

# On mean-field $GI/GI/1$ queueing model: existence and uniqueness

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ACMPT2017 Moscow

In memory and to the 90th anniversary of  
Professor Alexander D. Soloviev

# Starting Thanks

Mean-field  
 $GI/GI/1$

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

**1.** Thank you the organisers for having invited me. This gives me a great opportunity to pay tribute to my teacher Professor Alexander Dmitrievich Soloviev who offered me several topics to my UG and PG projects; one of them was later published and much later became a reason for me to revisit this area. Yet he never insisted that my topics should be linked to his own research, allowing a great amount of freedom. This talk is sincerely devoted to the memory of Alexander Dmitrievich Soloviev.

**2.** Thanks to the Russian Academic Excellence Project '5-100' via National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation, and to the RFBR grant 17-01-00633\_a for funding this research.

# What is “mean–field” & why important

( $\lambda_{xy}$  notation will be replaced by  $\lambda$  for jumps up and  $h$  for jumps down)

Mean-field version of any stochastic model at an intuitive level presents an ideal “limiting” situation of many similar models with a certain interaction between them (“weak” interaction). It was suggested by A. Vlasov in 1938 to replace the action of all other participants – called sometimes “agents” – by a unique “distributed mean action”. Hence, in this limiting model the distribution of the system is involved into the coefficients – which are intensities in our case – of the model itself:

$$\lambda_{xy} = \lambda[x, y, \mu],$$

where  $\mu$  is a distribution of the model at given time. Most often it is assumed that

$$\lambda[x, y, \mu] = \int \lambda(x, y, z) \mu(dz)$$

for a function  $\lambda(\cdot)$  which suits the idea of the method.

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# Mean-field as a limit

(at a physical level)

The “mean-field” reasoning is as follows. Assume there are  $N \gg 1$  identical models – in our case  $GI/GI/1$  – with more involved intensities  $\lambda_{xy}$  which for any particular device, say, number 1, may depend on the states of each other device as

$$\lambda_{xy} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=2}^N \lambda(t, X_t^1, X_t^i, y) \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=2}^N \lambda[t, X_t^1, \delta_{X_t^i}, y].$$

Due to a “weak interaction” because of the factor  $1/N$ , the influence of each other device is small. Hence, intuitively they are all weakly dependent and we may reasonably assume a law of large numbers, that is, a weak convergence

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=2}^N \lambda[t, X_t^1, \delta_{X_t^i}, y] \implies \int \lambda(t, X_t^1, z, y) \mu_t(dz),$$

where  $\mu_t(dz)$  is the (limiting at  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ) distribution of each device at time  $t$ . This is exactly the special case of what we denoted by  $\lambda[t, X_t^1, \mu_t]$  &  $h[t, X_t^1, \mu_t]$  on the previous slide.

Mean-field  
 $GI/GI/1$

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# Model; state space; markovization; intensities

(Assume that i.v.  $X_0$  does have  $x^1 \geq 0$  the elapsed time from the last arrival)

The “markovian” state space of the process  $(X_t)$  is the union

$$\mathcal{X} := (0, x^1) \cup \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (n, x^1, x^2), \quad x^1, x^2 \geq 0.$$

Here  $n$  is the number of “customers” in the system; the value  $x^1$  stands for the elapsed time from the last arrival, while  $x^2$  signifies the elapsed time of the current service. There is only one server which works without breaks (if there is at least one customer in the system) and it is always in a working state. All newly arrived customers stand in a queue of the infinite capacity, and for simplicity only we assume the FIFO discipline of service. It is assumed that at any time  $t$  at any state  $X = (n, x^1, y^2)$  (or  $X = (0, x^1)$  for  $n = 0$ ) there are *intensities* of service  $h[t, X_t, \mu_t]$  and arrivals  $\lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ , where  $\mu_t$  is the distribution of the random variable  $X_t$  itself.

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# Terminology

Mean-field  
*GI/GI/1*

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

Queueing processes with general (non-exponential) intensities or service & arrival distribution functions are often called **piecewise-linear Markov processes**. They are not Markov in the natural state space  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  but are Markov at special moments of time. The term was introduced by Gnedenko & Kovalenko. Later on M.H.A. Davis generalized it to **piecewise-deterministic Markov processes**. They are all **semi-Markov**. Of course, they all can be made Markov via an extension of a state space, which is used here via accepting the state space  $\mathcal{X}$  instead of  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ .

On the other hand, mean-field models are often called **nonlinear Markov**.

So, our object to be constructed in this talk might be called **nonlinear piecewise-linear Markov process**, or, **piecewise-linear nonlinear Markov process**.

# Model & assumptions: denote $x = (x^1, x^2)$ , $y = (y^1, y^2)$ $\lambda$ is intensity of arrivals, $h$ intensity of service; NB: $t, x^1, x^2$ all signify times

Mean-field  
 $GI/GI/1$

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

The model is a standard (FIFO)  $GI/GI/1/\infty$  except that both intensities are more involved. Note the difference in notations  $\lambda(\dots)$  &  $\lambda[\dots]$ : the real *intensity* is  $\lambda[\dots]$ .

(A1)

$$\lambda[t, x, \mu] = \int \lambda(t, x, y) \mu(dy),$$

$$h[t, x, \mu] = \int h(t, x, y) \mu(dy).$$

(A2)  $\lambda(t, x, y)$  and  $h(t, x, y)$  are Borel and bounded.

(A3)  $\lambda(t, x, y)$  and  $h(t, x, y)$  are continuous in all variables.

(A4)  $\lambda(t, x, y)$  and  $h(t, x, y)$  are bounded away from zero.

(That is,  $\lambda \wedge h \geq c > 0$  uniformly in all variables.)

# Results: Theorem 1, Existence

(A1-A3):  $(\lambda, h)[t, x, \mu] = f(\lambda, h)(t, x, y)\mu(dy)$  bounded and continuous

For  $X = (n, x^1, x^2) \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $\hat{X} = (\hat{n}, \hat{x}^1, \hat{x}^2) \in \mathcal{X}$  denote

$X^+ := (n + 1, 0, x^2)$ ,  $X^- := 1(n > 0)(n - 1, x^1, 0)$ ,

$$L[t, \hat{X}, \mu]g(X) := \lambda[t, \hat{X}, \mu](g(X^+) - g(X)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}g(n, x^1, x^2) \\ + 1(n > 0)h[t, \hat{X}, \mu](g(X^-) - g(X)) + 1(n > 0)\frac{\partial}{\partial x^2}g(n, x^1, x^2).$$

## Theorem (1)

*Under (A1)–(A3), for any fixed  $X_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ , on some probability space there exists a Markov process  $(X_t, t \geq 0)$  with generator  $L$ , and marginal distributions  $\mu_t$ , and intensities  $\lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ ,  $h[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ .*

Here boundedness away from zero – (A4) – is not required.



# Theorem 1: in other words

( $\exists$  a Markov process  $(X_t)$  with intensities  $\lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ ,  $h[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ )

In other words, there exists a Markov process  $(X_t)$  such that for any bounded continuous function  $g(X)$  with bounded continuous derivatives in  $(x, y)$ , the expression

$$M_t := g(X_t) - g(X_0) - \int_0^t L[s, X_s, \mu_s]g(X_s) ds \quad (1)$$

is a martingale, where (reminder) for  $X = (n, x, y)$ ,  $X' = (n', x', y')$ ,  $n \geq 0$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , it is denoted  $X^+ := (n + 1, 0, y)$ ,  $X^- := 1(n > 0)(n - 1, x, 0)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} L[t, X', \mu]g(X) &:= \lambda[t, X', \mu](g(X^+) - g(X)) \\ &+ 1(n > 0)h[t, X', \mu](g(X^-) - g(X)) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x, y) + 1(n > 0)\frac{\partial}{\partial y}g(n, x, y). \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

# Theorem 1: moreover

( $\exists$  a Markov process  $(X_t, t \geq 0)$  with intensities  $\lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ ,  $h[t, X_t, \mu_t]$ )

Moreover, for any given measure-valued function  $(\mu_s, s \geq 0)$  in  $L[s, X_s, \mu_s]$ , the *martingale problem* (see, e.g., [Ethier–Kurtz]) (3) has a weakly unique solution (= unique in distribution in the space of trajectories).

Moreover, for any *locally* bounded continuous function  $g(X)$  with *locally* bounded continuous derivatives in  $(x, y)$ , the expression

$$M_t := g(X_t) - g(X_0) - \int_0^t L[s, X_s, \mu_s]g(X_s) ds \quad (3)$$

is a *local* martingale (i.e., a martingale if stopped by any suitable *localizing sequence* of stopping times).

# Theorem 1: yet one more reformulation

((local) mart  $M_t := g(X_t) - g(X_0) - \int_0^t L[s, X_s, \mu_s]g(X_s) ds$ )

Equivalently, *Dynkin's identity* holds true for any function  $g(X)$  from the same class as for a (non-local) mart,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} g(X_t) = g(X_0) + \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \int_0^t L[s, X_s, \mu_s]g(X_s) ds. \quad (4)$$

Moreover, equivalently, for any  $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 \dots < t_{m+1}$ , and for any Borel bounded functions  $\phi_k(X)$ ,  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left( g(X_{t_{m+1}}) - g(X_{t_m}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} L[s, X_s, \mu_s]g(X_s) ds \right) \times \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(X_{t_k}) = 0. \quad (5)$$

All Dynkin's formulae may be understood as a *complete probability* – or, rather, a complete expectation – rule.

# Sketch of the proof

## Skorokhod's lemma

### Lemma (Studies in the theory of random processes, Ch.1.6)

Let  $\xi_t^n$  ( $t \geq 0$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ ) be some  $d$ -dimensional stochastic processes defined on some probability space and let for any  $T > 0$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  the following hold true:

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \sup_n \sup_{t \leq T} \mathbb{P}(|\xi_t^n| > c) = 0,$$

$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \sup_n \sup_{t, s \leq T; |t-s| \leq h} \mathbb{P}(|\xi_t^n - \xi_s^n| > \epsilon) = 0.$$

Then there exists a subsequence  $n' \rightarrow \infty$  and a new probability can be constructed with processes  $\tilde{\xi}_t^{n'}$ ,  $t \geq 0$  and  $\tilde{\xi}_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , such that all finite-dimensional distributions of  $\tilde{\xi}_t^{n'}$  coincide with those of  $\xi_t^{n'}$  and such that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and all  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|\tilde{\xi}_t^{n'} - \tilde{\xi}_t| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0, \quad n' \rightarrow \infty.$$

# Skorokhod lemma's conditions

how to verify?  $|X| = |(n, x, y)| := |n| + |x| + |y|$

They easily follow under the assumption (A2) – boundedness:

(1)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^n| > c\right) &\stackrel{\text{Chebyshev-Markov}}{\leq} \mathbb{P}(|X_0^n| > c/2) \\ &+ \frac{\mathbb{E} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^n - X_0^n|}{c} \leq \mathbb{P}(|X_0| > c/2) + \frac{\|\lambda\| T}{c/2}; \end{aligned}$$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|X_t^n - X_s^n| > \epsilon) &\leq 1 - \exp(-(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)|t - s|) \\ &\leq (\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)|t - s|. \end{aligned}$$

# Sketch of the proof of Theorem 1

Picard approximations, tightness & limit in Dynkin-like formulae

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

**I: Existence.** This part can be based on Picard iterations and Skorokhod's lemma. For any  $n \geq 1$  consider a process  $(X_t^n)$ , with initial data  $X_0^n = X_0$  and intensities of jumps up and down, respectively,

$$\lambda[t, X_{[nt]/n}^n, \mu_{[nt]/n}^n], \quad h[t, X_{[nt]/n}^n, \mu_{[nt]/n}^n].$$

where  $[a]$  is the integer value for  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and where  $X_t^n$  with  $t < 0$  is understood as  $X_0^n$ , and similarly for  $\mu_t^n$ . The processes  $(X_t^n)$  for each  $n$  are constructed by induction successfully on the intervals  $[0, 1/n]$ ,  $[1/n, 2/n]$ , etc. Due to the boundedness assumption on both intensities, there is no blow up and the processes for any  $n$  are defined for any  $t \geq 0$  as càdlàg pure jump processes. Moreover, for any  $t$  probability of jump at  $t$  for any  $X^n$  equals zero.

# (Features of the approximating process $(X_t^n)$ )

$$\lambda[t, X_{[nt]/n}^n, \mu_{[nt]/n}^n], \quad h[t, X_{[nt]/n}^n, \mu_{[nt]/n}^n]; \quad \kappa_n(a) := [na]/n$$

Firstly, a bad news is that  $(X^n)$  is regrettfully not Markov in the normal state space. A good news is that it behaves in a way very similar to an MP and here we briefly discuss one its important property: the analogue of Dynkin's formula,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left[ \left( g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) - g(X_{t_m}^n) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \mathbb{E}' L(s, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \xi_{\kappa_n(s)}^n) g(X_s^n) ds \right) \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(X_{t_k}^n) \right] = 0,$$

for any (nonrandom)  $0 \leq t_1 < \dots < t_m < t_{m+1}$  and for any  $g$  bounded and continuous and with bounded and continuous derivatives with respect to  $(x, y)$  (recall that  $X = (n, x, y)$  and  $\kappa_n(a) := [na]/n$ ).

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# (Features of the approximating process, ctd)

equivalent statements; recall that  $\kappa_n(a) := [na]/n$

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left[ \left( g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) - g(X_{t_m}^n) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \mathbb{E}' L(s, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \xi_{\kappa_n(s)}^n) g(X_s^n) ds \right) \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(X_{t_k}^n) \right] = 0,$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left[ \left( g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) - g(X_{t_m}^n) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} L(s, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \mu_{\kappa_n(s)}^n) g(X_s^n) ds \right) \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(X_{t_k}^n) \right] = 0 =$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left( (g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) - g(X_{t_m}^n) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} L(s, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \mu_{\kappa_n(s)}^n) g(X_s^n) ds) | \mathcal{F}_{t_m} \right).$$

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks



# “Quasi-Dynkin’s” formula

The last formula is close to “normal” Dynkin’s identity for MP and can be understood as a “complete conditional expectation” formula,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0}((g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) - g(X_{t_m}^n) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} L(s, X_{\kappa_n}^n(s), \mu_{\kappa_n}^n(s))g(X_s^n) ds) | \mathcal{F}_{t_m}) = 0.$$

Indeed, recall the definition of  $L$ :

$$\begin{aligned} X^+ &:= (n+1, 0, y), \quad X^- := 1(n > 0)(n-1, x, 0), \\ L[t, X', \mu]g(X) &:= \lambda[t, X', \mu](g(X^+) - g(X)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x, y) \\ &+ 1(n > 0)h[t, X', \mu](g(X^-) - g(X)) + 1(n > 0)\frac{\partial}{\partial y}g(n, x, y). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the “quasi-Dynkin’s” formula can be rewritten as

# ("Complete conditional expectations", rewritten)

(distinguish between  $n$  and  $n_s$ !) the formula can be rewritten as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0}((g(X_{t_{m+1}}^n) | \mathcal{F}_{t_m}) \stackrel{\text{a.s.}}{=} g(X_{t_m}^n) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \lambda[s, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \mu_{\kappa_n(s)}] (g(X_s^+) - g(X_s)) ds | \mathcal{F}_{t_m}) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \mathbf{1}(n_s > 0) h[t, X_{\kappa_n(s)}^n, \mu_{\kappa_n(s)}] (g(X_s^-) - g(X_s)) ds | \mathcal{F}_{t_m}) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial X} g(X_s^n) + \mathbf{1}(n_s > 0) \frac{\partial}{\partial Y} g(X_s^n) \right) ds | \mathcal{F}_{t_m}). \end{aligned}$$

By inspection, it has all features of the conditional complete expectation:  $\lambda ds$  is a infinitesimal proba of jump up, etc.

# (The plan of a rigorous justification) for the “quasi-Dynkin’s formula”

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

This “complete conditional expectation” can be rigorously justified in a similar way as in [V-v, Zverkina, MPRF, 2014] where it was done in a nonconditional markovian setting. This way consists of rewriting the integrals as approximating sums (*because the probability as well as the integral are sigma-additive but generally no more – i.e. not “uncountably-additive”; at least, if we want to use such uncountable version of additivity then it must be somehow rigorously justified, which is apparently an exceptional event in such an applied area as queueing theory*), then of taking into account infinitesimal probabilities of jumps up and down, estimating all  $o(\Delta)$  where  $\Delta \downarrow 0$ , and finally passing to the limit so as to get integrals again.

# (Existence)

(Return to our approximating procedure  $(X^n)$  with  $\lambda[t, X_{\kappa_n(t)}^n, \mu_{\kappa_n(t)}^n]$ , etc.)

The processes  $(X_t^n, t \geq 0)$  for  $n \geq 1$  being constructed, let us introduce on some probability space *independent* equivalent processes  $(\xi_t^n, t \geq 0)$ ; let  $\mathbb{E}'$  stand in all cases for the integration with respect to the *third variable*, e.g.,

$$\mathbb{E}' h(t, X_t^n, \xi_t^n) := \int h(t, X_t^n, y) \mu_t^n(dy).$$

It can be checked that due to boundedness of both intensities (in fact, here we, of course, have a potential to relax our conditions) the assumptions of Skorokhod's Lemma are satisfied: for any  $T > 0$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \sup_n \sup_{t \leq T} \mathbb{P}(|\tilde{X}_t^n| > c) = 0, \text{ \&}$$
$$\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \sup_n \sup_{t, s \leq T; |t-s| \leq h} \mathbb{P}(|\tilde{X}_t^n - \tilde{X}_s^n| > \epsilon) = 0$$

# (Existence)

Hence, on some new probability space there are equivalent – and, hence, *satisfying similar “quasi-Dynkin’s identities” with the same  $L^1$*  – processes  $(\tilde{X}_t^n, \tilde{\xi}_t^n)$  and a limiting pair  $(\tilde{X}_t, \tilde{\xi}_t)$  such that for some subsequence

$(\tilde{X}_t^{n'}, \tilde{\xi}_t^{n'}) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} (\tilde{X}_t, \tilde{\xi}_t)$ ,  $n' \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $t$ . It follows due to the boundedness of all intensities that the limiting process  $(\tilde{X}_t, \tilde{\xi}_t)$  is also stochastically continuous. More than that, it is a pure jump process with a finite number of jumps on any bounded interval with probability one. Moreover, due to  $\lim_{h \downarrow 0} \sup_n \sup_{t, s \leq T; |t-s| \leq h} \mathbb{P}(|\tilde{X}_t^n - \tilde{X}_s^n| > \epsilon) = 0$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$  it follows that (uniformly with respect to  $0 \leq t \leq T$ )

$$\tilde{X}_{\kappa_{n'}(t)}^{n'} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \tilde{X}_t, \quad n' \rightarrow \infty.$$

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<sup>1</sup>“Quasi” just because the processes are not Markov and  $L$  is not a generator; but very close to it intuitively.

(Existence: what we want to show for some  $(X)$ )

$$(5) \mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left( g(X_{t_{m+1}}) - g(X_{t_m}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} L[s, X_s, \mu_s] g(X_s) ds \right) \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(X_{t_k}) = 0$$

So, our “quasi-Dynkin’s” formula being valid,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left[ \left( g(\tilde{X}_{t_{m+1}}^{n'}) - g(\tilde{X}_{t_m}^{n'}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \mathbb{E}' L(s, \tilde{X}_{\kappa_{n'}(s)}^{n'}, \tilde{\xi}_{\kappa_{n'}(s)}^{n'}) g(\tilde{X}_s^{n'}) ds \right) \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(\tilde{X}_{t_k}^{n'}) \right] = 0, \quad (6)$$

as  $n' \rightarrow \infty$ , in the limit due to the convergence &  $C_b$  continuity assumption (A3) on  $\lambda, h$ , we get  $\forall \phi_k \in C_b$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left( g(\tilde{X}_{t_{m+1}}) - g(\tilde{X}_{t_m}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} \mathbb{E}' L(s, \tilde{X}_s, \tilde{\xi}_s) g(\tilde{X}_s) ds \right) \times \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(\tilde{X}_{t_k}) = 0.$$

# (Existence)

*mart = martingale*

Since the law  $\tilde{\mu}_t$  of  $\tilde{\xi}_t$  is the same as of  $\tilde{X}_t$  then equivalently

$$\mathbb{E}_{0, X_0} \left( g(\tilde{X}_{t_{m+1}}) - g(\tilde{X}_{t_m}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} Lg(s, \tilde{X}_s, \tilde{\mu}_s) ds \right) \times \prod_{k=1}^m \phi_k(\tilde{X}_{t_k}) = 0. \quad (7)$$

By the properties of measures on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , the formula (7) holds true for any Borel bounded  $(\phi_k)$ , too. Due to [Davis], solution of the “martingale problem” (7) – or, more precisely, of the mart-problem

$$M_t := g(\tilde{X}_{t_{m+1}}) - g(\tilde{X}_{t_m}) - \int_{t_m}^{t_{m+1}} Lg(s, \tilde{X}_s, \tilde{\mu}_s) ds \quad \text{is a mart,}$$

with given  $(\tilde{\mu}_s)$  is unique. By Krylov’s result on “selection of a MP” (cf. [Ethier-Kurtz, ~Thm 4.4.2])  $\tilde{X}$  is Markov with a generator  $L$ .

# [Krylov; Ethier-Kurtz – Theorem 4.4.2]

reference

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

In an abstract form, the re-phrased result by [Krylov 1973] as in [Ethier-Kurtz, Theorem 4.4.2 & around] claims that *if the martingale problems has a unique solution in the sense of distributions then the corresponding process is Markov.* Actually [Ethier-Kurtz] established that *just uniqueness of marginal distributions suffices for this.*

The fact that  $L$  serves as a generator follows directly from the definition after passing to the limit.

Note that uniqueness in the *mean-field setting* was not proved yet! Uniqueness in the theorem above is stated for a fixed flow of one-dimensional distributions  $(\tilde{\mu}_t)$  in the intensities.



# Results: Theorem 2, Uniqueness

(A1-A2,A4):  $(\lambda, h)[t, x, \mu] = \int (\lambda, h)(t, x, y)\mu(dy)$  bdd and strictly positive

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

A quick reminder about the assumptions:

(A2) The functions  $\lambda(t, x, y)$  and  $h(t, x, y)$  are Borel measurable and bounded.

(A4) The functions  $\lambda(t, x, y)$  and  $h(t, x, y)$  are bounded away from zero.

## Theorem (2)

*Let the assumptions (A1)–(A2) and (A4) be satisfied. Then, for any fixed  $X_0$ , the process  $(X_t, t \geq 0)$  with required intensities  $\lambda[t, x, \mu_t]$  and  $h[t, x, \mu_t]$  is unique in distribution.*

*NB: continuity (A3) is not required here!*

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# Skorokhod-Girsanov's formula

Proof is based on the "Skorokhod-Girsanov formula for jump processes".

Suppose there are two solutions,  $(X_t^1, \mu_t^1)$  and  $(X_t^2, \mu_t^2)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . The density on  $[0, T]$  – see, e.g., [Liptser-Shiryaev, Theory of Martingales], or [Skorokhod, Studies ...] – of one measure w.r.t. another reads,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_T &:= \frac{d\mathbb{P}(\lambda, h)[\cdot, X, \mu^2]}{d\mathbb{P}(\lambda, h)[\cdot, X, \mu^1]}(X) \Big|_{\mathcal{F}_T} \quad (\text{"Skorokhod-Girsanov"}) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^2]}{\lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^1]} \exp \left( - \int_0^T (\lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t^2] - \lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t^1]) dt \right) \\ &\quad \times \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^2]}{h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^1]} \exp \left( - \int_0^T (h[t, X_t, \mu_t^2] - h[t, X_t, \mu_t^1]) dt \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $(t_i)$  are the moments of jumps up and  $(s_j)$  – for jumps down of the trajectory  $X$ ; the usual  $\prod_{i=1}^0 \dots = 1$  is assumed. *Note that due to (A4) the ratios  $\lambda/\lambda$  &  $h/h$  are bounded.*

# (Skorokhod-Girsanov's formula: comments)

S-G's formula may be understood as a probability of a generic event written twice w.r.t. two absolute continuous measures

Indeed, consider a generic event  $A = A_{n,m}$ :  $n$  jumps up and  $m$  down occur in a  $B_u \cup B_d$  (up & down) with  $B_u \cap B_d = \emptyset$ .

We have with  $\lambda_{t_i}^k = \lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^k]$ ,  $h_{s_j}^k = h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^k]$ ,  $k = 1, 2$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}^{\lambda[\cdot, X, \mu^1]}(A) = \int_{B_u} \exp\left(-\int_0^T \lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t^1] dt\right) \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_{t_i}^1 dt_i \\ \times \int_{B_d} \exp\left(-\int_0^T h[t, X_t, \mu_t^1] dt\right) \prod_{j=1}^m h_{s_j}^1 ds_j,$$

$$\mathbb{P}^{\lambda[\cdot, X, \mu^2]}(A) = \int_{B_u} \int_{B_d} \rho_T \exp\left(-\int_0^T \lambda[t, X_t, \mu_t^1] dt\right) \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_{t_i}^1 dt_i \\ \times \exp\left(-\int_0^T h[t, X_t, \mu_t^1] dt\right) \prod_{j=1}^m h_{s_j}^1 ds_j.$$

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

Uniqueness:  $\int |f^1 - f^2|(z) dz = \int |1 - \frac{f^2}{f^1}| f^1(z) dz = 2(1 - \int \frac{f^1}{f^2} \wedge 1 dz)$   
 Thus,  $\rho_T$  is the density in the space of trajectories on  $[0, T]$ .

We want to estimate the distance (*note a bit less usual definition!*)  $\|\mu_{[0,T]}^1 - \mu_{[0,T]}^2\|_{TV} =: \sup_A (\mu_{[0,T]}^1(A) - \mu_{[0,T]}^2(A))$  between two probability measures in the space of trajectories, and then to use the inequality

$$\varphi_T := \|\mu_T^1 - \mu_T^2\|_{TV} \leq \|\mu_{[0,T]}^1 - \mu_{[0,T]}^2\|_{TV} = 1 - \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1) =: \psi_T.$$

We need a suitable *lower* bound for the value  $\mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1)$ . Let us split this expectation as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1) = \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m}) (\rho_T \wedge 1),$$

where – recall –  $A_{n,m}$  is the event that the trajectory  $X$  has precisely  $n$  jumps up &  $m$  down on  $[0, T]$ .

# (Uniqueness: the basis for the main calculus)

A fact:  $\int f(y)\mu^1(dy) - \int f(y)\mu^2(dy) \leq 2\|f\|_B\|\mu^1 - \mu^2\|_{TV}$

Denote  $\Lambda_t^k = \ln \lambda^k[t, X_t, \mu_t^k]$ ,  $H_t^k = \ln h^k[t, X_t, \mu_t^k]$ . Note that  $\|\Lambda\| + \|H\| \leq C < \infty$  with some  $0 < C < \infty$  under (A4). We have for  $n, m = 0$  a lower bound,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{0,0}) (\rho_T \wedge \mathbf{1}) = \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{0,0}) \\ & \times \exp \left( - \int_0^T ((\lambda + h)[t, X_t, \mu_t^2] - (\lambda + h)[t, X_t, \mu_t^1]) dt \right) \wedge \mathbf{1} \\ & \geq \exp(-(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) 2T\psi_T) \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{0,0}). \end{aligned}$$

Now we want to find similar bounds for all other  $A_{n,m}$  and then – remember that eventually we are estimating  $1 - \dots$ ; to start with, we have  $1 - \exp(-CT) \leq CT$  where the most important is the multiplier  $T$ . (Color just emphasizes the importance.)

# (Uniqueness: the basis for the main calculus)

(ctd)

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

Similarly to  $A_{0,0}$ , in the general case for  $n, m \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m}) (\rho_T \wedge \mathbf{1}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m}) \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^2]}{\lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^1]} \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^2]}{h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^1]} \times \right. \\ & \times \exp \left( - \int_0^T ((\lambda + h)[t, X_t, \mu_t^2] - (\lambda + h)[t, X_t, \mu_t^1]) dt \right) \left. \right\} \wedge \mathbf{1} \\ & \geq \dots \end{aligned}$$

# (Uniqueness: the basis for the main calculus ctd.)

(by definition  $t_0 = 0$ )

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \int \cdots \int \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^n 2\|\Lambda\| \|\mu_{t_i}^2 - \mu_{t_i}^1\|_{TV}\right) \\ &\quad \times \exp\left(-\sum_{j=1}^m 2\|H\| \|\mu_{s_j}^2 - \mu_{s_j}^1\|_{TV}\right) \\ &\quad \times \exp\left(-\int_0^T 2(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) \|\mu_t^2 - \mu_t^1\|_{TV} dt\right) \\ &\quad \times \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda[t_i, X_{t_i}, \mu_{t_i}^1] \exp\left(-\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} \lambda[s, X_s, \mu_s^1] ds\right) dt_i \\ &\quad \times \prod_{j=1}^m h[s_j, X_{s_j}, \mu_{s_j}^1] \exp\left(-\int_{s_{j-1}}^{s_j} h[s, X_s, \mu_s^1] ds\right) ds_j. \end{aligned}$$

(Uniqueness)  $1 = \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m})$ ,  $1 - \exp(-a) \leq a$

$$\varphi_T = \|\mu_T^1 - \mu_T^2\|_{TV} \leq \|\mu_{[0,T]}^1 - \mu_{[0,T]}^2\|_{TV} = 1 - \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1) = \psi_T$$

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \psi_T &\leq (1 - \exp(-2(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) T \psi_T)) \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{0,0}) \\ &+ \sum_{|(n,m)| > 0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m}) \left( 1 - \exp \left( -2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|\Lambda\| \|\mu_{t_i}^2 - \mu_{t_i}^1\|_{TV} - \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - 2 \sum_{j=1}^m \|H\| \|\mu_{s_j}^2 - \mu_{s_j}^1\|_{TV} \right) \right) \exp \left( - \int_0^T 2(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) \|\mu_t^2 - \mu_t^1\|_{TV} dt \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1} \mathbf{1}(A_{n,m}) (1 - \exp(-2(n\|\Lambda\| + m\|H\|)\psi_T - T(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)\psi_T)) \\ &\leq \psi_T \left( \sum_{n,m=0}^{\infty} (2n\|\Lambda\| + 2m\|H\| + T(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)) \left\{ \frac{((\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)T)^{n+m}}{(n+m)!} \right\} \right) \end{aligned}$$



# (Uniqueness)

$$\varphi_T = \|\mu_T^1 - \mu_T^2\|_{TV} \leq \|\mu_{[0,T]}^1 - \mu_{[0,T]}^2\|_{TV} = 1 - \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1) = \psi_T$$

Overall,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_T &\leq \psi_T \times \\ &\times \left( \sum_{n+m=0}^{\infty} ((n+m)(\|\lambda\| \vee \|h\|) + T(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)) \frac{(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)T^{n+m}}{(n+m)!} \right) \\ &\quad \stackrel{m+n=:k}{=} T \psi_T \{(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|) + T(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)) \frac{(\|\lambda\| + \|h\|)^k T^{k-1}}{k!} \}. \end{aligned}$$

This series converges and does not exceed some constant, say,  $C > 0$ , if  $T \leq 1$ . So,  $(0 \leq \psi_T \leq TC\psi_T, T \leq 1)$ , which implies that  $\psi_T = 0$ ,  $T < C^{-1} \wedge 1$ , and, therefore, also

$$\varphi_T = 0, \quad T < C^{-1} \wedge 1,$$

as required.

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

# (Uniqueness)

$$\varphi_T = \|\mu_T^1 - \mu_T^2\|_{TV} \leq \|\mu_{[0,T]}^1 - \mu_{[0,T]}^2\|_{TV} = 1 - \mathbb{E}^{\lambda^1}(\rho_T \wedge 1) = \psi_T$$

In other words, we have shown that the two marginal measures  $\mu_t^1$  and  $\mu_t^2$  coincide for all  $t < C^{-1} \wedge 1$ .

Further, note the constant  $C$  in this calculus does not depend on the initial distribution of the process. Hence, using the Markov property of the process and repeating the same arguments on  $[T, 2T]$ ,  $[2T, 3T]$ , etc., by induction we conclude that

$$\psi_t = 0, \quad t \geq 0,$$

and, therefore, also

$$\varphi_t = 0, \quad t \geq 0,$$

as required. So, the two measures  $\mu^1$  and  $\mu^2$  on the space of trajectories are equal. The Theorem 2 is proved.

# Further problems?

which study did not start yet

Mean-field  
GI/GI/1

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

1. Try drop the assumptions (A3) & (A4)(?)
2. A further natural problem is to investigate whether there is a weak convergence towards our model of the sequence of models with an increasing number of interacting “normal” (non-mean-field) GI/GI/1 sub-models all with identical and independent initial states where interactions are in the intensities of jumps written for the first model as an example

$$\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j=2}^N \lambda(t, X_t^1, X_t^j) \equiv \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j=2}^N \lambda[t, X_t^1, \delta_{X_t^j}] \quad (\implies?)$$

Intuitively at the “physical level” each element in this ensemble weakly affects one another, so that a law of large numbers *may* occur as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , which is called “propagation of chaos”. This LLN, if valid, should lead exactly to our mean-field model.

3. To study more general jump/jump-diffusion mean-fielded models. For no-jump SDEs see [Mishura, V-v, 2017, arXiv:1603.02212v4]

# Final Thanks

Mean-field  
 $GI/GI/1$

Intro

Existence

Uniqueness

Uniqueness:  
main calculus

Final Thanks

It is my hope that *Professor Soloviev* would have been delighted to see new developments and – less important – perhaps also his former student returning to the area of queueing after years in stochastic calculus including some mean-field versions of stochastic differential equations, and *I am grateful to him for teaching me* at the university and for drawing my attention to important classes of problems which interest me until now and are still far from being solved.

*And, of course, may I thank you all for having come to this talk and for your attention.*