

ON SOME ASYMPTOTIC PROPERTIES OF POISSON PROCESS

TAKEYUKI HIDA

The Poisson process $X(t, \omega)$,¹⁾ ($\omega \in \Omega$, $0 \leq t < \infty$), as is well-known, is a temporally and spatially homogeneous Markoff process satisfying

- (1) $X(0, \omega) = 0$ and $X(t, \omega) = \text{integer} \geq 0$ for every $\omega \in \Omega$,
 (2) $\text{Pr}\{X(t, \omega) - X(t', \omega) \geq k\} = \sum_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{\{\lambda(t-t')\}^i}{i!} e^{-\lambda(t-t')}$ for $t > t'$,

where k is a non-negative integer and λ is a positive constant. In this note we consider the random variable $L_m(\omega)$ which denotes the length of t -interval such that $X(t, \omega) = m$ ($m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) and some of other properties concerning them.

§ 1. The known results on L_m .

Definition. We define $L_m(\omega)$, the function of m and ω , as follows,

$$L_m(\omega) = t_{m+1}(\omega) - t_m(\omega),$$

where

$$t_m(\omega) = \text{Min}\{\tau; X(\tau, \omega) = m\}.$$

This $t_m(\omega)$ exists almost certainly by the right continuity property of Poisson process, and furthermore it is clear that $t_m(\omega)$ is measurable. Thus $L_m(\omega)$ becomes a non-negative random variable.

THEOREM 1. $L_0, L_1, \dots, L_m, \dots$ are mutually independent random variables with a common distribution function $F(l)$,

where

$$(3) \quad F(l) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-\lambda l} & \text{if } l \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Furthermore

$$(4) \quad E(L_m)^{2)} = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$(5) \quad V(L_m)^{2)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

This theorem was already suggested by P. Levy [2]³⁾ and a rigorous proof was

Received March 19, 1953.

¹⁾ ω denotes the probability parameter.

²⁾ $E(\dots)$ and $V(\dots)$ denote the mean and the variance respectively.

³⁾ Numbers in brackets refer to the bibliography at the end of this note.