# Online Matchings with Delays and Stochastic Arrival Times

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December 2, 2022

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online matchings with delays

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stochastic model

## online matchings with delays

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adversarial model stochastic model

# online matchings with delays



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Stochastic MPMD

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## online matchings with delays



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# Online chess gaming platforms

• players log into an online platform

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#### Online chess gaming platforms

# • players log into an online platform to be paired with each other



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Stochastic MPMD

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optimal: 20 + 10 + 5 + 10 = 45

Image: A matrix

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- when two requests r and r' are **matched** into a pair at time  $t \ge \max\{t(r), t(r')\}$ , a connection cost of  $d(\ell(r), \ell(r'))$  plus a delay cost (t t(r)) + (t t(r')) is incurred

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- the target is to **minimize the total cost** produced by the online algorithm for matching all the requests into pairs

known metric

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• the **current best** competitiveness is  $O(\log n)$  (where *n* denotes the number of points in the metric) [Azar at al., SODA'17]

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## unknown metric

the current best competitiveness is O(m<sup>log <sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>+ε)</sup> (with ε > 0 arbitrarily small) [Azar et al., TOCS'20]

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Poisson arrival process

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### Poisson arrival process

 waiting time between any two consecutive requests arriving at any metrical point x follows an exponential distribution Exp(λ<sub>x</sub>)

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### Poisson arrival process

 waiting time between any two consecutive requests arriving at any metrical point x follows an exponential distribution Exp(λ<sub>x</sub>) (we will refer to this model as distributed Poisson arrival model)

# Ratio of expectations

### Distributed Poisson arrival model



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# Ratio of expectations





#### Ratio of expectations

Algorithm ALG for MPMD has a ratio-of-expectations  $C \ge 1$ , if

 $\overline{\lim_{m\to\infty}} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[\mathrm{ALG}(\sigma)]}{\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[\mathrm{OPT}(\sigma)]} \leq C$ 

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where  $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[ALG(\sigma)]$  (resp.  $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[OPT(\sigma)]$ ) denotes the **expected cost** generated by ALG (resp. an **optimal offline solution**) on the **random** request sequence  $\sigma$ ,  $|\sigma| = m$ , generated by the Poisson arrival process.

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Memoryless property

If X is an exponential variable with parameter  $\lambda$ , then for all  $s, t \ge 0$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X>s+t\mid X>s
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#### Minimum of exponential variables

Given *n* independent exponential variables  $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_i)$  for  $1 \le i \le n$ , let  $Z := \min\{X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n\}$  and let  $\lambda := \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ . It holds that

$$Z \sim \operatorname{Exp}(\lambda), \qquad \mathbb{P}(Z = X_i) = \lambda_i / \lambda, \qquad Z \perp \{Z = X_i\},$$

where  $\perp$  denotes independence.



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Distributed Poisson arrival model = timers without resets



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#### Timers with resets



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Timers with resets = centralized Poisson arrival model



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### distributed version

 waiting time between any two consecutive requests arriving at any metrical point x follows an exponential distribution Exp(λ<sub>x</sub>)

#### centralized version

- waiting time between any two consecutive requests in the given metric space follows an exponential distribution with parameter λ(X) := Σ<sub>x∈X</sub> λ<sub>x</sub>
- each time a request arrives, the probability of it appearing at point x equals  $\lambda_x/\lambda(\mathcal{X})$

### Lower bounding the optimal solution

• for a given sequence  $\sigma$  of requests denote the **minimum total cost** of *r* in  $\sigma$  as

$$c(\sigma,r) := \min_{r' \in \sigma, r' \neq r} \left\{ d(\ell(r), \ell(r')) + |t(r) - t(r')| \right\}$$

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• given a pair of requests  $(r_1, r_2)$  paired by the OPT we have that  $c(\sigma, r_i) \leq d(\ell(r_1), \ell(r_2)) + |t(r_1) - t(r_2)|$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ 

### Lower bounding the optimal solution

 for a given sequence σ of requests denote the minimum total cost of r in σ as

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- given a pair of requests  $(r_1, r_2)$  paired by the OPT we have that  $c(\sigma, r_i) \leq d(\ell(r_1), \ell(r_2)) + |t(r_1) t(r_2)|$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$
- for any input sequence  $\sigma$  it holds that

$$OPT(\sigma) \ge \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r \in \sigma} c(\sigma, r)$$

• we want to lower bound

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}\left[\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{m}c(\sigma,r_{i})\right]$$

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$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[c(\sigma, r_{i})] = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathbb{P}_{\sigma}(\ell(r_{i}) = x) \cdot \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[c(\sigma, r_{i}) \mid \ell(r_{i}) = x]$$

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#### Finding a trade-off between distance and delay cost



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#### Arrival distribution for a subset



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#### Finding a trade-off between distance and delay cost



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• given a request  $r_i$  from the sequence  $\sigma$ , we want to lower bound

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• we condition on  $\ell(r_i) = x$  and define  $\rho_x$  to be the **radius** for x

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hence, it holds

$$c(\sigma, r_i) \geq \min(W_{prev}, W_{next}, \rho_x)$$

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• we have that  $W_{prev}$  and  $W_{next}$  are **independent** and follow the same distribution  $\text{Exp}(1/\rho_x)$ 

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- one can calculate that

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[c(\sigma, r_{i}) \mid \ell(r_{i}) = x] \geq \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[\min(W_{prev}, W_{next}, \rho_{x})] = \frac{1 - e^{-2}}{2}\rho_{x}$$

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• it is enough to upper bound  $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}^{m}[ALG(\sigma, r_{i}) \mid \ell(r_{i}) = x]$  by some  $C \cdot \rho_{x}$ 

• at any time t if there exist pending requests r, r' such that  $(t - t(r)) + (t - t(r')) \ge d(\ell(r), \ell(r'))$ , match them into a pair with ties broken arbitrarily

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#### Analysis sketch

• total cost generated by ALG is at most twice its delay cost

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#### Analysis sketch

- total cost generated by ALG is at most twice its delay cost
- for a request r<sub>i</sub> arriving at x the expected waiting time to be matched by ALG is at most ρ<sub>x</sub> + E[W<sub>next</sub>] = 2ρ<sub>x</sub>

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#### Analysis sketch

- total cost generated by ALG is at most twice its delay cost
- for a request r<sub>i</sub> arriving at x the expected waiting time to be matched by ALG is at most ρ<sub>x</sub> + E[W<sub>next</sub>] = 2ρ<sub>x</sub>
- hence, the total cost of serving  $r_i$  does not exceed  $4\rho_x$



- second algorithm achieving a better ratio of expectations
- analysis for a general delay cost described by an arbitrary positive and non-decreasing function

- second algorithm achieving a better ratio of expectations
- analysis for a general delay cost described by an arbitrary positive and non-decreasing function
- **o** variant with **penalties** to clear pending requests



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- is there a constant competitive algorithm for matching k-tuples?

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# Thank you!

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