11 \cdot 4 \\ 3 \cdot 0 & 3 \cdot 17 & 5 \cdot 0 & 5 \cdot 17 & 11 \cdot 0 & 11 \cdot 17 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 11 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 11 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 17 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 13 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 17 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 17 \end{bmatrix}.$$



Minimum of PH Distributed Random Variables

$$Z = \min(X, Y) \quad Z \sim \text{PH}(\gamma, \mathbf{L})$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{T} & \text{discrete case} \\ \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{T} & \text{continuous case} \end{cases}$$

$$\gamma = \alpha \otimes \beta$$



Random sum of continuous PH distributed random variables

$X \sim \text{PH}(\alpha, \mathbf{S})$, $Y_i \sim \text{PH}(\beta, \mathbf{T})$ where X is a discrete random variable and Y_i are continuous random variables.

$$Z = \sum_{i=0}^X Y_i$$

$Z \sim \text{PH}(\gamma, \mathbf{L})$ with

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{T} \otimes \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{t}\beta$$

$$\gamma = \alpha \otimes \beta$$



Maximum of PH Distributed random variables

$$Z = \max(X, Y)$$

In the continuous case we get

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{T} & \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{t} & \mathbf{s} \otimes \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{T} \end{bmatrix}$$

with obvious modifications for the transition probability matrix in the discrete case.

The initial probability distribution is

$$\gamma = (\alpha \otimes \beta, \alpha \cdot \beta_{p_2+1}, \alpha_{p_1+1} \cdot \beta).$$



Expectation

Discrete case:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{S}^i = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{S})^{-1} = \mathbf{U}$$

Continuous case

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{\mathbf{S}x} dx = (-\mathbf{S})^{-1} = \mathbf{U}$$

The (i, j) th element of \mathbf{U} is the expected time spent in stat j before absorption, conditioned on initialization in state i .

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \alpha \mathbf{U} \mathbf{1}$$



The PH renewal process

A finite state irreducible Markov chain.

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{S} + (1 - \alpha_{p+1})^{-1} \mathbf{s} \alpha$$

Renewal density (assuming $\alpha_{p+1} = 0$)

$$h(x) = \alpha e^{\mathbf{Q}x} \mathbf{s}$$

Renewal function (assuming $\alpha_{p+1} = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} H(x) &= \frac{x\beta\nu}{\alpha \mathbf{S}^{-2} \mathbf{s}} - \beta \left(\mathbf{I} - e^{(\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{s}\alpha)x} \right) (\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{s}\alpha - \nu\pi)^{-1} \mathbf{s} \\ &= \frac{x\beta\nu}{\alpha \mathbf{S}^{-2} \mathbf{s}} - \beta \left(\mathbf{I} - e^{\mathbf{Q}x} \right) (\mathbf{Q} - \nu\pi)^{-1} \mathbf{s} \end{aligned}$$



Residual life time and age distribution

$$\pi \mathbf{Q} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{1} & \text{discrete case} \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{continuous case} \end{cases}$$

$$\pi \approx \alpha \mathbf{U}$$

$$\pi = \alpha \mathbf{U} (\alpha \mathbf{U} \mathbf{1})^{-1}$$

Residual life time and age in a stationary PH renewal process is PH(π, \mathbf{S}) distributed



Moment generating functions

$$\mathbb{E} \left(e^{\theta X} \right) = \begin{cases} \alpha_{p+1} + \alpha (\mathbf{I} - e^{\theta \mathbf{S}})^{-1} \mathbf{s} & \text{discrete case} \\ \alpha_{p+1} + \alpha (\mathbf{I} - \theta(-\mathbf{S}))^{-1} \mathbf{1} & \text{continuous case} \end{cases}$$

For the discrete case it is more common to use the generating function

$$\mathbb{E} \left(z^X \right) = \alpha_{p+1} + \alpha (\mathbf{I} - z\mathbf{S})^{-1} \mathbf{s}$$



Moments

By differentiation of the moment generating functions we get

$$\mathbb{E} \left(X^i \right) = \alpha i! \mathbf{U}^i \mathbf{1} \quad \text{continuous case}$$

$$\mathbb{E} (X(X-1) \dots (X-i+1)) = \alpha i! \mathbf{U}^i \mathbf{S}^{i-1} \mathbf{1} \quad \text{discrete case}$$

