On a Class of Transport Equations for the Dynamics and the Interaction of TCP Flows

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- Donald, IHMN, 2006
- Interaction of TCP Flows in Series (AQM) ongoing work with G. Carofiglio & S. Foss

Persistent Flows

– Dynamics of TCP

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- Square root formula
- Markov analysis
- Distributions



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TCP Transmission Control Protocol of the Internet: distributed, end-to-end

- Error control Each packet received by the destination is acknowledged;
- Congestion control The number of unacknowledged packets in transit in the network is limited by the source to a maximal value W called the window.

If the Round Trip Time (RTT) is R, the throughput of the connection is

$$X = \frac{W}{R}$$

TCP

• TCP dynamic window size (updated when acks are received): $w_{n+1} = g(w_n, F(n)),$

F(n): feedback signal on the state of congestion,

■ Reno-congestion avoidance: AIMD

 $g(w_n, \text{OK}) = w_n + 1 \text{ every } w_n \text{ acks}, \quad g(w_n, \text{LOSS}) = \left\lfloor \frac{w_n}{2} \right\rfloor$

■ Fast: MIMD

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$$g(w_n, \text{OK}) = w_n + 1, \quad g(w_n, \text{LOSS}) = \left\lfloor \frac{w_n}{2} \right\rfloor$$

Hybrid Model for AIMD Dynamics of TCP RENO

In Congestion Avoidance phase, the evolution of the TCP Reno congestion window is described through the differential equation:

$$dW(t) = \frac{dt}{R} - \frac{W(t-)}{2}N(dt), \quad dX(t) = \frac{dt}{R^2} - \frac{X(t-)}{2}N(dt)$$

- the window increase between two loss events is linear with slope $\frac{1}{R}$;
- loss events produce jumps of congestion windows which is cut by half.
- N(t) is the loss point process.
- First studied by T. Ott and then by Altman et al. 00, Adjih et al. 02, Robert et al. 02, F.B. Mc Donald and Reynier 02

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Rationale

- AI: TCP stipulates that in Congestion Avoidance, the window is increased of 1 unit every W ack:
 - In dt, the number of acks that arrive is X(t)dt;

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- Hence the window increases of X(t)dt/W(t) = dt/R.
- MD: TCP stipulates that in case of a loss event, the congestion windows which is cut by half.

Loss Point Processes

- Losses are modeled by two kinds of point processes:
- 1. rate independent (RI) case: homogeneous Poisson point process with intensity λ
- 2. rate dependent (RD) case: point process with a stochastic intensity pX(t)
- Rationale

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- 1. RI: losses caused by physical layer events arising on wireless links (fast fading) or DSL links (impulse noise)
- 2. RD: PER (packet error rate) due to congestion or transmission errors.



The Square Root Formula in 3 Lines - RI case

• If there exists a stationary regime with X integrable, the Rate Conservation Principle gives

$$\frac{1}{R^2} = \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbb{E}_N^0 [X(0-)]$$

with \mathbb{E}_N^0 the Palm probability of N;

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• Pasta implies $\mathbb{E}_N^0[X(0-)] = \mathbb{E}[X(0)]$, which gives

$$\mathbb{E}[X(0)] = \frac{2}{\lambda R^2}$$

• The packet loss probability p is such that $p\mathbb{E}[X(0)] = \lambda$; Hence

$$\mathbb{E}[X(0)] = \sqrt{\frac{2}{pR^2}}.$$

10 Case If there exists a stationary regime where N has intensity λ and X is integrable, the Rate Conservation Principle gives $\frac{1}{R^2} = \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbb{E}_N^0 [X(0-)]$ From Papangelou's theorem $\mathbb{E}_N^0[X(0-)] = \mathbb{E}[X(0)\frac{pX(0)}{\lambda}]$ so that $\mathbb{E}[X(0)^2] = \frac{2}{pR^2}$

■ No simple identification of the mean TCP throughput.

Markov Analysis

- X(t) is a Markov Process
 - with continuous time

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- with continuous state space
- It falls in the Piecewise Deterministic Process framework of Davis.
- The embedded chain (at "discontinuities") is geometrically ergodic.

Markov Analysis (continued)

- $\{X_n\}$: throughput sampled just after loss times, forms a discrete time Markov chain on \mathbb{R}_+ .
- $\{X_n\}$ satisfies the AR-like equation

$$X_{n+1} = X_n/2 + W_{n+1}$$

and with $W_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}\tau_{n+1}$

- RI: independent of $\{X_k\}_{k \leq n}$ and exponential
- RD: conditionally independent of $\{X_k\}_{k \leq n}$ given X_n (RD) with

$$P(\tau_{n+1} > t \mid X_n = x) = \exp\left(-\int_0^t \alpha \left(x+u\right) du\right)$$
$$= \exp\left(-\alpha \left(xt + \frac{t^2}{2}\right)\right),$$

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Analytical Results: Distributions - RI Case

• For all u > 0 for all continuity point of X(t),

$$\dot{X}^{u}(t) = uX^{u-1}(t)\dot{X}(t) = uX^{u-1}(t)/R^{2}$$

so that

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$$X^{u}(t) = X^{u}(0) + \frac{uX^{u-1}(t)}{R^{2}} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{u}}\right) \int_{0}^{t} X^{u}(v-)N(dv)$$

Thus

$$M(t) = X^{u}(t) - X^{u}(0) - \frac{u}{R^{2}} \int_{0}^{t} X^{u-1}(v) dv + \lambda \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{u}}\right) \int_{0}^{t} X^{u}(v-) dv$$

is a martingale s.t. M(0) = 0 so that whenever moments are finite

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} E[X^u(t)] = \frac{u}{R^2} E[X^{u-1}(t)] - \lambda \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^u}\right) E[X^u(t)]$$

Analytical Results: Distributions - RI Case (continued)

• Mellin transforms of the density of X at time t:

$$E[X^u(t)] = \int_0^\infty x^u f(t, z) dz = \widehat{f_t}(u+1).$$

■ Functional equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\widehat{f}_t(u+1) = \frac{u}{R^2}\widehat{f}_t(u) - \lambda\left(1 - \frac{1}{2^u}\right)\widehat{f}_t(u+1)$$

■ PDE

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$$\frac{\partial f(z,\,t)}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial f(z,\,t)}{\partial x} + \lambda \left(f(z,\,t) - 2f\left(2z,\,t\right) \right) = 0$$

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Analytical Results: Distributions - RI Case (continued)
• Stationary ODE:

$$\frac{df(z)}{dz} + \xi (f(z) - 2f (2z)) = 0$$
with $\xi = \lambda R^2$.
• Stationary functional equation:

$$u \widehat{f}(u) = \xi \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^u}\right) \widehat{f}(u+1)$$
• $\widehat{f}(u) = g(u)\Gamma(u)\xi^{-u}$. Then

$$g(u) = g(u+1)(1 - 2^{-u}), \quad i.e. \quad g(u) = g(\infty) \prod_{k \ge 0} (1 - 2^{-u-k}),$$

Analytical Results: Distributions - RI Case (continued)

Theorem

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The unique stationary distribution solution of this functional equation has for Mellin transform

$$\widehat{f}(u) = \phi \Gamma(u) \xi^{-u} \prod_{k \ge 0} (1 - 2^{-u-k})$$

with $\xi = \lambda R^2$ and $\phi = \xi \left(\prod_{k \ge 1} (1 - 2^{-k})\right)^{-1}$. The associated probability density is

$$f(z) = \phi \sum_{n \ge 0} b_n e^{-(\xi 2^n)z}$$

with
$$b_0 = 1$$
 and $b_n = (-1)^n \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{2}{(2^k - 1)}$.

Distributions - RD

• Formal proof of PDE by the same martingale approach: ∂f 1 ∂f

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z,t) + \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(z,t) = p(4zf(2z,t) - zf(z,t)), \quad z \ge 0,$$

- mass leaves the interval [z, z + dz] at rate pzf(z, t)dz approximately.
- mass enters this interval because of losses among throughputs in the interval [2z,2(z+dz)] at rate $p2zf(2z,t)\cdot 2dz$
- Functional equation for the stationary Mellin transform of f:

 $u\widehat{f}(u) = \xi\widehat{f}(u+2)(1-2^{-u}).$

with $\xi = pR^2$.

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– Moments

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– Distributions

Dynamics RD model with packet loss probability p and RTT R. The flow alternates between document downloads and think times, inducing an ON/OFF flow structure Document sizes F_i are i.i.d. with mean 1/µ

– Think times T_i are i.i.d. with mean $1/\beta$

- Motivation: HTTP 1.1 where the files successively downloaded by a flow use the same TCP-Reno connection:
 - Slow Start jump approximation: jumps J_i are i.i.d.



Exponential Model

- File sizes are exponential with parameter μ
- Think times are exponential with parameter β
- Slow start jump is a bounded random variable with law H (for example with density h).
- X(t) is a Markov Process
 - with continuous time

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- with continuous state space (with an atom)
- It falls in the Piecewise Deterministic Process framework of Davis.
- The embedded chain (at "discontinuities") is geometrically ergodic.



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{ds(z)}{dz} &= \beta \nu R^2 h(z) - \mu R^2 z s(z) + 4z p R^2 s(2z) - z p R^2 s(z) \\ &= \mu R^2 \int_0^\infty v s(v) dv h(z) - \mu R^2 z s(z) + 4p z R^2 s(2z) - z p R^2 s(z) \end{aligned}$$

since

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$$\int_0^\infty \mu z s(z) dz = \beta \nu.$$

Moments

• $\mathbb{E}T$: mean time to transfer a file

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- $\mathbb{E}X(0)$: mean stationary throughput
- Cycle formula (thanks to the regenerative structure):

$$\mathbb{E}X(0) = \frac{\frac{1}{\mu}}{\frac{1}{\beta} + \mathbb{E}T}$$

• Probability that a flow is OFF : $\nu = \mathbb{E}X(0)\frac{\mu}{\beta}$











Proof
• Functional equation:

$$u\widehat{s}(u) = pR^2\widehat{s}(u+2)(1-2^{-u}) + \mu R^2\widehat{s}(u+2) - \mu R^2\widehat{s}(2)\widehat{h}(u+1).$$

Let
 $\widehat{s}(u) = f(u)\Gamma(\frac{u}{2})\left(\frac{2}{(p+\mu)R^2}\right)^{\frac{u}{2}}.$
Then
 $f(u) = f(u+2)(1-\frac{p}{p+\mu}2^{-u}) - \frac{\mu R^2}{2}\widehat{s}(2)\widehat{h}(u+1)\frac{\left(\frac{(p+\mu)R^2}{2}\right)^{\frac{u}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{u}{2}+1)}$

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Proof (continued)
Which implies

$$f(u) = f(\infty)\Pi_{\infty}(u) - \frac{\mu R^2 \widehat{s}(2)}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Pi_k(u) \widehat{h}(u+2k+1) \frac{\left((p+\mu)R^2/2\right)^{\frac{u}{2}+k}}{\Gamma(\frac{u}{2}+k+1)}$$

$$\widehat{s}(u) = f(\infty) \frac{\Gamma(\frac{u}{2})}{\left(\frac{(p+\mu)R^2}{2}\right)^{\frac{u}{2}}} \Pi_{\infty}(u)$$

$$-\frac{\mu R^2 \widehat{s}(2)}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Pi_k(u) \widehat{h}(u+2k+1) \left(\frac{(p+\mu)R^2}{2}\right)^k \frac{\Gamma(\frac{u}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{u}{2}+k+1)}.$$

• Specializing to u = 2, we get a first linear relation between $\widehat{s}(2)$ and $f(\infty)$

• Specializing to u = 1 and using normalization, we get a second independent linear relation between $\hat{s}(2)$ and $f(\infty)$

Distribution of the Throughput - Slow Start Case

■ Methodology:

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- 1. Solve first an auxiliary Rate Independent Equation
- 2. Express the solution of the original ODE in function of that of the RI Equation.
A More General Class of ODEs

We consider the more general equation

$$\frac{df(z)}{dz} = \delta T(f)A(z) - \mu z^{\gamma - 1}f(z) + \beta z^{\gamma - 1}(\rho^{\gamma}f(\rho z) - f(z)), \quad z \ge 0,$$

where

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$$T(f) = \int_0^\infty z^{\gamma - 1} f(z) dz,$$

$$\begin{split} \delta &\geq \mu, \\ A \text{ is a probability density function,} \\ \gamma &\geq 1, \\ \rho &> 1, \\ \beta &\geq 0, \\ \mu &\geq 0, \\ \mu &+ \beta &> 0. \end{split}$$



$$\begin{split} \gamma &= 2, \\ \rho &= 2, \\ p R^2 &\to \beta, \\ \mu R^2 &\to \delta, \\ h(z) &\to A(z), \\ \mu R^2 &\to \mu \end{split}$$

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• One gets back the initial RD ODE

$$\frac{ds(z)}{dz} = \mu R^2 \int_0^\infty v s(v) dv h(z) - \mu R^2 z s(z) + 4p z R^2 s(2z) - z p R^2 s(z)$$



• One gets the RI ODE

$$\frac{df(z)}{dz} = \mu R^2 h(z) - \mu R^2 f(z) + \lambda R^2 (\theta f(\theta z) - f(z)), \quad z \ge 0,$$

which represents the AIMD on-off dynamics when

- losses occur according to a Poisson point process of intensity λ , leading to a division of the throughput by θ ;
- file lifetime (on-time) is exponentially distributed with parameter μ .

Analysis of the RI Equation

$$\frac{df(z)}{dz} = \delta A(z) - \mu f(z) + \beta (\theta f(\theta z) - f(z)), \quad z \ge 0,$$

• Laplace transform $\widetilde{f}(s)$:

$$s\widetilde{f}(s) - f(0) = \delta\widetilde{A}(s) - \mu\widetilde{f}(s) + \beta\left(\widetilde{f}\left(\frac{s}{\theta}\right) - \widetilde{f}(s)\right);$$

that is

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$$\widetilde{f}(s) \; = \; \frac{f(0) + \delta \widetilde{A}(s)}{\mu + \beta + s} \; + \; \frac{\beta}{\mu + \beta + s} \widetilde{f}\left(\frac{s}{\theta}\right)$$

Analysis of the RI Equation (continued)

By iteration it follows that

$$\widetilde{f}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} \frac{\beta^{n}}{\prod_{k=0}^{n} (\mu + \beta + s/\theta^{k})} \cdot \left(f(0) + \delta \widetilde{A}\left(\frac{s}{\theta^{n}}\right)\right) + \prod_{n=0}^{N} \left(\frac{\beta}{\mu + \beta + s/\theta^{k}}\right) \widetilde{f}\left(\frac{s}{\theta^{N+1}}\right).$$

Letting N go to infinity, we get that the solution is necessarily

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{f}(s) &= \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{\beta^n}{\prod_{k=0}^n (\mu + \beta + s/\theta^k)} \left(f(0) + \delta \widetilde{A} \left(\frac{s}{\theta^n} \right) \right) \\ &= \sum_{n \ge 0} \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{\mu} + \frac{\delta}{\mu} \widetilde{A} \left(\frac{s}{\theta^n} \right) \right) \left(1 - \frac{\beta}{\mu + \beta} \right) \left(\frac{\beta}{\mu + \beta} \right)^n \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{\mu + \beta}{\mu + \beta + s/\theta^k} \\ \text{which has a probabilistic interpretation in terms of the AR process.} \end{split}$$

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General ODE

• Theorem (F.B., K.B. Kim & D. Mc Donald 06) Assume that $\gamma \ge 1$, $\rho > 1$, $\mu \ge \delta \ge 0$, $\beta \ge 0$, $\mu + \beta > 0$. Let $\theta = \rho^{\gamma}$ and let A be a density such that

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$$\int_0^\infty A(z) e^{\frac{(\mu+\beta)}{\gamma} z^{\gamma}} dz < \infty.$$

Then the unique density solution to the ODE is the function

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{C\gamma} \sum_{n \ge 0} \left(\frac{\beta}{\mu + \beta}\right)^n b_n d_n(z) e^{-\left(\frac{\beta + \mu}{\gamma}\right)\theta^n z^{\gamma}}$$

General ODE (continued)

with the b_n 's the coefficients of the expansion

$$\prod_{k\geq 0} (1-\theta^{-k}x) = \sum_{n\geq 0} b_n x^n.$$

i.e.

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$$b_n = (-1)^n \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{\theta}{(\theta^k - 1)}$$

with

$$d_n(z) = \sum_{m \ge 0} c_m \left(\delta \int_0^{z\theta^{\frac{(n+m)}{\gamma}}} A(x) e^{\frac{\mu+\beta}{\gamma}\theta^{-m}x^{\gamma}} dx + (\mu - \delta) \right)$$
$$c_m = \left(\frac{\beta}{\mu+\beta}\right)^m \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{1-\theta^{-i}}$$

and with C the constant which normalizes f (known in closed form).

PROOF

Let A be some density. Then $\frac{A(z^{1/\gamma})}{\gamma z^{1-1/\gamma}}$ is a density too. Let k be the density solution of

$$\frac{dk}{dz}(z) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \left(\left(\frac{A(z^{1/\gamma})}{\gamma z^{1-1/\gamma}} \right) - \mu k(z) + \beta(\theta k(\theta z) - k(z)) \right)$$

where we assume $k(0) = \mu - \delta \ge 0$. Let $f(z) = C^{-1}k(z^{\gamma})$, where C normalizes f to a density, and $\rho^{\gamma} = \theta$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df(z)}{dz} &= C^{-1}\delta\gamma^{-1}A(z) - \mu z^{\gamma-1}f(z) + \beta z^{\gamma-1}\left(\rho^{\gamma}f(\rho z) - f(z)\right) \\ &= \delta T(f)A(z) - \mu z^{\gamma-1}f(z) + \beta z^{\gamma-1}\left(\rho^{\gamma}f(\rho z) - f(z)\right), \end{aligned}$$

where we used

$$T(f) = \int_0^\infty z^{\gamma-1} C^{-1} h(z^\gamma) dz = \frac{1}{C\gamma}$$

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Let

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$$\rho = \frac{1/\mu}{\frac{1}{\beta} + \mathbb{E}T}$$

with

$$\mathbb{E}T = \int_{z=0}^{\infty} \int_{u=0}^{\infty} h(z) \mu e^{-\mu u} \left(\sqrt{z^2 R^4 + 2u R^2} - z R^2 \right) du dz$$

mean value of the throughput of one flow in the absence of packet loss

The Two Mean Field Regimes

• The stabilized congestion regime : when $\rho > C$, a positive drop probability is required to match the load brought by the flows and the capacity of the link. The system stabilizes to a constant buffer content b, to a constant packet loss probability p and to a mean throughput per flow $\overline{X}[p]$, s.t.

 $\overline{X}[p](1-p) = C$

Since the function $p \to \overline{X}[p](1-p)$ is decreasing in p and tends to ρ when p tends to 0, the above equation defines a unique equilibrium point p^* whenever $\rho > C$.

- The congestion-less regime: when $\rho < C$; the load brought by the flows is less than the link rate, and each flow gets a mean throughput of ρ .
- Other and in particular oscillating regimes are possible.

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Interaction of On-Off TCP Flows on a TD Link

- $-\,N$ homogeneous HTTP users share a link of capacity NC
- Each HTTP user alternates between document downloads and think times, inducing an ON/OFF flow structure
- Document sizes are i.i.d. with mean $1/\mu$
- Think times are i.i.d. $1/\beta$

- All connections have the same RTT R
- Congestion takes place as soon as the sum of the rates is equal to or exceeds NC
- Congestions result in an instantaneous halving of rate for a proportion p of the flows (synchronization rate).









The Free Regime Mean Field Limit
$$(C = \infty)$$
 (continued)

• Example of analytical characterization in the exponential Y and T case: PDE for the congestion-less mean field measure:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}s(z,t) + \frac{1}{R^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}s(z,t) = -\mu z s(z,t)$$
$$\frac{d}{dt}\nu(t) = -\beta\nu(t) + \mu \int_0^\infty z s(z,t)dz$$

with

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$$s(0,t)/R^2 = \beta \nu(t)$$
 and $\int_0^\infty s(z,t)dz = 1 - \nu(t).$

• Explicit solution via either Laplace transform in time or Renewal theory.





after discretization.



All flows are initially active and with 0 rate;

Mean file size 2000; mean think time 2 sec.

Left: lognormal with standard deviation 4 times the mean and RTT 30 ms. Right: exponential with RTT 100 ms.







Necessary condition for the existence of a periodic interaction mean-field regime with intercongestion time $\tau < \infty$: τ should solve the Rate Conservation Principle equation:

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}(X(0)>0)}{R^2} = \frac{pC}{2\tau} + \lambda_{\delta} \mathbb{E}_0^{\delta}[X(0^-)].$$

- In the exponential case, all terms in this fixed point equation are computable thanks to the regenerative structure.
- Regeneration when tagged flow is inactive at a congestion epoch.

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Example of Computation: Mean Number of Files Transmitted in a Regeneration Cycle

- f(z): expected number of files that will be transmitted by the end of the current cycle given that the tagged flow is inactive at time $0 \le z < \tau$.
- g(v): expected number of files that will be transmitted by the end of the current cycle given that the tagged flow is active at some congestion epoch and that the current transmission rate of the tagged flow is v.

$$E(N) = f(0)$$

• Fredholm type equation for (f, g).

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Example of Fredholm Equations for f(.)

- Case 0: no file transmitted within the end of the current cycle: contributes 0;
- Case 1: at least one file transmitted and we can transmit this file before the next congestion epoch. Then the expected number of files to transfer until end of cycle is:









Figure 5: The 3 Cases for the Rate Conservation Principle Fixed Point Equation

Congestion Regime: the Invariant Measure Equation

- $-s_0(z)$ the proportion of flows active and with rate z at a congestion epoch
- $-\,\nu_0$ the proportion of flows inactive at a congestion epoch
- Invariant measure equation for τ :

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$$s_0(z) = (1-p)s_0(z,\tau) + ps_0(2z,\tau),$$

where $s_0(z, t)$ is the solution of the congestion-less PDE with the initial condition s_0 .





• If $\rho > C$, the congestion-less regime is impossible.

- Main Finding (proved in the Tahoe case, numerical evidence in the Reno case):
 - 1. The condition $\rho < C$ is not sufficient for having an interaction-less mean-field regime only
 - 2. There exist values of C such that depending on the initial condition, one enters either in an interaction-less or in an interaction stationary regime.



HTTP Turbulence

- We call turbulent regime the periodic congestion regime when $\rho < C$.
- Rationale:

- for an appropriate phasing of the flow (e.g. stationary), there would be no congestion
- for other initial conditions, in phasing and synchronization jointly lead to the perpetuation of a periodic congestion regime

Turbulence: Scenario 1 – Numerical Evidence

- Exponential model, $1/\mu = 2000$ Pkts, $1/\beta = 2$, p = 0.8 and R = 0.1s. The load factor ρ is then around 263 Pkts/sec. We take C = 270 Pkts/sec.
- When the initial condition is the stationary law of the interactionless regenerative rate process, no congestions occur at all since $\rho < C$.
- When the initial condition is with all sources initially active and with 0 rate, periodic congestion regime with $\tau \sim 3.7s$.
- Backed by the following numerical evidence:
 - $-\,\tau$ is one of the two solutions for the RCP
 - the invariant measure equation has a "good" solution for τ

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Figure 6: Evolution of the congestion-less aggregated rate with the time







Turbulence: – Mathematical proof (Tahoe Case) (continued)

Let

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$C_T = p\gamma M + (1 - p\gamma)m.$

Lemma If $C_T > \rho$, then the Tahoe version of the model has turbulence for all C in the interval $\rho \leq C \leq C_T$ for this initial condition.

■ No proof for Reno at this stage.

Turbulence: Scenario 2 – Simulation

 Lognormal file size and off-periods; file size has mean value 2000 Pkt and standard deviation 8669 Pkts, and the off-period has a mean value of 2 sec and a standard deviation of 8.7 sec

• TCP Reno,
$$R = 0.03$$
 s., $p = 0.8$;

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- We observe the same phenomenon concerning α as in the exponential case, with a first maximum at 717 Pkts/s, significantly larger than the horizontal asymptote at $\rho = 620$ Pkts/s.
- The turbulence region goes from C = 620 to C = 680 Pkts/s.

Refinements

- These phenomena are also present when taking into account
 - Slow start (extension of the PDE approach)
 - Maximal window

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Bistability of the Finite Population Model – Simulation

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- The fact that the mean field limit has two stationary regimes for some values of the parameters translates into the existence of two stable regimes for any finite stochastic system with the same mean parameters, with rare oscillations from one stable regime to the other.
- Ongoing analysis with M. Lelarge & D. McDonald of the rarity of the transitions using Kiffer's discrete version of Wentzell-Freidlin's theory.







Notation

- X(t), Y(t): the throughputs of TCP1, TCP2 time t
- M(dt), N(dt): the loss point process on TCP1, TCP2
- λ , μ : the loss point process intensity on *TCP*1, *TCP*2 in the RI case
- p, q: the packet error rate on TCP1, TCP2 in the RD case
- R_1, R_2 : the local Round Trip Times
- Q(t): the proxy buffer content at time t
- \blacksquare *B*: the proxy buffer size

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- Phase 3 or the backpressure phase: the buffer has reached it storage capacity B and X is forced by the backpressure algorithm to slow down to the rate Y at which the buffer is drained off.

No phase 3 if $B = \infty$.

Dynamics - Phase 1

■ In the free phase:

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on
$$\{0 < Q(t) < B\}$$

$$\begin{cases} dX(t) = \alpha dt - \frac{X(t)}{2}M(dt) \\ dY(t) = \beta dt - \frac{Y(t)}{2}N(dt). \\ dQ(t) = X(t) - Y(t) \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha = 1/R_1^2$, $\beta = 1/R_2^2$.

■ Rationale: the RENO AIMD rule + fluid dynamics for the queue.

Dynamics - Phase 2

• Potential rate of TCP2: $Y(t) = W_2(t)/R_2$

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- In phase 2, the buffer is empty, which requires that $X(t) \leq Y(t)$, on $\{Q(t) = 0\}$ $\begin{cases} dX(t) = \alpha dt - \frac{X(t)}{2}M(dt) \\ dY(t) = \beta \frac{X(t)}{Y(t)}dt - \frac{Y(t)}{2}N(dt). \end{cases}$
- Rationale for a diff. increase of Y(t) proportional to $\frac{X(t)}{Y(t)} \leq 1$:
- when the buffer is empty, since X(t) < Y(t), the rate at which packets are injected in TCP2 and hence the rate at which TCP2 acks arrive is X(t).
- the window of *TCP2*, W_2 , increases of $X(t)dt/W_2(t) = dt \frac{X(t)}{R_2Y(t)}$ in the interval (t, t + dt)
- the potential rate of TCP2 thus increases of $\beta dt \frac{X(t)}{Y(t)}$ during this interval.

Dynamics - Phase 3

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• In the backpressure phase, which lasts until the buffer is saturated (this requires that $X(t) \ge Y(t)$):

on
$$\{Q(t) = B\}$$

$$\begin{cases} dX(t) = \alpha \frac{Y(t)}{X(t)} dt - \frac{X(t)}{2} M(dt) \\ dY(t) = \beta dt - \frac{Y(t)}{2} N(dt). \end{cases}$$

• Rationale: acks of TCP1 now come back at a rate of Y(t). Hence the congestion window, $W_1(t)$ of TCP1 grows at the rate $Y(t)/W_1(t)$.





Observations on Dynamics

- The triple (X(t), Y(t), Q(t)) forms a Markov process on \mathbb{R}^3_+ .
- Example of interaction with $B = \infty$
 - -X(.) evolves freely.

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- -Y(.) is slowed down by X whenever phase 2 is visited
- This slow down in turn affects the building of Q(.)...



Monotonicity in the RI, $B < \infty$ Case

Lemma

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In the RI case with $B < \infty$, when backpressure is used, the stationary rate of Split TCP is strictly less than the minimum of that of TCP1 and TCP2 in isolation.

■ Proof based on monotonicity and a coupling argument.

Backward Construction

- $Q_t(0)$: queue size at time 0 when departing from the following condition at time t < 0:
 - Queue size: Q(t) = 0,
 - TCP1: the stationary rate $\widetilde{X}(t)$ of TCP1 at time t in isolation,
 - TCP2: the stationary rate $\widetilde{Y}^{f}(t)$ of TCP2 at time t in isolation.

$$Q_t(s) = \sup_{t \le u \le s} \int_u^s (\widetilde{X}(v) - Y_t(v)) dv, \forall s \ge t,$$

with $Y_t(v)$ the rate of TCP2 in at time v in Split TCP under the above assumptions.

• Stability: Does $Q_t(0)$ have an a.s. finite limsup when t tends to $-\infty$?

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Upper Bound

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• $\tau(t)$: the beginning of the last busy period of $Q_t(s)$ before time 0 (0 if $Q_t(0) = 0$ and t if $Q_t(s) > 0$ for all $t < s \le 0$).

$$\begin{aligned} Q_t(0) &= \int_{\tau(t)}^0 (\widetilde{X}(v) - Y_t(v)) dv \le \int_{\tau(t)}^0 (\widetilde{X}(v) - Y_{\tau(t)}^f(v)) dv \\ &\le U_t = \sup_{t \le u \le 0} \int_u^0 (\widetilde{X}(v) - Y_t^f(v)) dv, \end{aligned}$$

• the first inequality follows from the fact that the dynamics on $(\tau(t), 0)$ is that of the free phase and from the fact that $Y_{\tau(t)}^f(.)$ is the minimal value for the free TCP2 process (monotonicity property 1).

Stability - RI

- Lemma If $\rho < 1$, where $\rho = \frac{\alpha \mu}{\beta \lambda}$, then the RI system is stable. If $\rho > 1$, then it is unstable.
- If $\rho > 1$, the lower bound queue is unstable

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• Assume $\rho < 1$ and $\limsup Q_t(0) = \infty$ with a positive probability. Then $\limsup U_t = \infty$ with a positive probability too. This implies that there exists a sequence t_n tending to $-\infty$ and such that a.s.

$$\int_{t_n}^0 (\widetilde{X}(v) - Y_{t_n}^f(v)) dv \to_{n \to \infty} \infty.$$



Stability - RI (continued)

• The function

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$$\phi_t = \int_{-t}^0 Y_{-t}^f(v) dv$$

is super-additive: $\phi_{t+s} \ge \phi_t \circ \theta_{-s} + \phi_s$

• Thanks to the sub-additive ergodic theorem, this together with the fact that ϕ_t is integrable imply that a.s.

$$\exists \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_{-t}^{0} Y_{-t}^{f}(v) dv = K,$$

for some constant K which may be finite or infinite.

• The fact that K is finite follows from the bound $0 < Y_{-t}^f(v) \le \widetilde{Y}^f(v)$ and from the pointwise ergodic theorem applied to $\{\widetilde{Y}^f(v)\}$.



Stability - RD

- Lemma If $\rho < 1$, where $\rho = \frac{\alpha q}{\beta p}$, then the RD system is stable. If $\rho > 1$, then it is unstable.
- Uses the coupling based on the 2-d point Poisson point process and the optimization problem:

What is the infimum over all $y \ge 0$ of the integral

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$$\int_{u}^{0}Y_{u,y}^{f}(v)dv$$

where $Y_{u,y}^f(v)$ is the value of the free process of TCP2 at time $v \ge u$ when starting from an initial value of y at time u?

Tails - RI

Lemma

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In the stable RI case, the queue distribution is heavier than a Weibull distribution of shape parameter k = 0.5.

- relies on the lower bound queue L_t
- relies on the fact that the fluid input process and the fluid draining process of this queue are jointly stationary and ergodic and have renewal cycles
- $\blacksquare \ T$ the length of the renewal cycle and

$$\Delta = \int_0^T \widetilde{X}(t) - \widetilde{Y}^f(t)dt = I_x - I_y.$$



Tails - RI (continued)

$$\Pr\left(\sum_{0}^{N_T} Trap_i > q\right) \ge \Pr\left(\sum_{0}^{N_T} \alpha \frac{\tau_i^2}{2} > q\right),$$

where N_T denotes the number of losses in the cycle.

■ All triangular areas are i.i.d and heavy tailed:

$$\Pr\left(\alpha\frac{\tau^2}{2} > x\right) = \Pr\left(\tau > \sqrt{\frac{2x}{\alpha}}\right) = e^{-\mu\sqrt{\frac{2x}{\alpha}}},$$

which is Weibull with shape parameter k = 0.5.

• propagates to Δ (Foss & Zachary 03)

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• propagates to stationary L_t (Veraverbeke's theorem)





$$\begin{array}{l} \hline \textbf{PDE} \cdot \textbf{RI} \cdot B = \infty \ (continued) \end{array}$$

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