

zero entries in  $m \in M$  determines whether or not  $m \in I$ . Now  $A'(1), A'(2), \dots$  is an increasing sequence of subsets of  $M'$ , which has less than  $2^{n^2}$  elements, so there must be a smallest  $r, 1 \leq r \leq 2^{n^2}$ , such that  $A'(r) = A'(r+1)$ . To complete the proof we need only show that  $A'(r) = A'$  since if  $A(r) \subset A(2^{n^2}) \subset I$  then  $A' = A'(r) \subset I'$  so  $A \subset I$ . Thus we need only prove that if  $k \geq 1$  and  $A'(k) = A'(k+1)$  then  $A'(k+1) = A'(k+2)$ . Now if  $m \in A(k+2)$  then  $m = bc$ , where  $b \in A(k+1)$  and  $c \in A(1)$  so there exists a  $d \in A(k)$  with  $b' = d'$  so  $m' = (dc)' \in A'(k+1)$  and the proof is complete.

We conclude with three comments. Clearly  $A'(1)$  determines whether or not  $A \subset I$  so that if  $A(1)$  is an infinite set, which is not the case for indecomposable channels, then  $A(1)$  may, for the purpose of determining whether or not  $A \subset I$ , be replaced by any finite  $B \subset M$  with  $B' = A'(1)$ . If  $m \in A$  has a state which is periodic with period  $d > 1$  then  $m^d \notin I$  and  $m^d \in A$  so  $A \not\subset I$ . For any  $A(1), (A(2^{n^2}))' = A'$ .

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NOTE ON QUEUES IN TANDEM<sup>1</sup>

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**1. Introduction.** Assume that  $Q_k, k = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , is a single server queue where customers are served with an exponential service time distribution of mean  $1/\mu_k$ . We shall assume that the  $j$ th customer,  $C_j$ , arrives at  $Q_1$  at time  $t_j$ , where  $\{t_j\}$  are the events of a Poisson process, and  $\lambda$  the number of arrivals per unit time. The queues  $Q_k$  are arranged in tandem; that is, after  $C_j$ 's service at  $Q_k$  is completed he proceeds to  $Q_{k+1}$  and joins the queue there. We shall extend a result of our previous paper [1] for the foregoing situation.

Let  $T_{jk}$  denote  $C_j$ 's waiting time at  $Q_k$ , including the duration of  $C_j$ 's service at  $Q_k$ . The purpose of the present note is to show, using the results of [1], that under "equilibrium" conditions the probabilistic description of the random

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