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Performance Analysis of Joining the Shortest Queue Model among a Large Number of Queues*

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*This is a joint work with Don Dawson and Yiqiang Q Zhao

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1 Motivation

1.1. Balancing techniques

- **Changing the arrival and/or service rates**

- ▷ Changing the arrival rate
- ▷ Changing the service rate

- **Joining different queues**

- ▷ JSQ model
- ▷ Extra arrival source may choose different queues to join
- ▷ Dobrushin's mean-field model

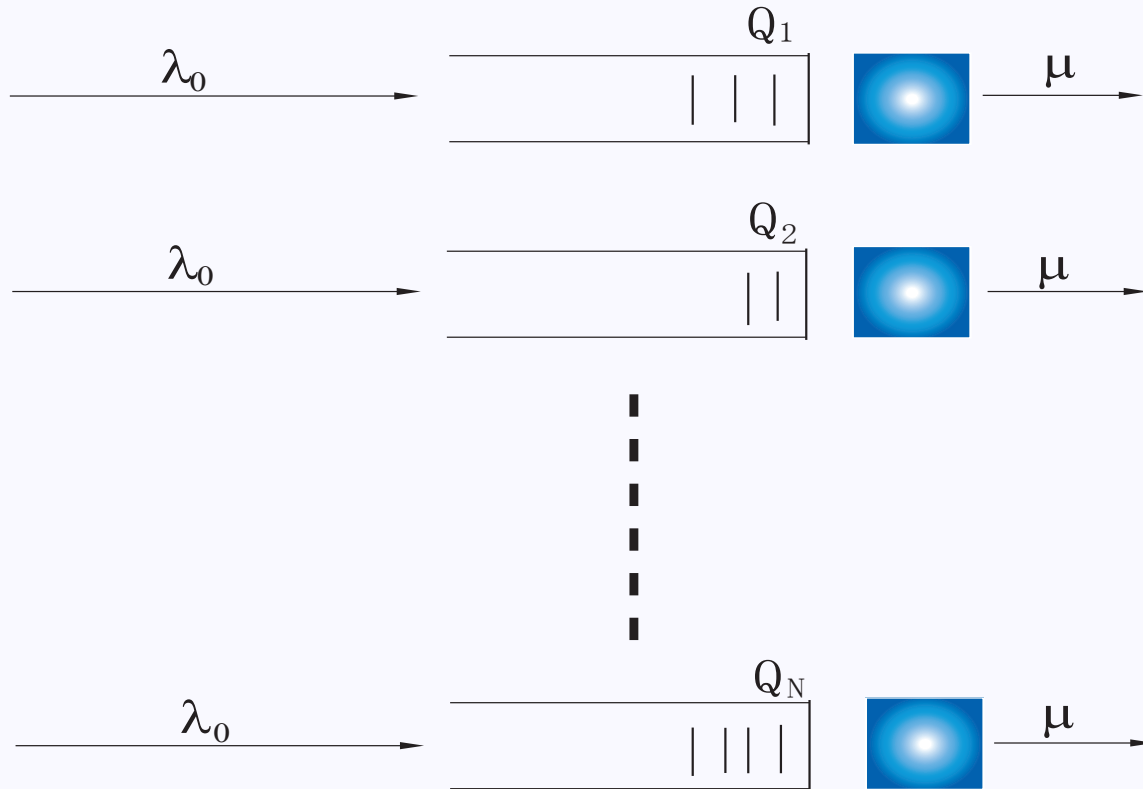
1.1 Balancing techniques(con't)

- **Jockeying**

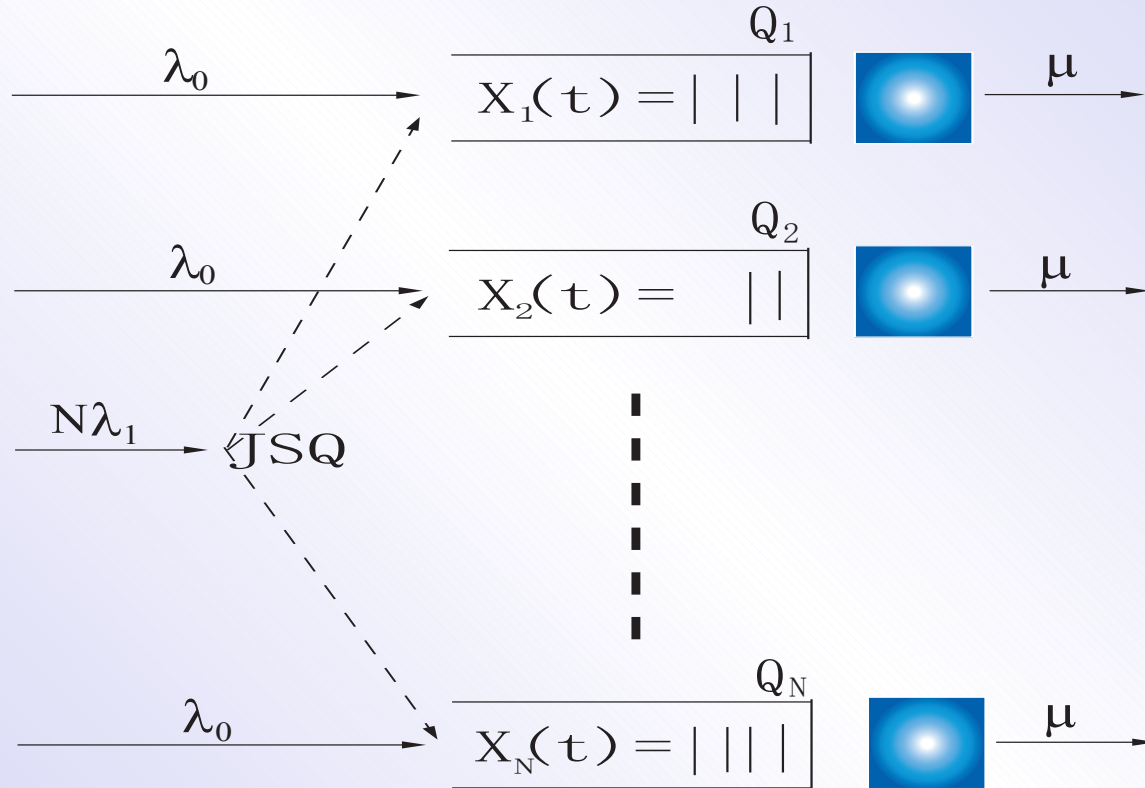
- ▷ Periodic redistributing customers in all queues
- ▷ r difference jockeying

2 | Modeling

2.1. Noninteraction parallel network



2.2. Mean field interaction parallel network: JSQ with large N



2.3. Description of the main result

Theorem. (1) For JSQ mean field interaction network, if $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 < \mu$, then the unique stationary distribution of the “typical queue” of the interaction network is

$$\pi_0^{JSQ} = 1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu},$$

$$\pi_k^{JSQ} = \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^{k-1}, k \geq 1.$$

2.3 Description of the main result(con't)

(2) If $\lambda_1 = 0$ then

$$\pi_k^{JSQ} = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^k, \quad k \geq 0.$$

(3) If $\lambda_0 = 0$, then

$$\pi_0^{JSQ} = 1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu},$$

$$\pi_1^{JSQ} = \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu},$$

$$\pi_k^{JSQ} = 0 \quad \text{for all } k \geq 2.$$

2.4. Empirical probability measure

Let $X_j(t)$ be the queue length of queue j at time t , define

$$U_N(t) := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{X_j(t)}$$

which is the empirical distribution of queue length of the N queues at time t .

2.5. Interaction function

Define an *interaction function* $h : \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathcal{P}(E) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ as the following:

$$h(x, \nu) = \frac{\lambda_1}{\nu(\{ms(\nu)\})} \delta_{ms(\nu)}(x).$$

where $ms(\nu) = \inf\{x \geq 0, \nu(\{x\}) > 0\}$ is the minimum point of the support of the probability measure ν .

2.6. Master equation

For the above interaction function, define operator:

$$\Omega_{h,u(t)}f(i) = (\lambda_0+h(i, u(t)))(f(i+1)-f(i))+\mu(f(i-1)-f(i))$$

The nonlinear *master equation* has the following form

$$\frac{d\langle u(t), f \rangle}{dt} = \langle u(t), \Omega_{h,u(t)}f \rangle, \quad f \in C_b(E),$$

where $u(\cdot)$ is a measure-valued function from $[0, +\infty)$ to $\mathcal{P}(E)$.

2.7. Definition of q -solution

Definition 1. Let $u \in \mathcal{P}(E)$, $P \in \mathcal{P}(D_\infty(E), \mathcal{F})$ is called a solution of the master equation with initial value u if its marginal distribution $u_t(\cdot) = P \circ X_t^{-1}(\cdot)$ satisfies the master equation and $u_0 = u$. Moreover, P is called a q -solution if, in addition, it is Markovian in the sense of McKean(Funaki(1984)), i.e. for any $j \in E$,

$$P(X_{t+s} = j | \mathcal{F}_t) = p(t, X_t, t + s, j), \quad P - a.s.$$

where transition function $p(s, i, t, j)$ satisfies that

$$\frac{d}{ds} p(t, i, t + s, j) = \sum_{k \in E} p(t, i, t + s, k) \Omega_{h, u_{t+s}} I_{\{j\}}(k), \quad t \geq 0.$$

3 | Convergence theorem (LLN)

Theorem 2. Let $U_N(t)$ satisfies

$$\sup_N E^{(N)} \langle U_N(0)(dx), x \rangle < \infty,$$

$$U_N(0) \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} U(0), \quad \langle U(0)(dx), x^2 \rangle < \infty.$$

Then the sequence $\{U_N\}_{N=1}^{\infty}$ converges in the sense of weakly convergence of measure-valued stochastic processes to a q -solution of the nonlinear master equation, moreover, if $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 < \mu$ and $U(0)(\{0\}) > 0$, then the solution of the master equation is unique.

4 | Stationary distribution

4.1. Definition

Definition 3. $\pi \in \mathcal{P}_p(E)$ is called a stationary distribution of the q -solution of the master equation if $P \circ X_0^{-1} = \pi$ implies that for all $t \geq 0$, $P \circ X_t^{-1} = \pi$.

4.2. Join the shortest queue

Theorem 4. (1) Under the conditions of the convergence theorem, let $t \rightarrow \infty$, then the Q -matrix of a “typical queue” of the interaction queue is

$$Q^{JSQ} = \begin{pmatrix} -(\lambda_0 + \frac{\lambda_1}{\pi_0}) & \lambda_0 + \frac{\lambda_1}{\pi_0} & 0 & \cdots \\ \mu & -(\lambda_0 + \mu) & \lambda_0 & \cdots \\ 0 & \mu & -(\lambda_0 + \mu) & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\pi = (\pi_0, \pi_1, \cdots)$ is the unique stationary distribution.

4.2 Join the shortest queue(con't)

(2) The unique stationary distribution is

$$\pi_0^{JSQ} = 1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu},$$

$$\pi_k^{JSQ} = \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^{k-1}, k \geq 1$$

4.3. Join infinity queues randomly

Theorem 5. (1) If the extra customer can join all queues randomly, then the corresponding Q -matrix will be that

$$Q^{J_{\infty}Q} = \begin{pmatrix} -(\lambda_0 + \lambda_1) & \lambda_0 + \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots \\ \mu & -(\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 + \mu) & \lambda_0 + \lambda_1 & \cdots \\ 0 & \mu & -(\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 + \mu) & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Which is equivalent to that of an $M/M/1$ queue with arrival and service rate are $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1$ and μ respectively.

4.3 Join infinity queues randomly(con't)

(2) If we let $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 < \mu$, then this queue will be stable and the stationary distribution satisfies that

$$\pi_k^{J_\infty Q} = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^k, \quad k \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

4.4. Comparison of stationary distributions between JSQ and $J_\infty Q$

- (1) $\pi_0^{JSQ} = \pi_0^{J_\infty Q}$, which means that since the average arrival rate and service rate are the same, the idle probability of the servers are the same;
- (2) The tail of $\pi^{J_\infty Q}$ is something like $const \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^k$, while that of π^{JSQ} is something like $const \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^k$;
- (3) The average queue length of JSQ is shorter than that of $J_\infty Q$: $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \pi_k^{JSQ} = \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu - \lambda_0} < \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu - (\lambda_0 + \lambda_1)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \pi_k^{J_\infty Q}$;
- (4) If $\lambda_1 = 0$, then $\pi_k^{JSQ} = \pi_k^{J_\infty Q}$, $k \geq 0$. Because in this case, they all are equivalent to $M(\lambda_0)/M(\mu)/1$ queue.

4.4 Comparison of stationary distributions between JSQ and $J_\infty Q$ (con't)

- (5) As we know that the tail of π^{JSQ} is depending on λ_0 , if we let $\lambda_0 = 0$, then we have: $\pi_0^{JSQ} = 1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}$, $\pi_1^{JSQ} = \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}$ and $\pi_k^{JSQ} = 0$ for all $k \geq 2$.
- (6) $\lambda_1 \uparrow (\mu - \lambda_0)$ such that $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 \uparrow \mu$, then the limit of the stationary distribution of the JSQ is that $\pi_0^{JSQ} \downarrow 0$, $\pi_k \uparrow (1 - \lambda_0)\left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^{k-1}$, $k \geq 1$, while the stationary distribution of the $J_\infty Q$ does not have the limit.

From these it is very easy to see that the performance of the JSQ system has been improved.

4.5. Join the m -th shortest queue: $1 \leq m \leq s$

If the extra customer can randomly join the queue whose length is between the shortest and s -shortest, then convergence result similar to Theorem 2 can also be established, in this case, as the time t tends to infinity, then the Q -matrix will be

$$q_{ij}^{J_{1 \sim s}Q} = \begin{cases} \lambda_0 + \frac{\lambda_1}{\pi_0^1 + \dots + \pi_{s-1}^1}, & j = i + 1, i = 0, \dots, s - 1 \\ \lambda_0, & j = i + 1, i > s - 1 \\ -\lambda_0 - \mu - \frac{\lambda_1}{\pi_0^1 + \dots + \pi_{s-1}^1}, & j = i, i = 0, \dots, s - 1 \\ -\lambda_0 - \mu, & j = i, i > s - 1 \\ \mu, & j = i - 1, i \geq 1 \\ 0, & \text{others} \end{cases}$$

4.5 Join the m -th shortest queue: $1 \leq m \leq s$ (con't)

One can calculate the stationary distribution corresponds to Q -matrix, as an example, we have

Theorem 6 (1) For the case of $s = 2$, then the stationary distribution of the limiting typical queue is that

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_0 &= 1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \\ \pi_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^2 + 4 \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right) \right) \\ \pi_k &= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right) + 2 \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^2 + 4 \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0 + \lambda_1}{\mu}\right)} \right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^{k-2}, \quad k \geq 2 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the average arrival rate is $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1$.

4.5 Join the m -th shortest queue: $1 \leq m \leq s$ (con't)

(2) If $\lambda_1 = 0$, then

$$\pi_k = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_0}{\mu}\right)^k, \quad k \geq 0.$$

(3) If $\lambda_0 = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_0 &= 1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu} \\ \pi_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^2 + 4\frac{\lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}\right)} - \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}\right) \right) \\ \pi_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu} - \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}\right)^2 + 4\frac{\lambda_1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu}\right)} \right) \\ \pi_k &= 0, \quad k \geq 3. \end{aligned}$$

5 | Conclusions

- When N is large, the interaction queueing network can be studied in terms of “typical” queue
- Load-balancing described as the mean-field interaction in this talk does improve the system performance
- We expect that this method can be used to study other balancing mechanisms



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Thank you

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Notation

\mathbf{R} — the set of all real numbers,

\mathbf{R}_+ — the set of all nonnegative numbers,

(E, \mathcal{E}) — $E = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and be equipped with discrete topology,

$C_b(E)$ — the set of bounded continuous functions in E ,

$D_\infty(E)$ - the set of functions from $[0, \infty)$ to E which are càdlàg,

$X(t, w)$ – coordinate process with $w \in D_\infty(E)$,

\mathcal{F}_t — $\sigma\{X(s), 0 \leq s \leq t\}$,

\mathcal{F} — $\sigma\{X(s), s \geq 0\}$,

$\mathcal{P}(E)$ — the set of probability measures on E ,

$\mathcal{P}_p(E)$ — space of elements in $\mathcal{P}(E)$ with finite p th moment,

$\mathcal{P}(D_\infty(E), \mathcal{F})$ — probability measures on $(D_\infty(E), \mathcal{F})$.

$$\langle \nu, f \rangle = \int f(x) \nu(dx)$$

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