

MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS AND SUPPLY CHAIN DYNAMICS

Chapter 5: Production Flows

EPFL, Master MT

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Introduction



We consider a **single production unit M**

- Machine
- Worker



Constant cycle time of τ_c seconds ($U = 1/\tau_c$ is the production rate)

We consider a **time horizon** $H \gg \tau_c$ seconds, during which the production unit will be operated

During this time horizon H , the productivity of M can undergo **random (or non-random) failures** of diverse nature.

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

Is the machine M **operational** ?

If operational, at what **rate** does M produce ?

What is the **maximum production rate** of M ?



Operational state of M :

up or down

Production rate of M :

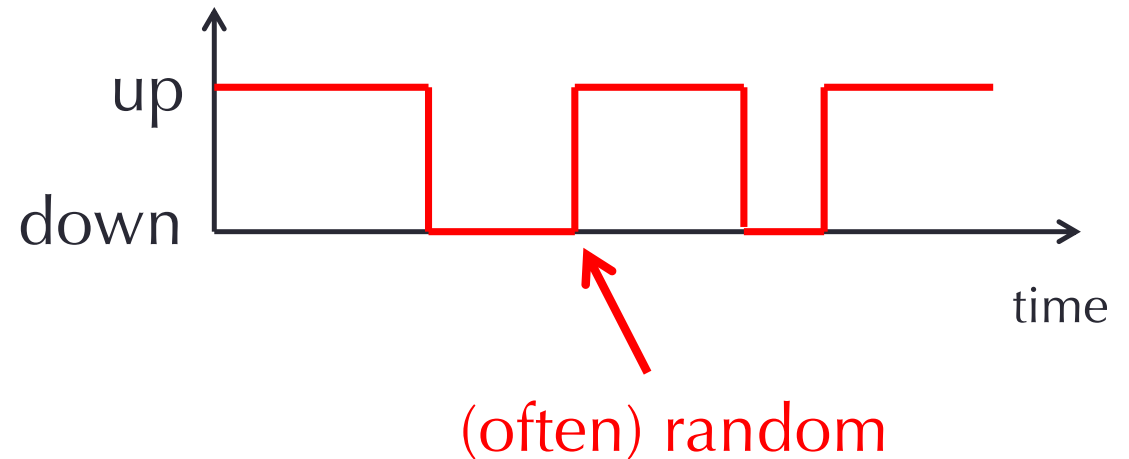
number of parts per time unit

Capacity of M :

maximum production rate U

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

Operational state of M :



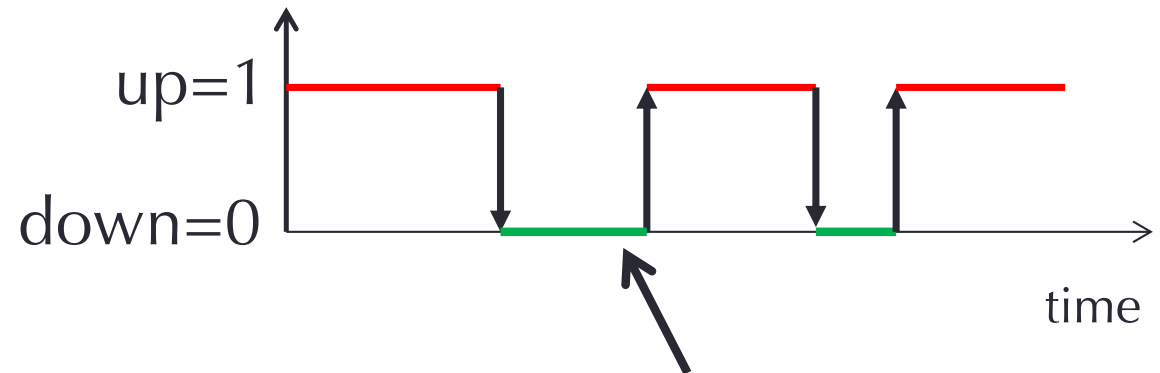
$0 \leq$ **Production rate u of M** \leq **Capacity U**

(often) controllable

(often) fixed

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

Operational state of M:



Breakdown distribution
Repair distribution



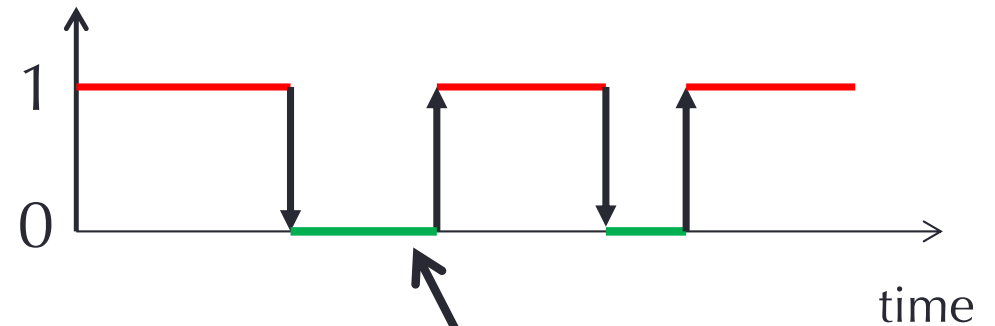
$0 \leq$ Production rate u of $M \leq$ Capacity U

controllable

[parts/time]

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

$\chi(t)$ = **Operational state** of M :



Breakdown: $f(t)$

Repair: $g(t)$



$0 \leq$ **Production rate u of M** \leq **Capacity U**

For simplicity:

production rate = $U \times \chi(t)$

[parts/time]

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

$$M = \{U, f, g\}$$



U denotes the **capacity**

f defines the (random) **time-before-failure**

g defines the (random) **time-(needed)-to-repair**

Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

f and g hard to derive \rightarrow **mean values** $1/p$ and $1/r$ (are measurable)

$$M = \{U, p, r\}$$



$$\frac{1}{p} := \text{mean time before failure} = \int_0^{\infty} t f(t) dt$$

$$\frac{1}{r} := \text{mean time to repair} = \int_0^{\infty} t g(t) dt$$

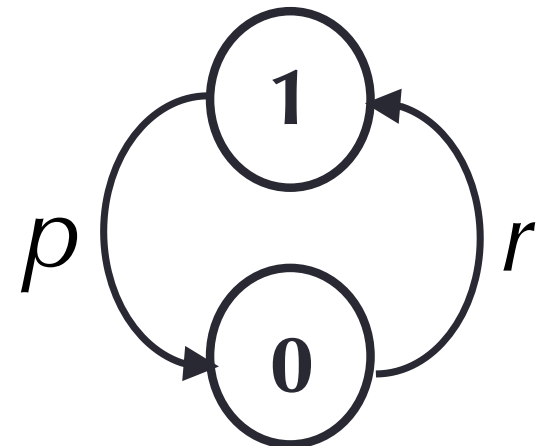
Characterization of a Machine (for production flows)

$$M = \{U, p, r\}$$



U denotes the **capacity**
 p is the **rate of breakdown**
 r is the **rate of repair**

Time-continuous
Markov chain



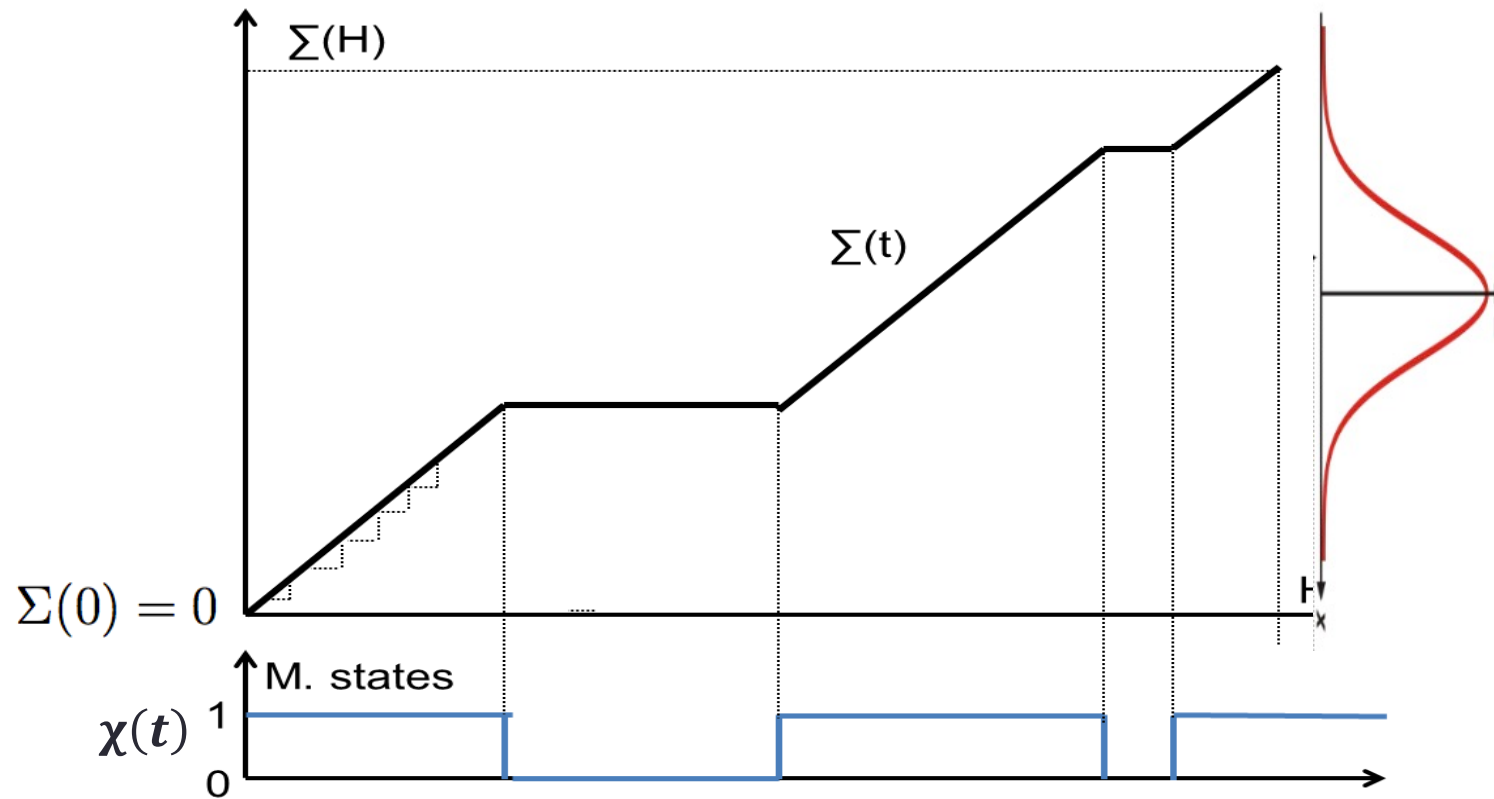
Hydrodynamic Assumption for $M = \{U, p, r\}$

$$\frac{1}{U} \ll \min \left\{ \frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{r} \right\}$$

Time needed to produce one part (cycle time) is much smaller than the mean-time-before-failure and the mean-time-to-repair

=> The behavior of production flow is like that of a **fluid** (no discrete parts)

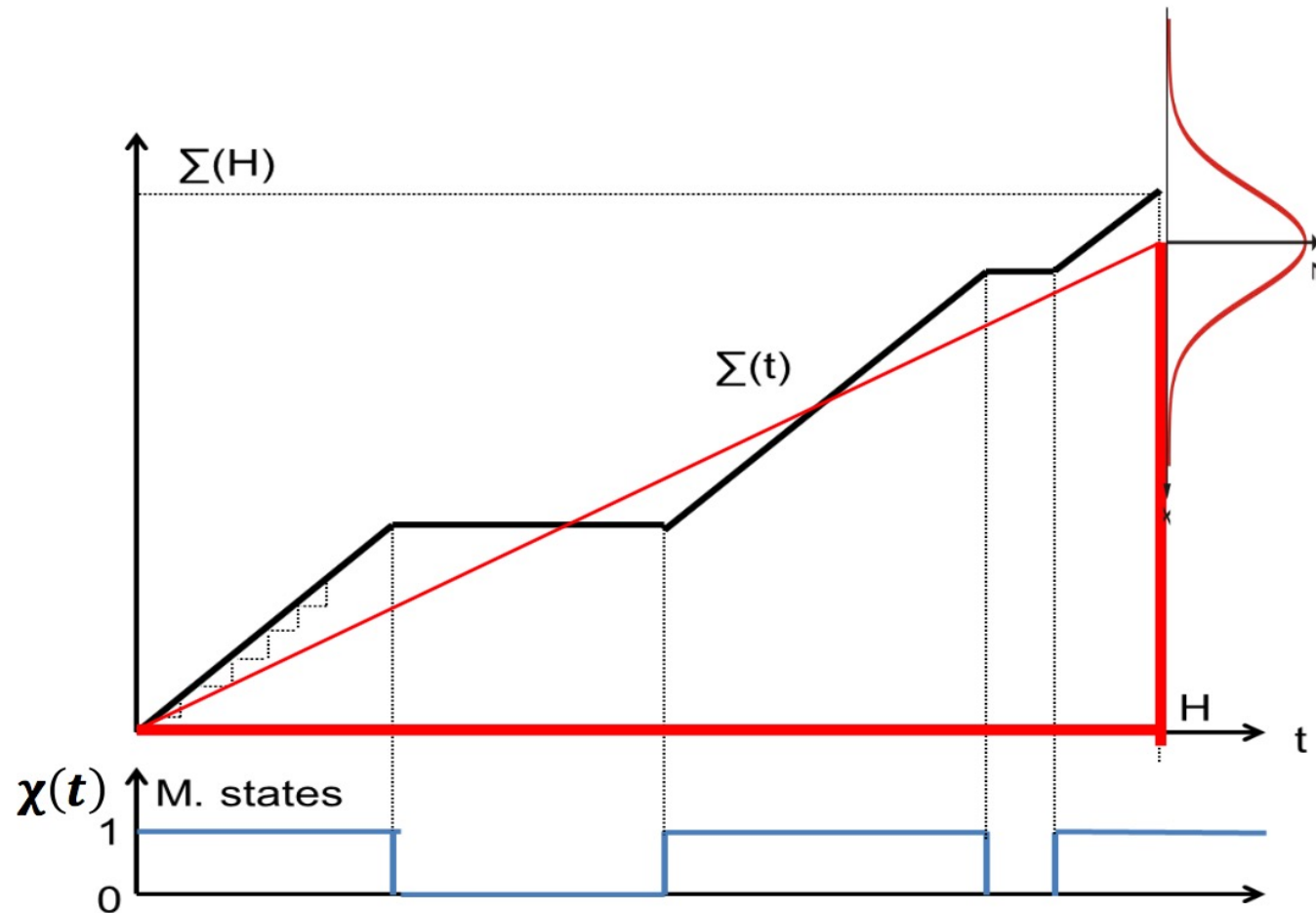
Hydrodynamic Assumption for $M = \{U, p, r\}$



$\Sigma(t)$: cumulated production up to time t

$$\Sigma(\mathcal{H}) = \int_0^{\mathcal{H}} U \cdot \chi(t) dt$$

Mean Production Rate (for Large Time Horizon H)

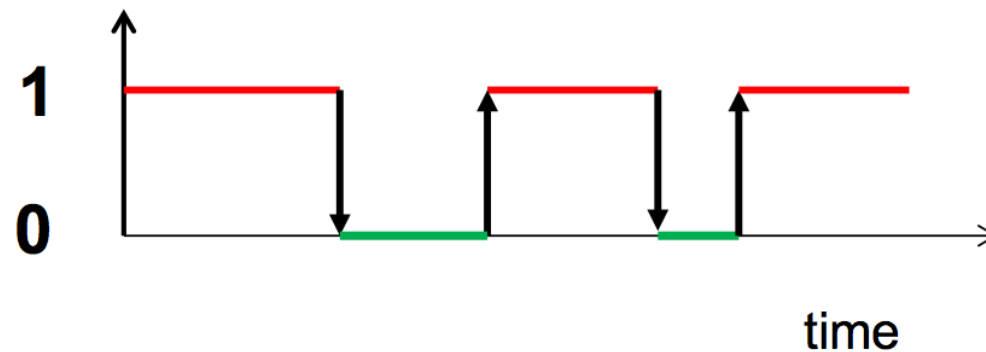


$$m = \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Sigma(H)}{H} = \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H U \times \chi(t) dt$$

Hypothesis: U is Constant

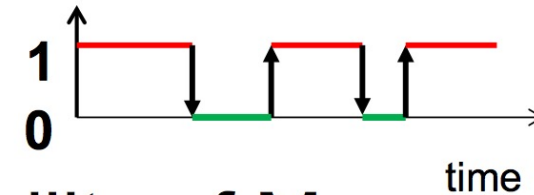
$$\mathbf{m} = \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H U \times \chi(t) dt = U \times \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H \chi(t) dt$$

$$\lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H \chi(t) dt = \langle \chi \rangle = \frac{r}{r + p}$$



$$\frac{r}{r + p} = \frac{\frac{1}{p}}{\frac{p+r}{rp}} = \frac{\frac{1}{p}}{\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{r}} = \frac{MTF}{MTF + MTR}$$

Indisposability of M



Define I, the indisposability of M:

$$I := \frac{MTR}{MTF} = \frac{1/r}{1/p} = \frac{p}{r}$$

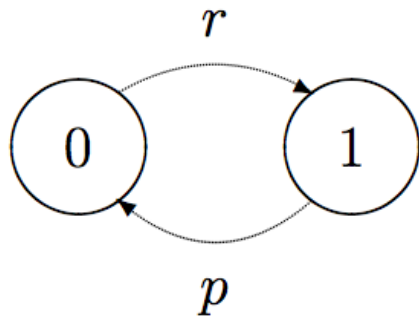
With this definition we have

$$\lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H x(t) dt = \frac{r}{r+p} = \frac{r}{r(1 + \frac{p}{r})} = \frac{1}{1+I}$$

(in applications, I should be smaller than 0.2)

Indisposability of M: Derivation

Example 35 Suppose that $X_t \in \{0, 1\}$ reflects the state of a machine (1 means up, 0 means down). If the machine time-to-failure (passing from 1 to 0) is exponentially distributed with mean $1/p$ hours and if the machine time-to-repair (passing from 0 to 1) is exponentially distributed with mean $1/r$ hours, we obtain the following Markov chain (note that the links are labelled with rates and that there are no self-loops):



The balance equations for $\pi_0 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(X_t = 0)$ and $\pi_1 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(X_t = 1)$ are:

$$r\pi_0 = p\pi_1$$

$$p\pi_1 = r\pi_0$$

Indisposability of M: Derivation

Using probability normalization ($\pi_0 + \pi_1 = 1$), we find:

$$\pi_0 = \frac{p}{r+p} = \frac{I}{1+I}, \quad \pi_1 = \frac{r}{r+p} = \frac{1}{1+I}$$

where, like in the discrete case, $I = \frac{p}{r}$ is the **indisposability** of the machine. π_1 represents the fraction of time the machine is operational. If U is the production rate of the machine when the machine is operational, $U\pi_1$ represents the mean production rate of the machine and is an important performance measure. \diamond

Indisposability of M: Intuition

N : number of on-off cycles of machine M during the time horizon H

For large H , we have approximately: $\mathcal{H} \approx N \left(\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{p} \right)$

N/p : time-span during which M is operational

N/r : time-span during which M is down

The **efficiency of the machine** the relative fraction of time during which M was operational:

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{N \frac{1}{p}}{N \left(\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{p} \right)} = \frac{1}{1 + I}$$

Indisposability of M : Practical Computation

Exercise 19 Explain how you would quantify the indisposability factor I in a practical situation. \odot

Mean Production Rate

$$m = \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum(H)}{H} = \frac{U}{1+I}$$

mean cumulated production $\langle \sum(H) \rangle$ (for large H):

$$\langle \sum(H) \rangle = mH = \frac{U}{1+I} H$$

with indisposability I of $M=\{U,p,r\}$: $I = \frac{p}{r}$

Production Line with Successive Workstations

Manufacturing system composed of several successive workstations

- All the workstations must have (approximately) the **same mean stationary production rate** => manufacturing system is **balanced**
- **Unbalanced manufacturing systems** operate **sub-optimally** even in absence of failures and in presence of large internal buffers to absorb variability.
- In an unbalanced manufacturing system, the **workstation with the smallest mean stationary production rate** is the **bottleneck** and will define the production rate of the whole line

AnyLogic

Using ***AnyLogic***: Simulate the mean cumulated production and compare simulated values with theoretical ones.

Mean Production Rate

$$m = \lim_{H \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Sigma(H)}{H} = \frac{U}{1 + I}$$

However, tells nothing about the fluctuations around the mean value. However, **fluctuations are real and important!**

Variance of the Production Rate

O : operating time of the machine M before failure

R : repair time

Variances:

$$\sigma_O^2 := E((O - E(O))^2) = \int_0^\infty \left(t - \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 f(t) dt$$

$$\sigma_R^2 := E((R - E(R))^2) = \int_0^\infty \left(t - \frac{1}{r}\right)^2 g(t) dt$$

Squared **coefficient of variation**: $SCV = \frac{\text{variance}}{\text{mean}^2}$

$$SCV_O = \sigma_O^2 p^2 \quad (\text{operating time}) \quad SCV_R = \sigma_R^2 r^2 \quad (\text{repair time})$$

Variance of the Production Rate

Example 7: exponential operating and repair times

$$\sigma_O^2 = \int_0^\infty \left(t - \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 f(t) dt = \frac{1}{p^2}$$
$$\sigma_R^2 = \int_0^\infty \left(t - \frac{1}{r}\right)^2 g(t) dt = \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Then: $SCV_O = SCV_R = 1$

Variance of the Production Rate

Result valid for **large time horizons H** (using central limit theorem):

$$P\left(x \leq \Sigma(\mathcal{H}) \leq x + dx\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{\Sigma(\mathcal{H})}^2 \mathcal{H}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x - m\mathcal{H})^2}{2\sigma_{\Sigma(\mathcal{H})}^2 \mathcal{H}}\right\} dx$$

$$\text{With: } \sigma_{\Sigma(\mathcal{H})}^2 = (SCV_O + SCV_R) \frac{U^2 I}{r(1 + I)^3}$$

We are hence able to estimate the probability to produce more than a given number of items during a fixed time horizon H .

Variance of the Production Rate

Exercise 20 For the production of electronic components, we are given the following data for a specific production step of these components:

$$\frac{1}{p} = 1000 \text{ [sec]} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{r} = 200 \text{ [sec]}$$

The production rate is given by $U = 12 \frac{pce}{sec}$ and the time horizon is 3 hours.

Suppose that O (operating time) and R (repair time) are exponentially distributed (implying that $SCV_O + SCV_R = 2$). Calculate:

- (1) The mean cumulated production $\langle \Sigma(\mathcal{H}) \rangle$
- (2) The stationary production fluctuations at time \mathcal{H} (i.e., $\sigma_{\Sigma\mathcal{H}}^2$)
- (3) The probability that we can ship at least 108'100 components after 3 hours

Time T Needed to do a Given Job

We fix the batch size B to be produced

Question: Are we able to ship this batch of products before a given time horizon H ?

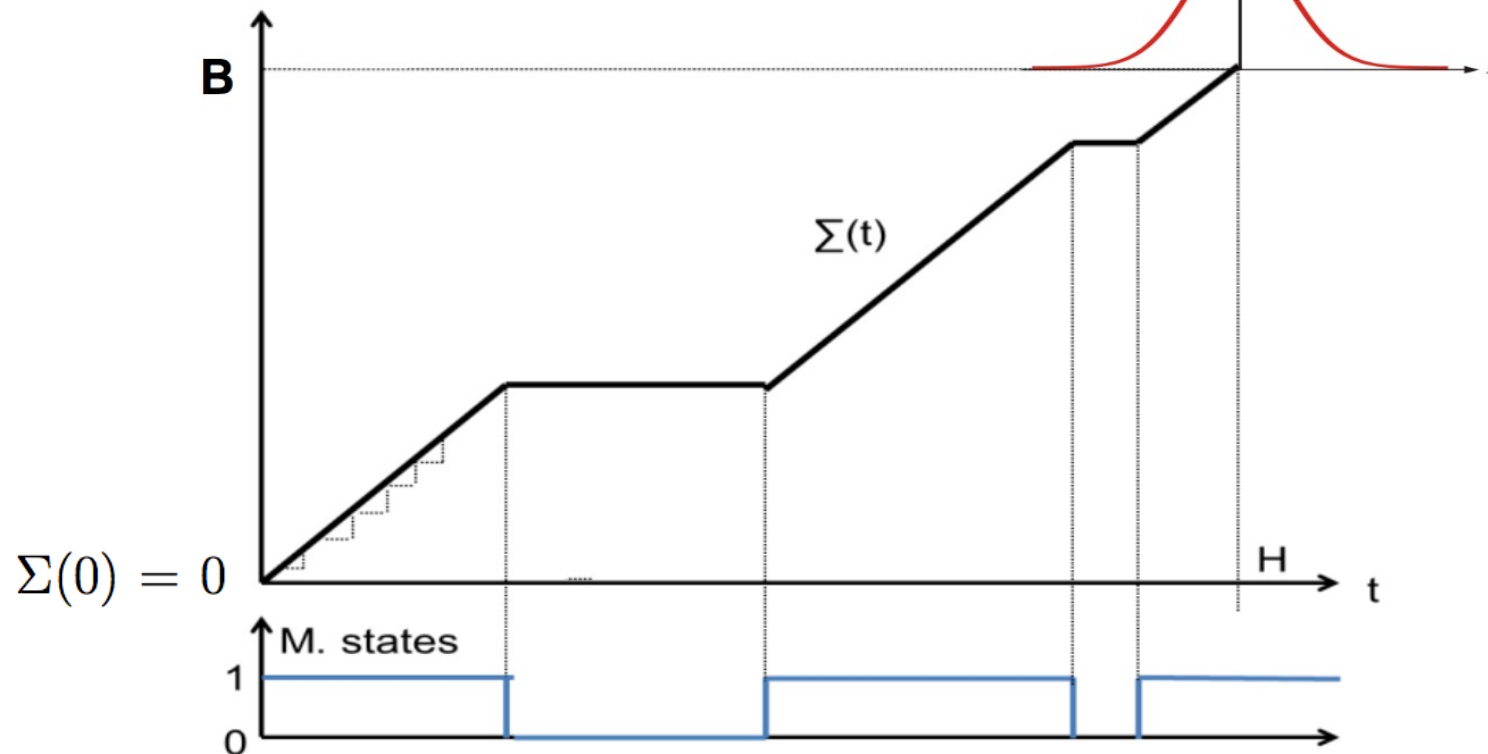
τ_B : time needed to complete a job of batch size B (random variable, as the production flow is random because of the machine failures), with density $q_B(t)$

$$P(\tau_B \leq T) = \int_0^T q_B(t) dt$$

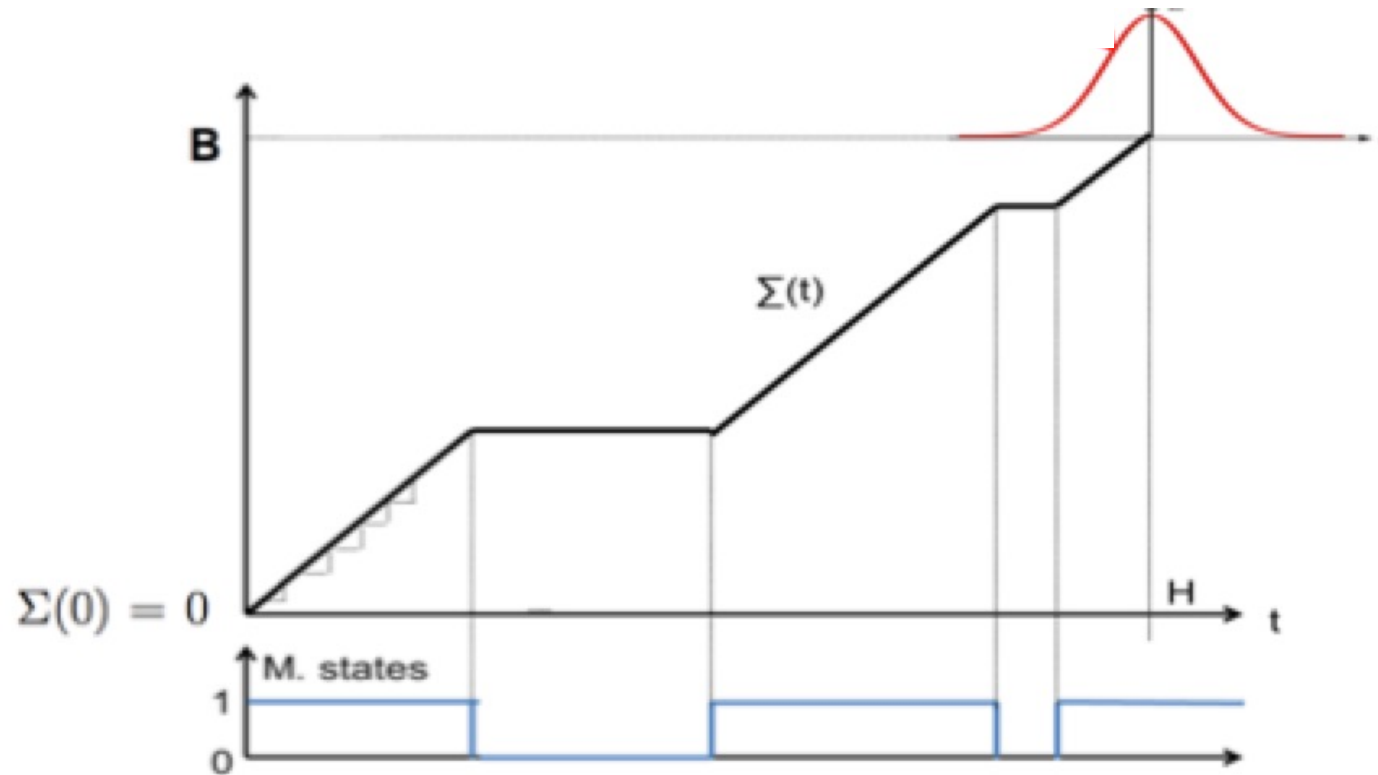
Time T Needed to do a Given Job

$$P(\tau_B \leq T) = \int_0^T q_B(t) dt$$

$$q_B(t) = \frac{B}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{\Sigma(t)}^2 t^3}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(B - mt)^2}{2\sigma_{\Sigma(t)}^2 t} \right\} \quad (\text{inverse Gaussian law})$$



Time T Needed to do a Given Job



Mean :

$$\langle \tau_B \rangle = \int_0^\infty t q_B(t) dt = \frac{B}{U} (1 + I) = \frac{B}{m}$$

Variance :

$$\sigma_{\tau_B}^2 = \frac{(CV_O + CV_R)BI}{rU}$$

Time T Needed to do a Given Job

Exercise 21 In the context of Exercise 20, calculate the probability to finish a job of size $B = 1.2 \cdot 10^5$ within 3 hours. \odot