

Structural Reliability
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Lecture –150
System Reliability - Time Defined (Part - 06)

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System reliability – time defined

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Dependent active parallel

Consider a 1 out of 2 active parallel system made up of two identical units.

When both units are up, the failure rate of each is λ . However, if one fails, the failure rate of the surviving element increases to λ' .

Derive the reliability function and the mean time to failure of the system.

The problem is symmetric in T_1 and T_2 .

Given that element 1 fails at τ , the conditional distribution of the TTF of element 2 is:

$$F_{T_2|T_1}(t_2) = \begin{cases} \text{Exp}(\lambda), & t_2 \leq \tau \\ \text{Exp}(\lambda'), & t_2 > \tau \end{cases}$$

$$F_{T_1|T_2}(t_1) = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp(-\lambda t_1), & t_1 \leq \tau \\ 1 - \exp[-\lambda(t_1 - \tau)] \exp(-\lambda' \tau), & t_1 > \tau \end{cases}$$

Let F_i denote the failure of the i^{th} element ($i=1,2$).

There are two sequences in which the system can fail:
 F_1 then F_2 , or F_2 then F_1 .

The probability of the first sequence is

$$P[F_1 \rightarrow F_2; t] = P[T_1^0 < t]$$

$$= P[T_1 < t, T_1 < T_2, T_2 < t]$$

$$= P\left[\bigcup_{\tau} T_1 = \tau, \tau < T_2 < t\right]$$


Using the theorem of total probability, and integrating over all possible values of the first element's TTF:

$$P[F_1 \rightarrow F_2; t] = \int_{\tau=0}^t P[\tau < T_1 < t | T_1 = \tau] f_{T_1}(\tau) d\tau$$

$$= \int_{\tau=0}^t \left[(1 - e^{-\lambda'(t-\tau)}) - (1 - e^{-\lambda(t-\tau)}) \right] \lambda e^{-\lambda \tau} d\tau$$

$$= \int_{\tau=0}^t \lambda \left[e^{-\lambda \tau} - e^{-\lambda' \tau} e^{-\lambda(t-\tau)} \right] d\tau$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{-2\lambda t}) - \frac{\lambda}{2\lambda - \lambda'} \left[e^{-\lambda' t} - e^{-2\lambda t} \right], \lambda' \neq 2\lambda$$



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After looking at systems made up of independent elements in various configurations let us switch gears and look at the simplest possible system with dependent elements and that is what you see dependent active parallel with 2 just 2 elements. So, it is a one out of 2 active parallel system the 2 units are identical they are also exponential in nature meaning that their time to failure is exponentially distributed.

When both units are up the failure rate of each is lambda however if one fails because the other one the surviving one has to bear a higher load presumably its failure rate increases to lambda prime. So, with that information we need to find out the system reliability and as an added item the mean time to failure. So, let us take it step by step we need to we need to recognize in the beginning that this problem is symmetric in T 1 and T 2 and a fact which should be useful very soon.

So, let us say that one fails first and we know that then the distribution of T_2 changes from 1 governed by λ to 1 governed by λ' . So, let us say T_1 fails at an arbitrary instant τ . So, before τ T_2 is same as before with rate λ exponential with rate λ and after τ T_2 is now another exponential with rate λ' . So, if we want to expand these exponential forms we have to do it carefully before τ there is no problem T_2 has the exponential form with λ element 1 is still working.

But when element 1 fails then we have to develop the second line of that $F T_2$ given T_1 carefully the first exponential term basically says that the clock is reset. So, $t_2 - \tau$ is the resetting with a new rate λ' but the second factor that exponential minus $\lambda \tau$ that comes at the end of that line that is to ensure or acknowledge the fact that t_2 can only do what it is supposed to do after element one fails is if it itself survives up to that that time. So, the probability that it survives element 2 survives up to τ is that second factor exponential minus $\lambda \tau$.

So, now let us just put some more events in the in the mix. So, F_i is the failure of element i . So, we have F_1 and F_2 and there are 2 sequences in which the system can fail and that is where the symmetry is going to becoming helpful. So, either F_1 then F_2 or F_2 then F_1 and the problem is symmetric. So, we will just take the first sequence. So, F_1 fails first then F_2 and that is what on the left the conditional distribution actually pertains to that sequence F_1 then F_2 .

So, let us expand the event that F_1 then F_2 . So, that basically means that t_1 is obviously less than small t but more importantly capital T_1 is less is less than capital T_2 . So, element 2 fails second that is very important. And the third event in that line T_2 less than little t is that the second element also fails and that is how at time t the sequence happens. So, F_1 then F_2 and system fails at time t now we can bring in a partition in τ and we are going to use theorem total probability next and that should be obvious by now.

So, we fix T_1 at all possible values τ up to t because the system fails at T and then we combine the limits on T_2 on capital T_2 on the left it is τ and on the right it is T . So, next we apply theorem of total probability and. So, the integral looks like this the first term p within

brackets that is conditioned on T 1 taking value tau and then the density of T 1 at tau and the conditioned event is T 2 the random variable T 2 is between tau and small t.

So, if we do the algebra carefully it is the difference of the CDFs of T at those 2 different times and the answer after some algebra comes down to what you see on the screen and if lambda prime is twice lambda then we have to have a slightly different form which you will see in the next slide.

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Due to symmetry, and given that the two elements have identical properties,

$$P[F_{sys}] = P[F_1 \rightarrow F_2; \tau] + P[F_2 \rightarrow F_1; \tau]$$

$$= 2P[F_1 \rightarrow F_2; \tau]$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-2\lambda\tau} - \frac{2\lambda}{2\lambda - \lambda'} [e^{-\lambda'\tau} - e^{-2\lambda\tau}], & \lambda' \neq 2\lambda \\ 1 - e^{-2\lambda\tau} - \lambda\tau e^{-\lambda\tau}, & \lambda' = 2\lambda \end{cases}$$

$$MTTF = \frac{1}{2\lambda} + \frac{1}{\lambda'} = (3/2)\lambda \text{ if elements are independent}$$



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So, F 1 then F 2 that sequence has the probability that we just derived now this is where the symmetry is going to be useful that the 2 sequences are equally likely. So, the F sys the system failure event is the union of F 1 then F 2 or F 2 then F 1 and they are obviously mutually exclusive. So, we can add the 2 probabilities and it is twice because of the symmetry and that's what you see in the end one special case is lambda prime is twice lambda.

So, you have a slightly different form there and then let us find the second task that we were given is the find the mean time to failure of the system and we can do the integration the area under the reliability curve. So, 1 - p of 6 is R sys. So, we integrate that and the MTTF comes to 1 by twice lambda + 1 by lambda prime. And again we looked at the case where the 2 units are independent in an active parallel system and we remember that the mean then was 1.5 lambda sorry it was 1.5 the element mean.

So, it would be. So, if λ' and λ were equal it would be $3 \times 2 \times 1$ by λ there is a typographical error there. So, it is $3 \times 2 \times 1$ by λ .