

# Outline

## 1. Tools from Operations Research

- Little's Law (average values)
- Unreliable Machine(s) (operation dependent)
- Buffers (zero buffers & infinite buffers)
- M/M/1 Queue (effects of variation)

## 2. Applications

- See other hand outs...

# Little's Law

$$N = \lambda T$$

$N$  = Average parts in the system

$\lambda$  = Average arrival rate

$T$  = Average time in the system

Ref. L. Kleinrock, "Queueing System, Vol 1 Theory,  
Wiley, 1975

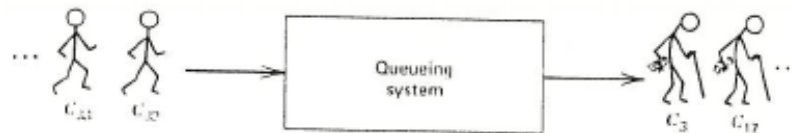
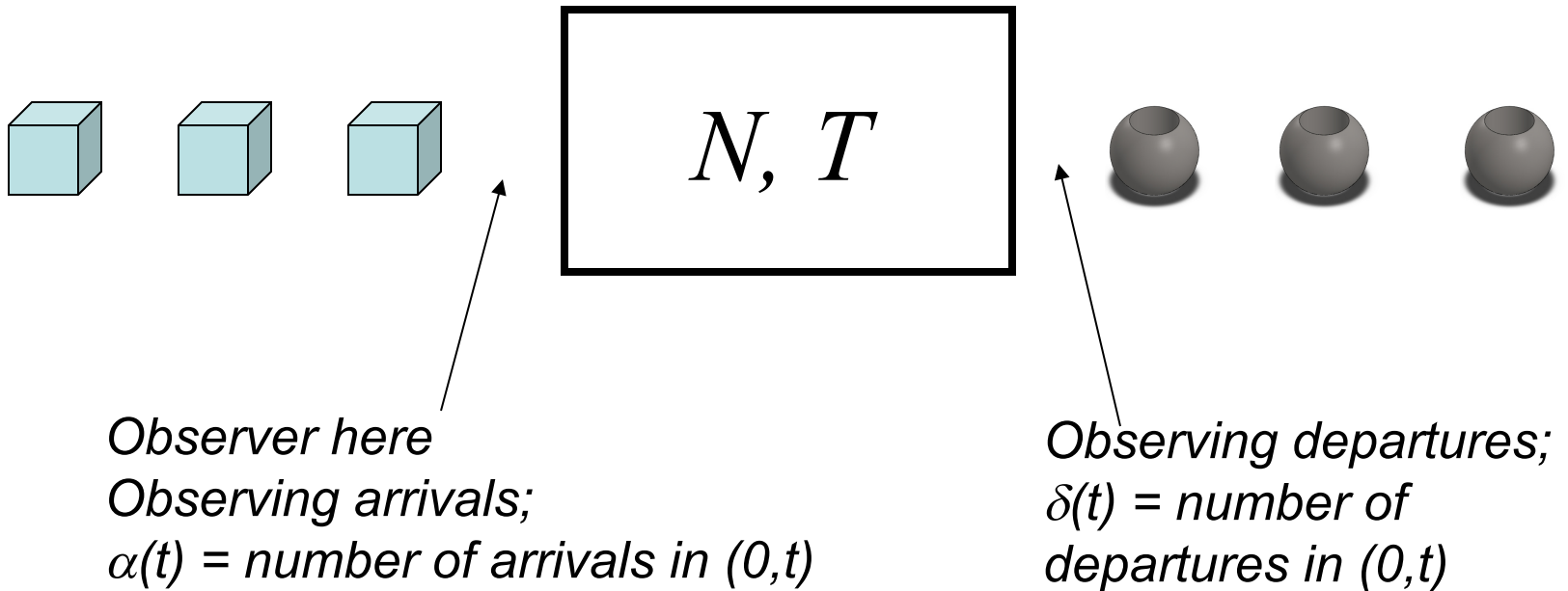


Figure 2.1 A general queuing system.

# Queueing Systems



$$N(t) = a(t) - d(t)$$

*Number in the system,  
parts or customers*

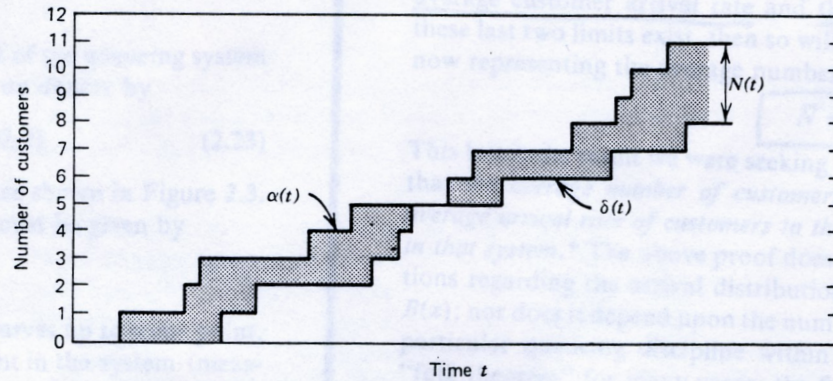


Figure 2.3 Arrivals and departures.

Ref. Kleinrock  
Vol 1, 1975  
See p.16, 17

$$N(t) = a(t) - d(t)$$

$$g(t) = \int_0^t N(t) dt$$

$g(t)$  = customer -seconds (shaded area in figure)

average number of customers in the system =  $\bar{N} = \frac{g(t)}{t}$

average arrival rate =  $l_t = \frac{a(t)}{t}$

average time per customer =  $T_t = \frac{g(t)}{a(t)} = \frac{\bar{N}}{l_t}$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} T &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T_t \\ l &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} l_t \end{aligned} \right\}$$

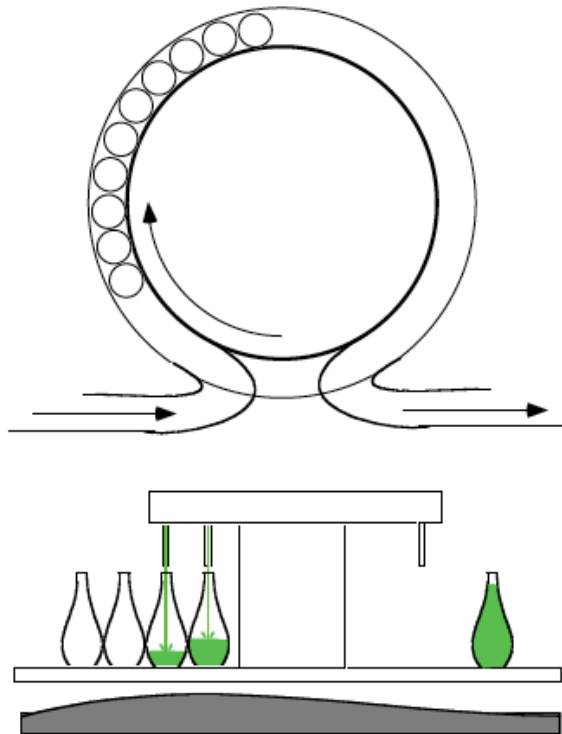
this gives  $\bar{N} = l_t \cdot T_t$

assuming the limits exist gives

$$\bar{N} = l \cdot T \quad (\text{or } L = \lambda W)$$

$$\bar{N} = l \cdot T$$

Typical Dial Machine



10/23/13

© Daniel E Whitney

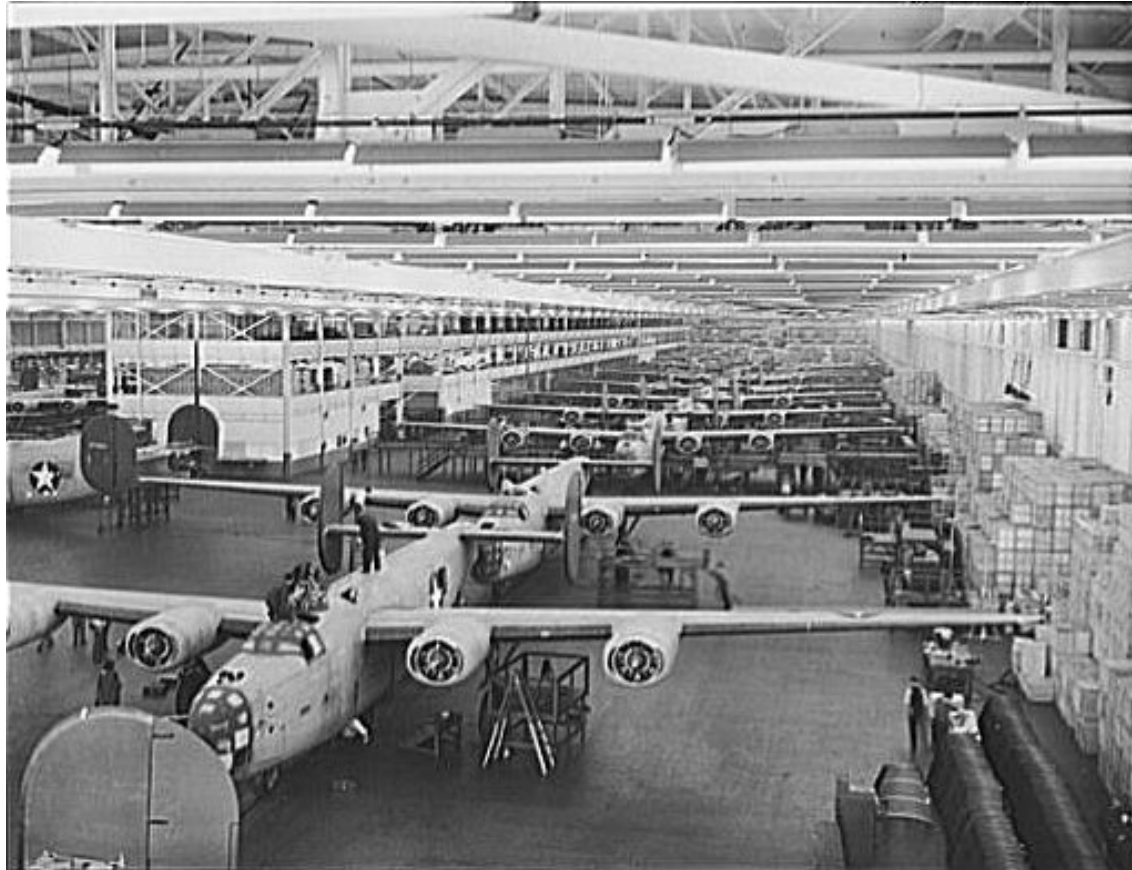
Q. You want a high rate of production  $\lambda$ , but if you fill too fast the liquid comes out. What do you do?

A. Fill while the bottle is moving making  $T$  long enough to avoid losing any liquid.

This results in long lines and large factories  $\bar{N} = l \cdot T$

# Ford's Willow Run Factory

Moving assembly line production of B-24s



Ford's Willow Run plant - 10 mo delay, but in 1944 produced 453 airplanes in 468 hrs

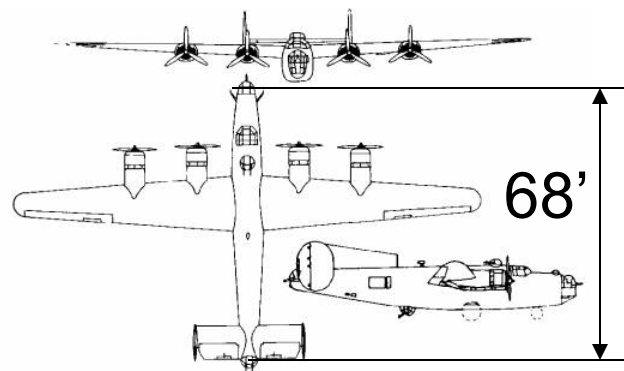
*About 1 plane every hour!*

How long did they work on assembly?

- Production rate when fully running was about 1 plane every hour
- Little's Law:  $L = \lambda W$
- $\lambda = 1$  plane/hr
- $L = ?$  “Assembly line was over one mile”
- $W = ?$

# How long did they work on assembly?

- Production rate when fully running was about 1 plane very hour
- Little's Law:  $L = \lambda W$
- $\lambda = 1$  plane/hr
- $L = 5280' / 68' = 78$  planes,  
(if heel to toe for one mile)
- $W = L / \lambda \approx 78$  hours



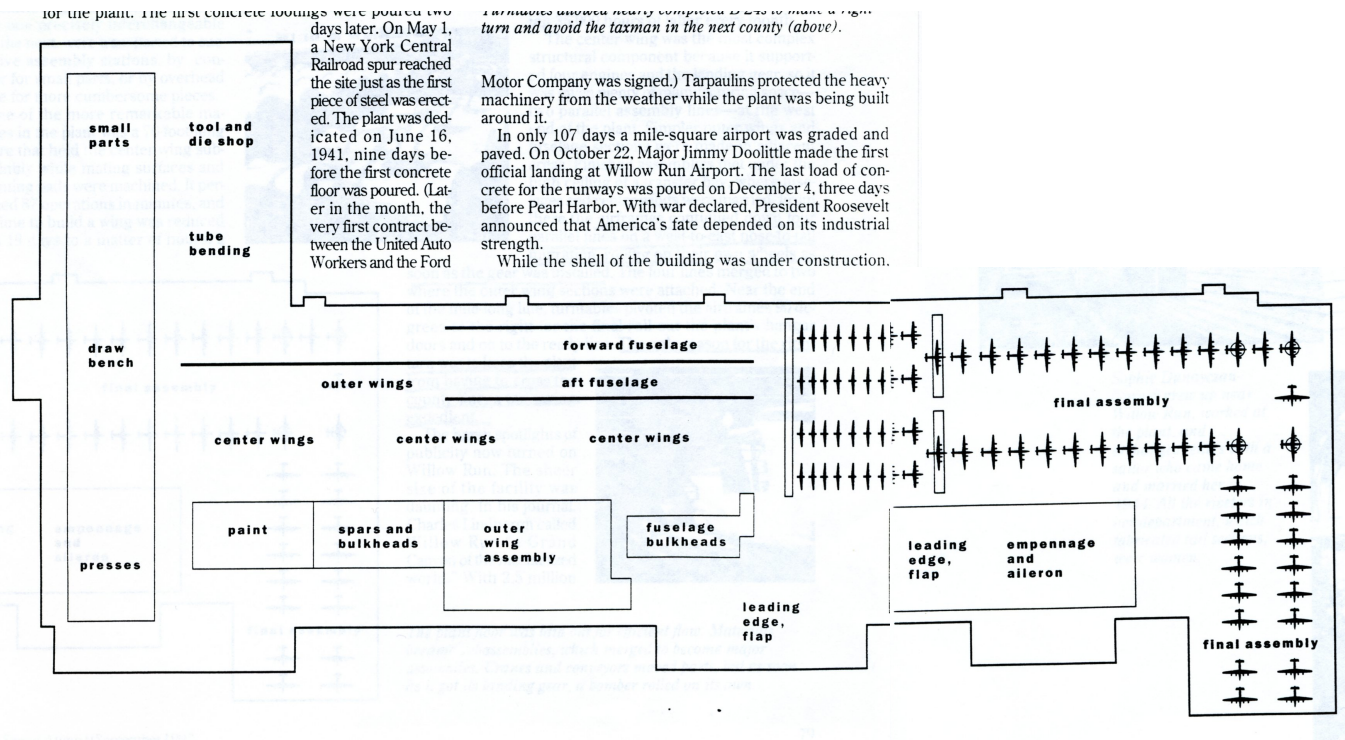


# Willow Run



Two lines converge into one

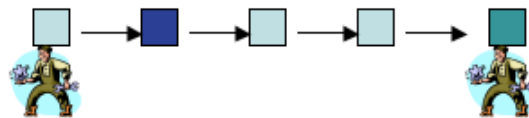
# Ford's Willow Run Factory



Assembly Line, L ~ 81 planes, implies around 81 hrs/plane

# Applying Little's Law

- Boundaries are arbitrary, but you must specify eg. waiting time + service time
- Internal details are not considered eg. first in first out, flow patterns etc..



Transfer line



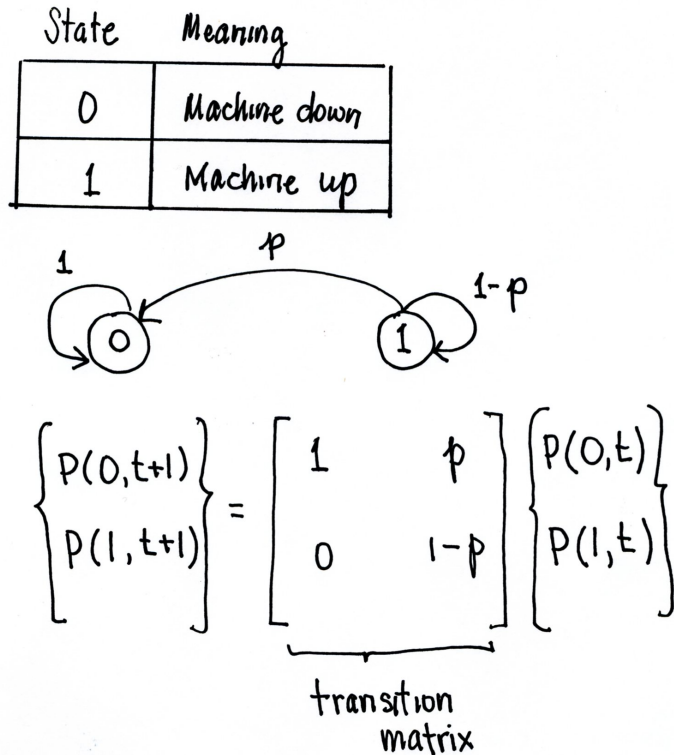
FMS (Non-synchronous)

# Unreliable Machine

- Ref S. B. Gershwin (Ch 2 of his book)
- Preliminaries: conditional probability and Markov chains - transition probabilities
- Discrete or continuous time - ODDQ
- Probability machine is down - exponential distribution

# Failure distribution

## Discrete time model



*Probability machine fails at time  $t = p(1-p)^{t-1}$*

*Geometric distribution*

## Continuous time model

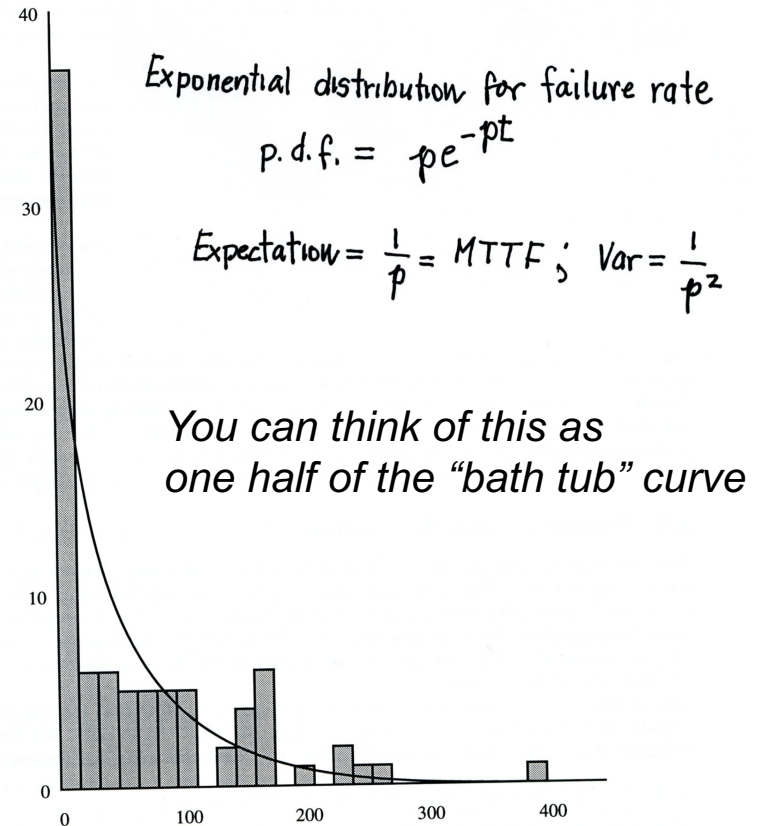
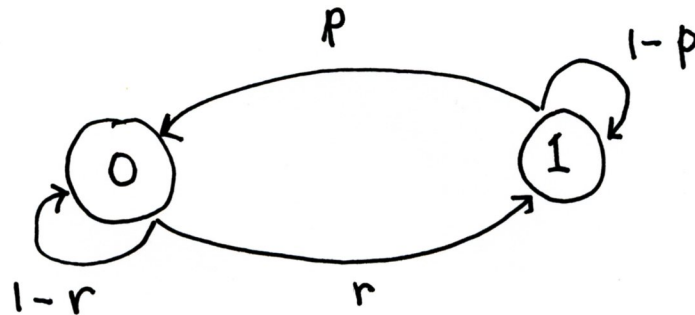


Figure 2.7: Exponential Density Function and Samples

Note: MTTF = mean time to failure

# Unreliable Machine with Repair



$$\begin{Bmatrix} P(0, t+1) \\ P(1, t+1) \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-r & p \\ r & 1-p \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} P(0, t) \\ P(1, t) \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{p} = \text{MTTF} \quad ; \quad \frac{1}{r} = \text{MTTR}$$

Note: MTTR = mean time to repair

*Discrete time:*

*Steady state  
solution for probability  
that machine is up =*

$$\frac{\text{MTTF}}{\text{MTTF} + \text{MTTR}}$$

# Continuous time

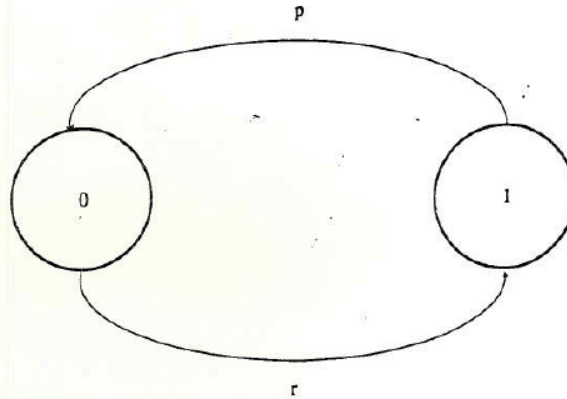


Figure 2.8: Graph of Markov Chain for Continuous Time Unreliable Machine Model

$$\frac{dp(0, t)}{dt} = -p(0, t)r + p(1, t)p$$

$$\frac{dp(1, t)}{dt} = p(0, t)r - p(1, t)p.$$

$$p(0, t) + p(1, t) = 1$$

# Continuous time

The solution is

$$\begin{aligned}p(0, t) &= \frac{p}{r+p} + \left[ p(0, 0) - \frac{p}{r+p} \right] e^{-(r+p)t} \\p(1, t) &= 1 - p(0, t).\end{aligned}$$

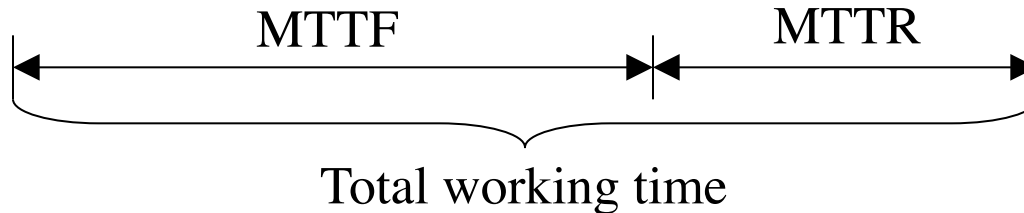
As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$p(0) = \frac{p}{r+p}; p(1) = \frac{r}{r+p}.$$

The average production rate is  $p(1)\mu$  or  $\frac{r\mu}{r+p}$ .



# Single unreliable machine



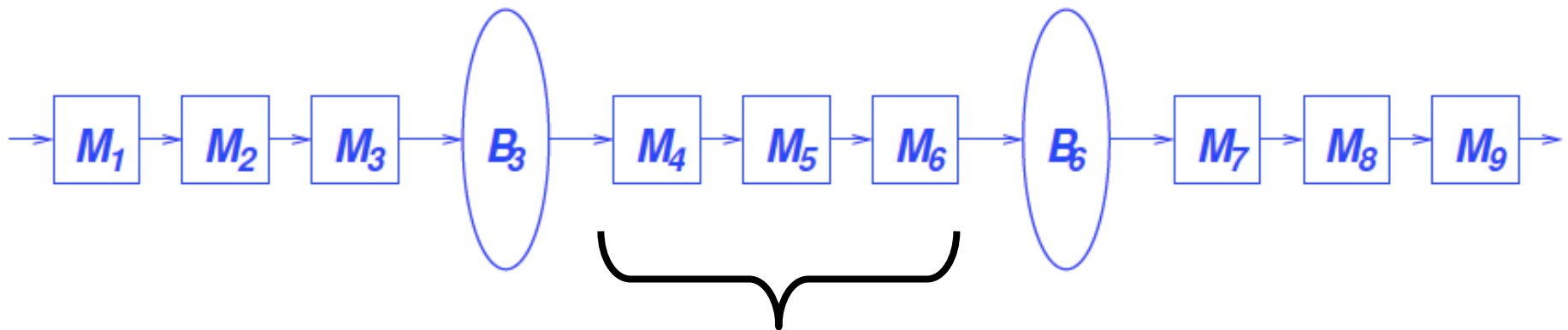
$$\text{Machine up} = \frac{\text{MTTF}}{\text{MTTF} + \text{MTTR}}$$

$$\text{Machine down} = \frac{\text{MTTR}}{\text{MTTF} + \text{MTTR}}$$

$$\text{Average Production rate} = \frac{1}{\tau} \times \frac{\text{MTTF}}{\text{MTTF} + \text{MTTR}}$$

Where,  $\tau = \text{operation time} = 1/\mu$

# Operational Dependent Failures



*Multiple Machines  
Zero buffers*

Operation dependent

e.i. machine can only fail when it is operating

# Operation dependent

e.i. machine can only fail when it is operating

## Multiple Machine Case: Zero Buffers

Consider a long time interval  $T$ ,

say there are  $m_i$  failures for machine  $i$

$$\therefore \text{Total downtime} = D = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i \text{MTTR}_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{m_i}{r_i}$$

$$\text{Total up time } U = T - D$$

$$\# \text{ failures} = m_i = \frac{U}{\text{MTTF}_i} = p_i U$$

this gives

$$U = T - U \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i}{r_i}$$

or

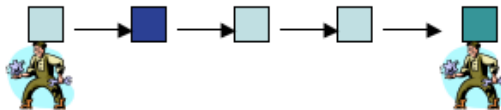
$$\frac{U}{T} = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i}{r_i}}$$

for one machine

$$\frac{U}{T} = \frac{r_i}{r_i + p_i} = \frac{\text{MTTF}_i}{\text{MTTF}_i + \text{MTTR}_i}$$

# Unreliable Machine(s) Result

- Multiple identical machines (Transfer line)



Buzacott's formula,

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\tau} \times \frac{1}{1 + \sum_1^k \frac{MTTR}{MTTF}}$$

- Single Machine



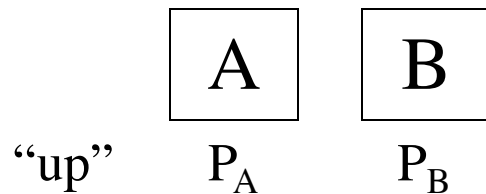
$$\mu = \frac{1}{\tau} \times \frac{MTTF}{MTTF + MTTR}$$

$\tau = \text{service time without failures}$

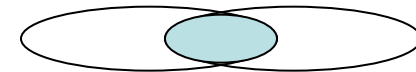
# Time Dependent Estimation of $\mu$

Assumption: time dependent failure

(A and B are two processes with nominal rate  $\mu=1/\tau$  in series. Their behaviors are not dependent on each other.)



Probability that both A and B are up is  $A \cap B$



$$A \cap B = P_A P_B$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Production rate} &= \frac{1}{\tau} P_A P_B = \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{\text{MTTF}_A}{\text{MTTF}_A + \text{MTTR}_A} \times \frac{\text{MTTF}_B}{\text{MTTF}_B + \text{MTTR}_B} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_A} \times \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_B} \quad \text{Where, } \alpha_i = \frac{\text{MTTR}_i}{\text{MTTF}_i} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_A + \alpha_B + \alpha_A \alpha_B}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Estimation of $\mu$ (continued)

$$= \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_A + \alpha_B + \alpha_A \alpha_B} \quad \text{Note: } \alpha_A \alpha_B \ll 1$$

Ignoring higher order terms,  
Same as Buzacott's result

$$\mu \approx \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{1}{1 + \sum_1^2 \alpha_i}$$

*Note: seems to give the same answer as Buzacott,  
but second order terms can become important for large systems.  
Need to differentiate between operation and time dependent  
failures*

# Example: Transfer Line



infinite buffer  $\mu_0 = (1/\tau \times p)_{\text{bottleneck}}$

zero buffer  $\mu_\infty = 1/\tau \times p_A p_B \dots p_N$

example; transfer line, all  $p = 0.9$

$$\mu = (0.9)^N \times 1/\tau$$

N=1  $\mu = .9 \times 1/\tau$

N=10  $\mu = .35 \times 1/\tau$

N=100  $\mu = .00003 \times 1/\tau$

*Time dependent*

$$\mu = (1/(1 + 0.111N)) \times$$

$$1/\tau$$

N=1  $\mu = .9 \times 1/\tau$

N=10  $\mu = .47 \times 1/\tau$

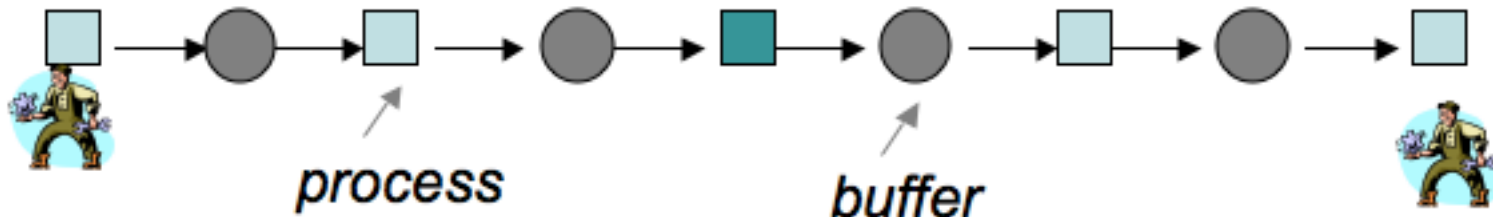
N=100  $\mu = .0825 \times 1/\tau$

*Operation dependent*

# Summary: Production Rates

Zero Buffer:  $\frac{1}{t} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \sum_1^n \frac{MTTR_i}{MTTF_i}}$  *Transfer line*

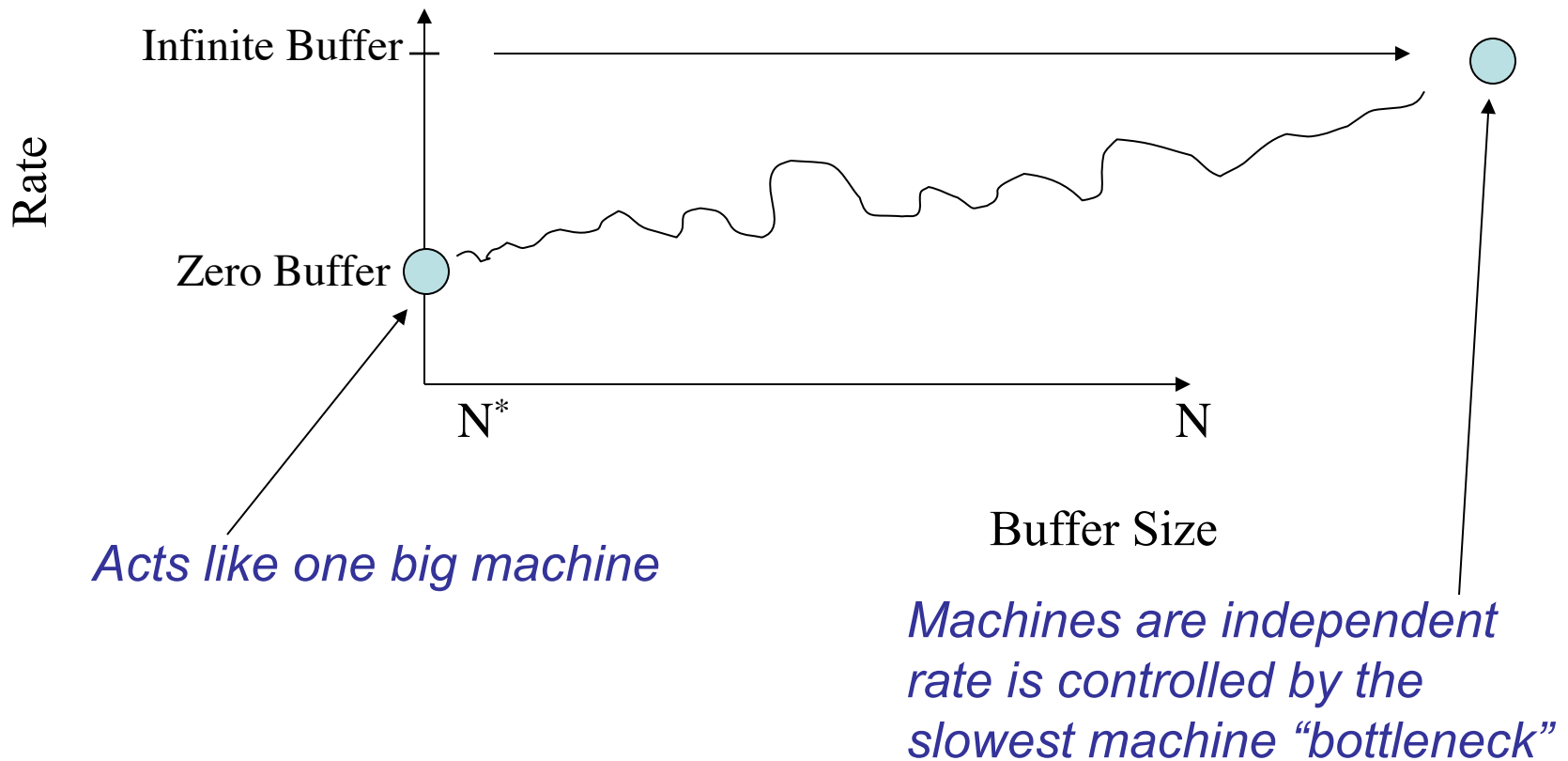
Infinite Buffer:  $\min\left(\frac{1}{t_i} \cdot \frac{MTTF_i}{MTTF_i + MTTR_i}\right)$  *Bottleneck*



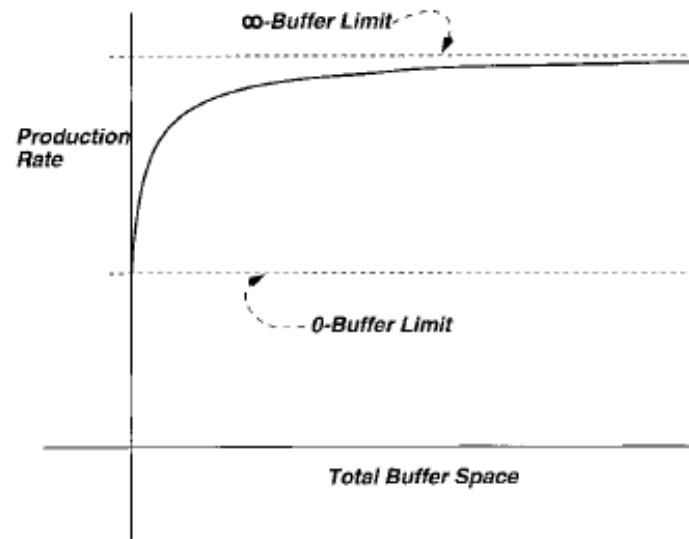


# Finite Buffer Size

How do the two cases connect for finite buffers?



A small amount of buffer space helps a lot, but too much is costly



**Figure 3: The production rate increases as in-process inventory space increases. This increase is rapid at first and then small. The upper and lower limits are easy to calculate, but the rest of the curve requires the decomposition method.**

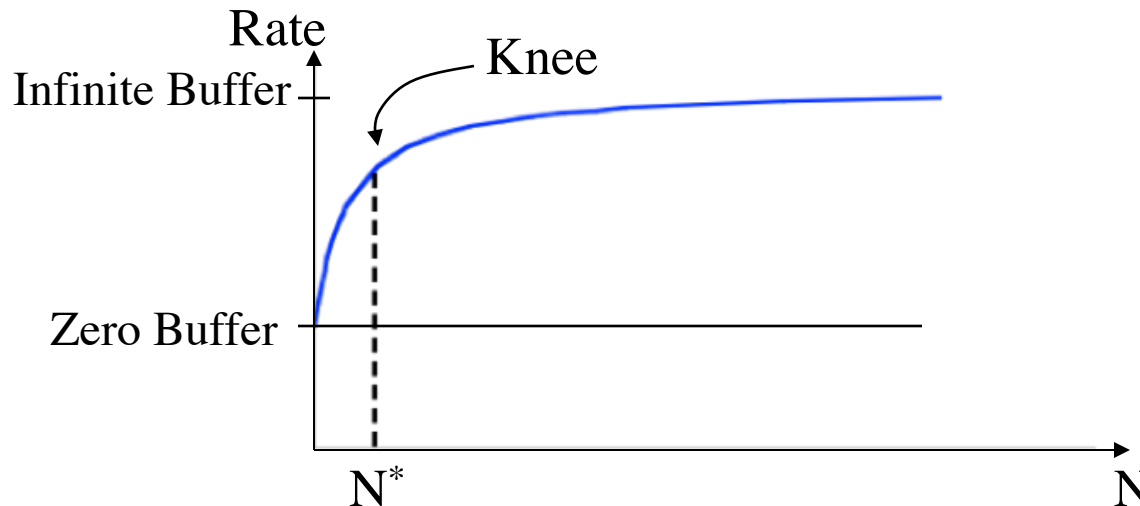
# Finite buffer approximation

For a two machine system :  $\boxed{\mu_1} - (\text{N}) - \boxed{\mu_2}$

Average Downtime is  $\frac{\text{MTTR}_1 + \text{MTTR}_2}{2}$

and,  $\mu_1 \approx \mu_2$ , call the rate  $\mu$ .

Gershwin's Approximation:  $N^* \approx 2 \text{ to } 6 \times \overline{\text{MTTR}} \times \mu$



Simulation of a 20 machine, 19 buffer (cap = 10 parts) Transfer line. Each machine with one minute cycle time could produce 4800 parts per week. MTTF 3880 minutes, MTTR 120 minutes. *See Gershwin p63-64*

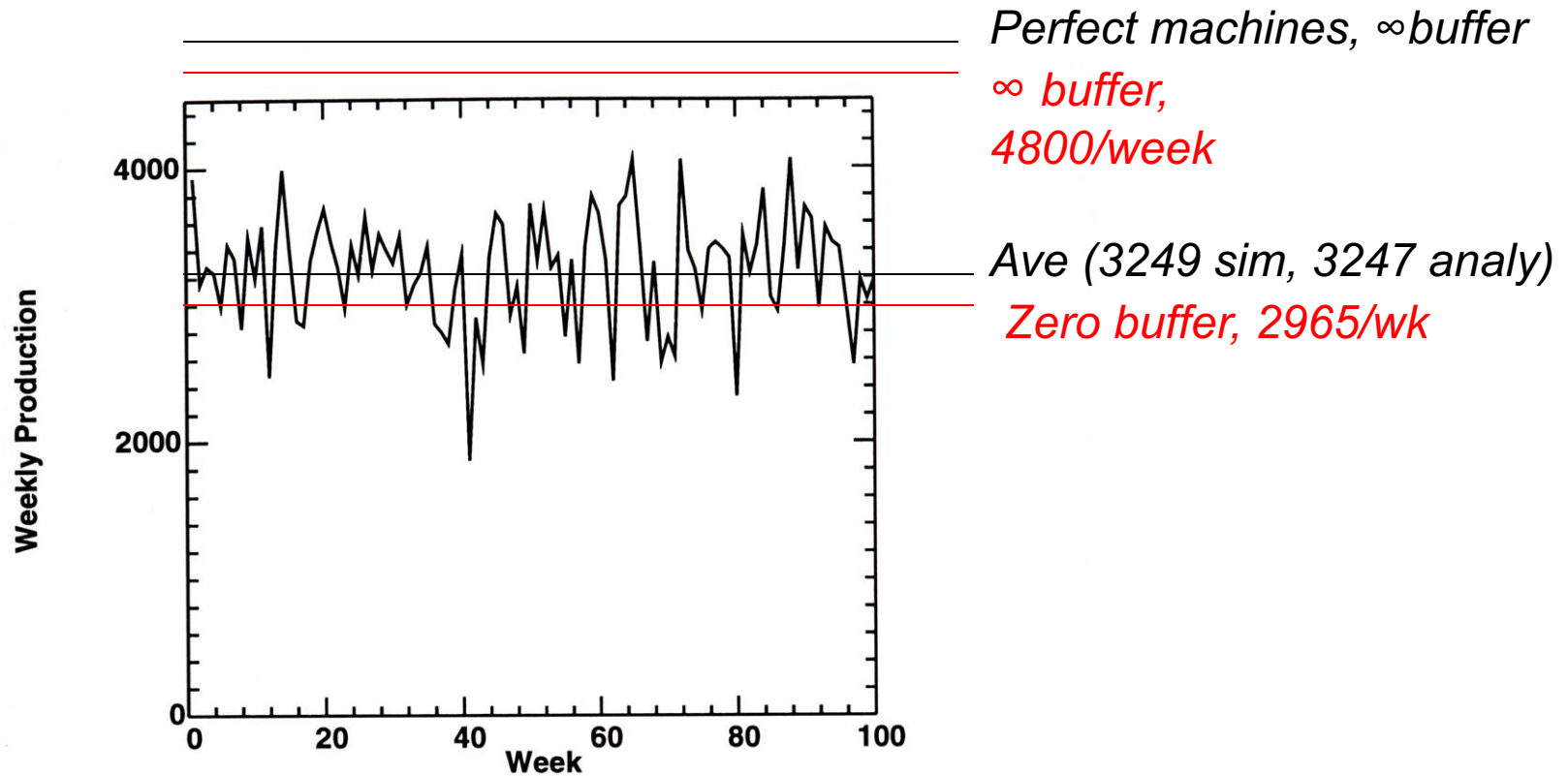
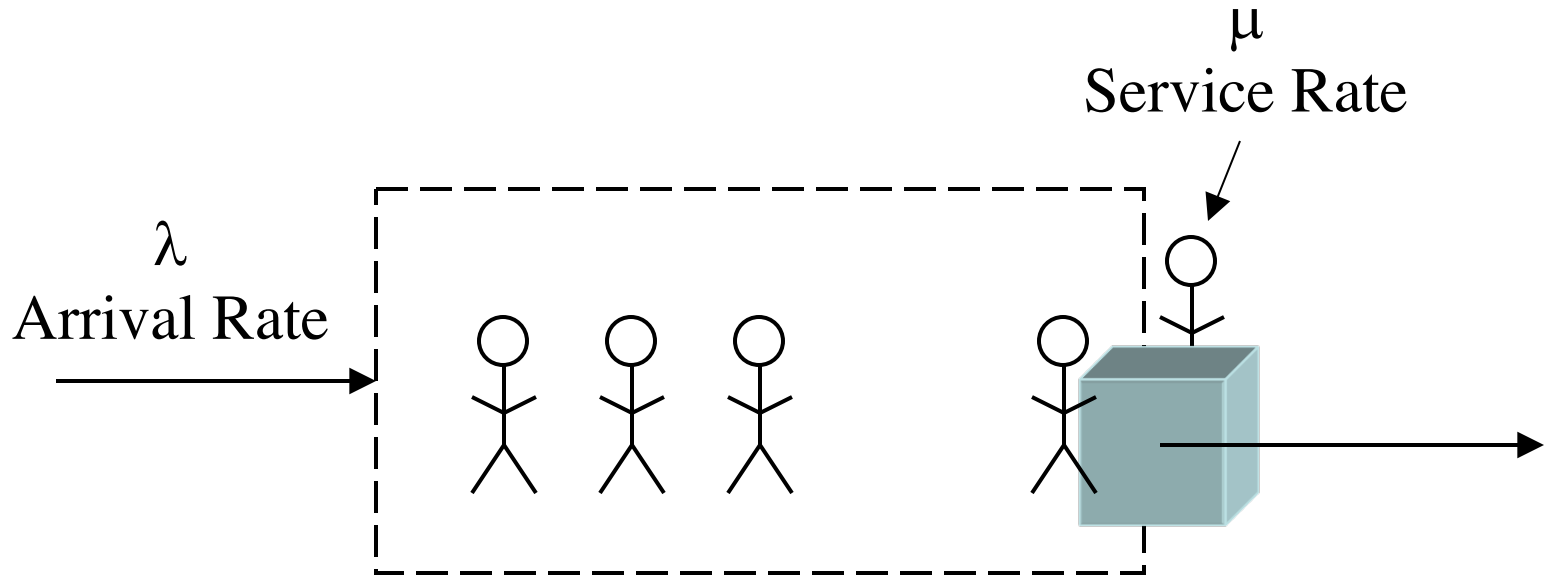


Figure 3.2: Production Variability

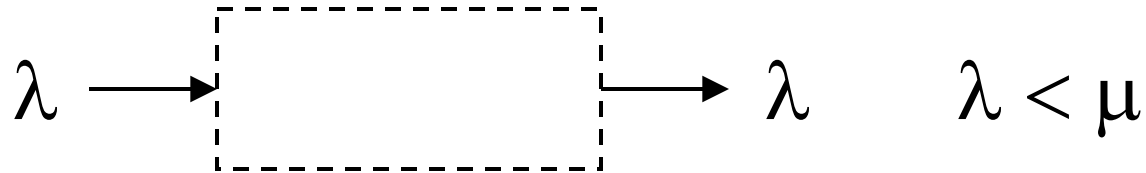
# M/M/1 Queue



*..how the inventory in the system grows as you approach capacity*

*( $\lambda$  &  $\mu$  vary according to exponential distribution)*

# Steady State ( $\lambda < \mu$ )

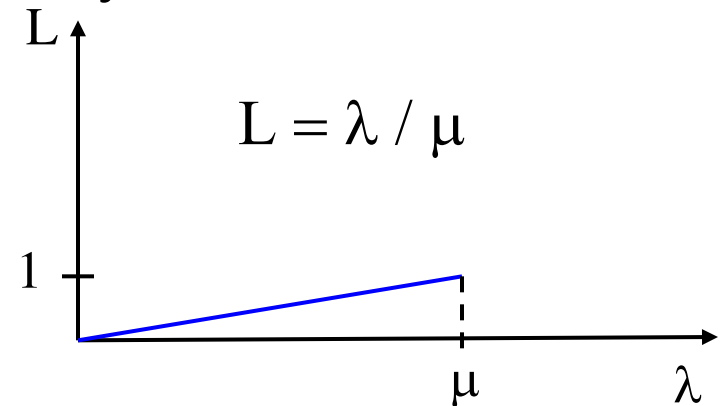


Consider the deterministic case:

- How many people are in the system?

A.

$\lambda = 0$	$L = 0$
$0 < \lambda < \mu$	$0 < L < 1$
$\lambda = \mu$	$L = 1$



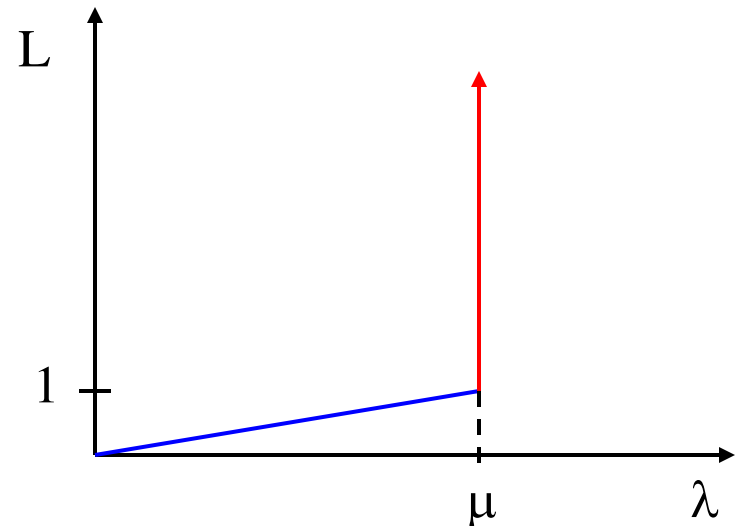
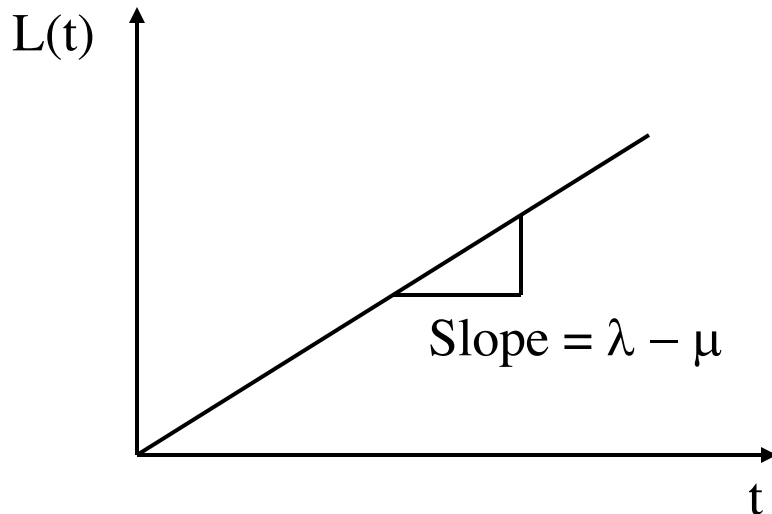
**Note:** From Little's Law : Time in system,  $W = L / \lambda$

Since  $L = \lambda / \mu$  for  $\lambda < \mu \rightarrow W = 1 / \mu$

# When $\lambda > \mu$

- ◆ What happens at  $\lambda > \mu$  ?
- ◆ There is no steady state, parts in the system grow without limit.

As  $t \rightarrow \infty, L \rightarrow \infty$

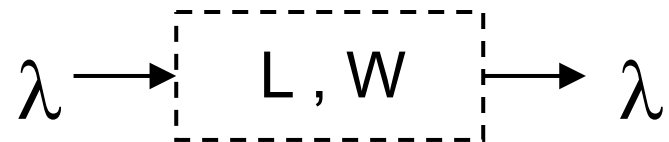
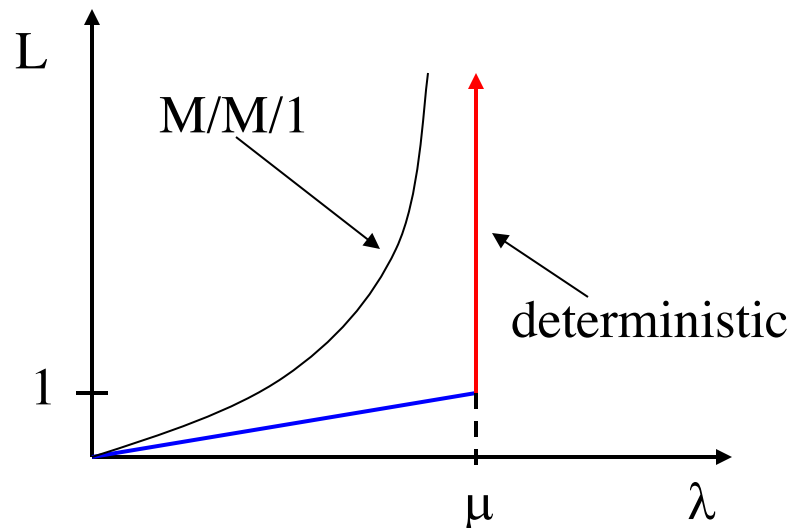


# M/M/1 Queue Result

Arrival rate =  $\lambda$ , Service rate =  $\mu$ , where  $\lambda \leq \mu$

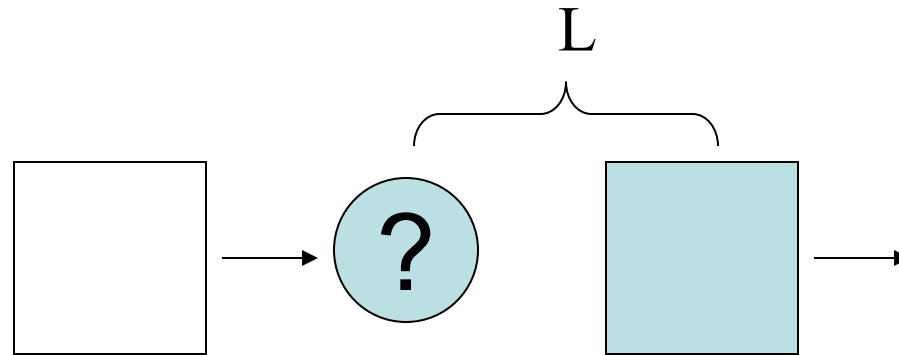
$$L = \text{“Inventory”} = \lambda / (\mu - \lambda)$$

$$W = \text{Time in system} = 1 / (\mu - \lambda)$$





# example: two processes



Process A:  
never starved  
outputs parts  
at average rate  $\lambda$   
with an exponential  
distribution

Process B:  
with average process  
rate  $\mu = (5/4) \lambda$  also  
with an exponential  
distribution

Parts in the system: deterministic:  $L = 4/5$ ; **M/M/1:  $L = 4$**

# M/M/1 Queue interpretation

- Overly simplistic but tractable
- Arrivals (always “on”) vs departures (stop when the queue is empty)
- Show behavior as you approach capacity

Note: this result shows the same nonlinear rise in  $W$  and  $L$  as the system approaches capacity as the  $M/M/1$  queue did

# G/G/1 Queue result

A more useful queueing result is for the G/G/1 queue  
G  $\Rightarrow$  general distributions for arrival and service, with

$$\text{Expectation (arrival)} = \frac{1}{\lambda} ; \text{Exp(service)} = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

$$(\text{Coef of variation})^2 = \frac{\text{Variance}}{\text{mean}^2} \Rightarrow c_\lambda^2 \text{ and } c_\mu^2$$

$$W_q = \text{Time in queue (approx)} = \left( \frac{c_\lambda^2 + c_\mu^2}{2} \right) \left( \frac{u}{1-u} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\mu} \right)$$

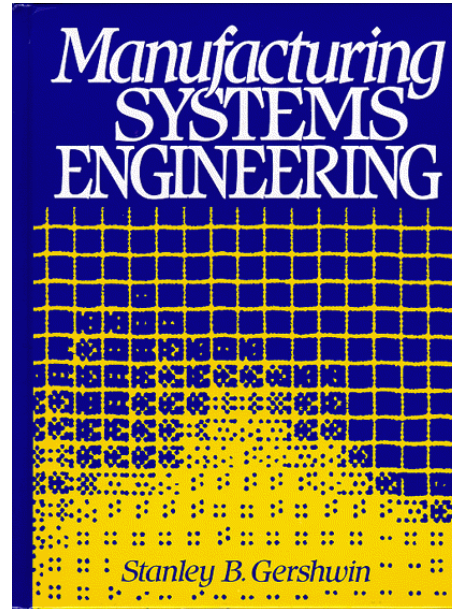
$$u = \text{utilization} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$$

$$\text{Limitations: } c_\lambda^2, c_\mu^2 \leq 1 ; \frac{\lambda}{\mu} < 0.95$$

Ref. Hopp & Spearman, Factory Physics p. 277  
(this approximation used in several commercially available mfg queueing analysis packages)

$$\text{Note: } W = W_q + 1/\mu$$

# For more details take 2.854



*Optional references:*

1. *Kleinrock (Little's Law)- handout*
2. *Gershwin, Mfg Systems Engineering, Ch 2 & 3*
3. *Gershwin, \_Notes on...(on our website, covers math for exponential distribution, unreliable machine and M/M/1 Queue)*