PROBABILISTIC ANALYSIS OF 3-UNIT BIOMETRIC SYSTEM

Anjali Naithani  
Department of Mathematics, Amity Institute of Applied Sciences  
Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India  
anjalinaithani@gmail.com

Roosel Jain  
Department of Mathematics, Amity Institute of Applied Sciences  
Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India  
rooseljain@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In the present paper, reliability analysis of a biometric system is done. The system consists of three identical biometric machines which serve as hot standby units. Biometric is automatic identification of the person based on his/her physiological and behavioral characteristics like finger print etc. If one of the units fails then other two units can be used to fulfill the purpose. If all three units fail then system is declared completely failed. It is observed the system fails due to human error most of the times. Various measures of system effectiveness such as Mean Time to System Failure, availability, busy period of repairman and number of visits are estimated numerically using semi-Markov processes and regenerative point technique.

Keywords: Biometric System, Measures of system effectiveness, Human error, Regenerative point technique, semi-Markov processes

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1. INTRODUCTION

Reliability of an apparatus is the ability to perform its intended function without failure. Reliability enhances cost-effectiveness of the system. It is important to assess the reliability and
availability of the complex systems. A good number of researchers including Taneja, Tuteja, Goyal, Parashar etc. [1-7] have discussed various measures of system effectiveness and profit analysis for many critical and non-critical systems under different assumptions but the literature on reliability is still lacking of reliability models comprising biometric system.

The term ‘biometric’ means life measurement. Security is one of the most important applications associated with Biometrics. It is used to either determine the person’s identity or verify the person’s identity. For the present study, three identical biometric machines are considered which serve as hot standby units. If one of the three units fails, then either one of the other two units can be used to fulfill the purpose. If all three units fail then system is declared completely failed.

2. NOMENCLATURE

\[ O \quad : \quad \text{operative state} \]
\[ F_r \quad : \quad \text{failed unit under repair} \]
\[ F_R \quad : \quad \text{unit is under repair from previous state} \]
\[ F_w \quad : \quad \text{failed unit is waiting for repair} \]
\[ \lambda \quad : \quad \text{constant rate of failure of operative unit} \]
\[ g(t), G(t) \quad : \quad \text{p.d.f. and c.d.f. of repair time of the unit} \]
\[ \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{S} \quad : \quad \text{Laplace convolution, Laplace Stieltjes convolution} \]

3. MODEL DESCRIPTION

In present reliability model, the system under consideration is biometric system consisting of three identical units. If one of unit fails, then other two units can be used to fulfill the purpose. If all the units fail then system is declared completely failed. To study the system, information was gathered about the failures. It is observed the system fails due to human error most of the times.

The state transition diagram is shown in Fig.1 covering all the possibilities of system under consideration. The epochs of entry into states 0, 1, and 4 are regeneration points and thus 0, 1 and 4 are regenerative states. The states 0, 1, 2 and 4 are up states. States 3 is with complete failure.
The following reliability indices of system effectiveness are obtained probabilistically:

- Mean time to system failure (MTSF)
- Availability
- Busy Period of repairman
- Expected number of visits

4. ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE MODEL

1. Initially all three units are operative.
2. All three units are identical.
3. The rate of failure of all three identical units is constant.
4. The repairman is readily available for repair.
5. An exponential distribution is followed by the failure times.
6. The system works perfectly after each repair.
7. Failed state is considered only if all units get failed.
8. The unit cannot fail immediately after repair.
9. All random variables are independent.

5. TRANSITION PROBABILITIES AND MEAN SOJOURN TIMES

The transition probabilities are given as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{dQ_{01}}{dt} &= 3\lambda e^{-3\lambda t} dt \\
\frac{dQ_{10}}{dt} &= e^{-2\lambda t} g(t) dt \\
\frac{dQ_{13}}{dt} &= (2\lambda e^{-2\lambda t} \otimes \lambda e^{-\lambda t}) \tilde{G}(t) dt \\
\frac{dQ_{11}}{dt} &= (2\lambda e^{-\lambda t} \otimes e^{-\lambda t}) g(t) dt \\
\frac{dQ_{14,3}}{dt} &= (2\lambda e^{-2\lambda t} \otimes \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \otimes 1) g(t) dt \\
\frac{dQ_{41}}{dt} &= g(t) dt
\end{align*}
\]

The non-zero elements \( p_{ij} \) can be obtained as

\[
p_{ij} = \lim_{s \to 0} q_{ij}^*(s) \text{ where } \frac{dQ_{ij}}{dt} = q_{ij}(t)
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
p_{01} &= 1 \\
p_{10} &= \ast(2\lambda) \\
p_{13} &= \ast(2\lambda) - 2g^*(\lambda) + 1 \\
p_{11} &= 2g^*(\lambda) - 2g^*(2\lambda) \\
p_{14,3} &= \ast(2\lambda) - 2g^*(\lambda) + 1 \\
p_{41} &= 1
\end{align*}
\]

By these transition probabilities, it can be verified that

\[
\begin{align*}
p_{01} &= 1 \\
p_{10} + p_{11}^2 + p_{14,3}^2 &= 1 \\
p_{10} + p_{11}^2 + p_{13}^2 &= 1
\end{align*}
\]
Probabilistic Analysis of 3-Unit Biometric System

\( p_{41} = 1 \)

The mean sojourn times (\( \mu_i \)) in the regenerative state \( i \) is defined as the time to stay in that state before transition to any other state. If \( T \) denotes the sojourn time in the regenerative state \( i \), then

\[
\mu_0 = \int_0^\infty e^{-3\lambda t} \, dt = \frac{1}{3\lambda}
\]

\[
\mu_1 = \int_0^\infty e^{-2\lambda t} \bar{G}(t) = \frac{1 - g^*(2\lambda)}{\lambda}
\]

\[
\mu_4 = \int_0^\infty t \, g(t) \, dt
\]

The time taken by the system to transit to any regenerative state \( j \) when time is taken from the instant when the system enters the state \( i \) is given by

\[
m_{ij} = \int_0^\infty t \, dQ_{ij}(t) = -q^*_{ij}(0)
\]

Thus,

\[
m_{01} = \mu_0
\]

\[
m_{10} + m_{11}^2 + m_{13}^2 = k_1 \text{ (say)}
\]

\[
m_{10} + m_{11}^2 + m_{14}^2 = k_2 \text{ (say)}
\]

\[
m_{41} = \mu_4
\]

6. MEAN TIME TO SYSTEM FAILURE (MTSF)

Regarding the failed states as absorbing states and employing the arguments used for regenerative processes, we have the following recursive relations for \( \phi_i(t) \):

\[
\phi_0(t) = Q_{01}(t) \odot \phi_1(t)
\]

\[
\phi_1(t) = Q_{1,3}^2(t) + Q_{10}(t) \odot \phi_0(t) + Q_{1,1}^2(t) \odot \phi_1(t)
\]
\[ \phi_4(t) = Q_{4,1}(t) \bigcirc \phi_1(t) \]

Thus, mean time to system failure (MTSF), is as follows

\[
\text{MTSF} = \lim_{s \to 0} \frac{1 - \phi_0^*(s)}{s} = \frac{D'(0) - N'(0)}{D(0)} = \frac{N}{D} = \frac{k_1 + \mu_0 (p_{10} + p_{13}^2)}{p_{13}^2}
\]

**7. AVAILABILITY ANALYSIS**

Let \( A_i(t) \) is the probability that the system is available at instant \( t \), where the system entered regenerative state \( i \) at \( t=0 \), then using the probabilistic arguments of the theory of regenerative processes, we have the following recursive relations for \( A_i(t) \)

\[
A_0(t) = M_0(t) + q_{01}(t) \bigcirc A_1(t)
\]

\[
A_1(t) = M_1(t) + q_{10}(t) \bigcirc A_0(t) + q_{11}(t) \bigcirc A_1(t) + q_{14}(t) \bigcirc A_4(t)
\]

\[
A_4(t) = M_4(t) + q_{41}(t) \bigcirc A_1(t)
\]

where

\[
M_0(t) = e^{-3\lambda t}
\]

\[
M_1(t) = e^{-2\lambda t} \bar{G}(t)
\]

\[
M_4(t) = \bar{G}(t)
\]

For steady state, the availability of the system is given by

\[
A_0 = \lim_{s \to 0} sA_0^*(s) = \frac{N_1}{D_1}
\]

\[
D_1 = k_1 + \mu_4 p_{14}^{2,3} + \mu_0 p_{10}
\]

\[
N_1 = \mu_0 p_{10} + \mu_1 + p_{14}^{2,3} \mu_4
\]
8. BUSY PERIOD ANALYSIS

Let $B_i(t)$ is the probability that the repairman is busy in the repair at instant $t$, where the system entered regenerative state $i$ at $t=0$, then using the probabilistic arguments, we have the following recursive relations for $B_i(t)$:

$$B_0(t) = q_{01}(t) \circ B_1(t)$$

$$B_1(t) = W_1(t) + q_{11}(t) \circ B_1(t) + q_{10}(t) \circ B_0(t) + q_{14}(t) \circ B_4(t)$$

$$B_4(t) = W_4(t) + q_{41}(t) \circ B_1(t)$$

where

$$W_1(t) = e^{-2\lambda t} \tilde{G}(t) + [2\lambda e^{-2\lambda t} \circ \lambda e^{-\lambda t}] \tilde{G}(t) + [2\lambda e^{-2\lambda t} \circ \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \circ 1] \tilde{G}(t)$$

$$W_4(t) = \tilde{G}(t)$$

For steady state, the total fraction of time for which the system is under repair, is given by

$$B_0 = \lim_{s \to 0} s B_0^*(s) = \frac{N_2}{D_1}$$

$$N_2 = [W_1^*(0) - W_4^*(0)p_{14}^{2,3}]$$

and $D_1$ is already specified

9. EXPECTED NUMBER OF VISITS OF REPAIRMAN

Let $V_i(t)$ as the expected number of visits in $(0,t]$, where the system entered regenerative state $i$ at $t=0$, then using the probabilistic arguments, we have the following recursive relations for $V_i(t)$:

$$V_0(t) = Q_{01}(t) \otimes (1 + V_1(t))$$

$$V_1(t) = Q_{10}(t) \otimes V_0(t) + Q_{11}(t) \otimes V_1(t) + Q_{14}(t) \otimes V_4(t)$$

$$V_4(t) = Q_{41}(t) \otimes V_1(t)$$

For steady state, the expected number of visits per unit time is given by

$$V_0 = \lim_{s \to 0} s V_0^{**}(s) = \frac{N_3}{D_1}$$

where
N_3 = 1 - p_{11}^2(s)

and D_1 is already specified

REFERENCES