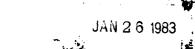




# NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL Monterey, California





# THESIS

Implementation of a Reliability Shorthand on the TI-59 Handheld Calculator

bу

Hans-Eberhard Peters

October 1982

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Assuming constant failure rates, basic structures are used to show how the shorthand can be applied. Several examples are worked out that show, how, with component failure rates as input, a handheld calculator can be

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Two TI-59 programs are provided as a computational aid.

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Implementation of a Reliability Shorthand on the TI-59 Handheld Calculator

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#### ABSTRACT

It is shown how a reliability shorthand can be implemented on a handheld calculator.

Assuming constant failure rates, basic structures are used to show how the shorthand can be applied. Several examples are worked out that show, how, with component failure rates as input, a handheld calculator can be used to compute the reliability of a system.

Two TI-59 programs are provided as a computational aid.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTE	RODUC	T IO	y -	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
II.	THE	E CON	CEP:	r of	A	RE	LIA	BI	LIC	Y	SH	O R	TH	AN	D	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	A.	BASI	C NO	OT A T	IO	N ·		-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	В.	CONV	OLU	rion	0:	F D	IST	RI	BU :	ric	NS	;	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	c.	MIXT	URE	OP	DI	STR	IBU	TI	ONS	5	-	-	-	~	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	12
		1.	MIX-	-Not	at:	ion	-	-	_	-	~	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
		2.	Dist	trib	ut:	ive	La	w	-	-	-	-	_	-	<del>-</del>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
		3.	Dege	ener	ac	y a	t t	he	0:	iq	,in		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
III.	. AI	PLYI	ING I	A RE	LI	ABI	LIT	Y	SHO	RI	'H A	N D		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
	A.	SUMS	op	EXP	ON	ENT:	IAL	s	WIT	СН	WE	IG	HT	0	N E	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
		1.	Simp	ple	Se	rie	s S	ys	ter	n	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
		2.	Simp	ple	Pa:	ral	lel	S	ys t	ten	ì	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
		3.	Stai	adby	-5	yst	e n	wi	th	Di	.ss	in	i1	ar		on	ιpo	n e	nτ	s	-	-	19
	В.	SUMS	o o F	EXP	NO	ENT:	IAL	s	WI	ГH	WE	ΙG	нп	· E	EI	WE	EEN	7	EF	80	Al	N D	
		ONE				-		_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
		1.	Para	alle	1:	Sys	tem	W	itl	h I	)is	si	mi	.la	r	Fa	il	ur	: <b>e</b>	Ra	tte	es	21
		2.	ser:	ies	sy:	ste	M A	it	h (	)ne	<b>\$</b>	рa	re	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
		3.	Two	-out	:-0	f-T	hrə	е	Sys	sta	) (D	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
IV.	IMI	PLEMI	ENTI	NG I	HE	SH	or <b>T</b>	HA	. ND	01	I	HE	I	!I-	59	)	-	-	~	-	-	-	31
v	SIIM	VGKM				_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_			_	_	44

APPENDIX	A:	CONAC	LUTI	on f	ORMULA	s <b>-</b> -	- ~	 -	-	~	-	-	-	35
APP EN DIX	B:	USER	GUID	E TO	<b>TI-</b> 59	PROG	RAMS	 . <b>-</b>	-	-	-	-	-	43
COMPUTER	LIST	rings						 <b>-</b>	-	~	-	-	-	62
BIBLIOGR	APHY							 · -	-	-	-	-	-	7
INITIAL	DIST	RIBUT	ION I	IST				 . <b>-</b>	-	-	-	-	-	7:

# LIST OF FIGURES

1.	Distributive Property of the MIX-Notation	-	-	-	-	-	14
2.	Two-Component Series System	-	-	-	-	-	17
3.	Two-Component Parallel System	-	-	-	-	-	18
4.	Standby System	-	-	-	-	-	20
5.	Series System with one Spare	-	-	-	-	~	24
6.	Twc-out-of-Three System	-	-	-	-	-	27
7.	Two-out-of-Three System	_	_	_	_	_	27

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Systems and components can be in either of two states: either they are functioning or they have failed. The ability, that a system stays functioning over a predetermined time interval is called its reliability. It is generally not realistic to assume that a system, say a lightbulb, will fail at a specified time, but rather that T, the time to failure, is a random variable which has a probability distribution that can be specified. The probability distribution for a time to failure is called its life distribution. In this paper we will solely be concerned with one specific type of life distribution which is especially important in reliability theory and practice, the exponential distribution. It has the property that the remaining life of a used component is independent of its age (the "memoryless" property), i.e. a functioning component is always as good as new, the failure rate is constant. The memoryless property is the basis for a reliability shorthand, one that can be implemented on a handheld calculator.

Depending on the size, structure and life distribution of a system, probability statements about its time to

failure are in general not easily achieved. Porming the sum of independent life lengths (i.e. convolving the corresponding life distributions) requires knowledge of integral calculus and computations can become rather tedious.

In the case of the exponential distribution, though, computations can be simplified by translating the problem into a simple shorthand notation and using this shorthand as input for some computing device.

In this paper we will show how a reliability shorthand can be implemented on a handheld calculator. Basic structures are used to show how the shorthand can be applied. Two TI-59 programs are provided as a computational aid. Formulas for the convolution of up to four exponential random variables can be found in Appendix A. Appendix B contains a user guide to the TI-59 programs.

# II. THE CONCEPT OF A RELIABILITY SHORTHAND

#### A. BASIC NOTATION

The survival function of a life length can be derived from the distribution function.

Let

T : life length

 $P(t) = P(T \le t)$  be the distribution function of

Then

$$\vec{P}(t) = P(T>t)$$

= 1-F(t)is the survival function of T.

In the case of the exponential distribution,  $\vec{F}(t) = e^{-\lambda t}$ , where  $\lambda$  is the failure rate. Translated into shorthand, the life distribution is denoted

EXP(\lambda).

#### B. CONVOLUTION OF DISTRIBUTIONS

When independent random lives are summed up, the corresponding life distributions have to be convolved to determine the probability that the sum of the lives will exceed a specified time t. Let

T, T2 : independent life lengths

 $\vec{F}_4$  (t),  $\vec{F}_2$  (t) : the corresponding survival functions

f<sub>4</sub>(t),f<sub>2</sub>(t) : the corresponding density functions

 $T = T_1 + T_2$ : the total life length

Then

$$\vec{F}(t) = P(T>t)$$

$$= P(T_1 + T_2 > t)$$

$$= \vec{F}_1(t) + \int_0^t \vec{F}_2(t-s) f_1(s) ds.$$

This means that T will exceed a specified time t when

-either T<sub>4</sub> exceeds t

-or  $T_1$  is smaller than t, say equal to s, and  $T_2$  exceeds t-s.

Integration with respect to s (i.e. summing over all possible values of s ) is called the convolution of  $T_4$  and  $T_2$ . When  $T_4$  and  $T_2$  are both exponentially distributed with failure rates  $\lambda_4$  and  $\lambda_2$ , i.e.

$$\overline{F}_A(t) = e^{-\lambda_A t}$$

$$\overline{F}_{2}(t) = e^{-\lambda_{2}t}$$

then the survival function of I is

$$\bar{F}(t) = e^{-l_1 t} + \int_{0}^{t} e^{-l_2(t-s)} l_1 e^{-l_1 s} ds.$$

Translated into shorthand, the survival function is denoted  ${\tt EXP}\,(\, \lambda_{2}\,) \,\,+\,\, {\tt EXP}\,(\, \lambda_{2}\,) \,.$ 

This shorthand notation is heuristically apparent. We can visualize a 1 component / 1 spare system with  $\mathrm{EXp}(\lambda_4)$  and  $\mathrm{Exp}(\lambda_2)$  lives respectively. From component 1 the system has an  $\mathrm{EXP}(\lambda_4)$  life to begin with. When component 1 fails, the system has an extra  $\mathrm{EXP}(\lambda_2)$  life.

#### C. MIXTURE OF DISTRIBUTIONS

#### 1. MIX-Notation

In the previous chapter, we formed the sum of independent random lives, which each had weight one, i.e.

$$T = T_4 + T_2.$$

Now consider

$$T = \begin{cases} T_1 & \text{with probability } p_1 \\ \\ T_2 & \text{with probability } p_2 \end{cases}$$

where  $p_1 + p_2 = 1$ .

Let  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  be the probability distributions of the random variables  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  respectively. The corresponding survival functions are  $\overline{F}_1$  (t) and  $\overline{F}_2$  (t).

Then

$$\overline{F}(t) = p_1 \overline{F}_1(t) + p_2 \overline{F}_2(t)$$
.

In shorthand, the mixture of distributions  $D_{\gamma}$  and  $D_{z}$  with respect to the mixing probabilities  $p_{\gamma}$  and  $p_{z}$  is denoted

MIX [ 
$$p_1 D_1$$
 ,  $p_2 D_2$  ].

# 2. <u>Distributive Law</u>

Now let

$$T = T_3 + T^*$$

where

$$T^* = \begin{cases} T_1 & \text{with probability p} \\ \\ T_2 & \text{with probability 1-p.} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$T = T_3 + \begin{cases} T_4 \text{ with probability p} \\ T_2 \text{ with probability 1-p.} \end{cases}$$

$$T = \begin{cases} T_3 + T_4 & \text{with probability p} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ T_3 + T_2 & \text{with probability 1-p.} \end{cases}$$

The distributive law holds due to the fact that the sum of the mixing probabilities for  $T_4$  and  $T_2$  is equal to one. The survival function of  $\Gamma$  can be found by convolution:

 $\vec{F}(t) = \vec{F}_3(t) + \int_0^t (p\vec{F}_4(t-s) + (1-p)\vec{F}_2(t-s)) f_3(s) ds.$  With D<sub>4</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>3</sub> being the probability distributions for T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub>, the distributive law can be applied to the shorthand notation:

$$D_3 + MIX [pD_1, (1-p)D_2] = MIX [p((D_4 + D_3), (1-p)(D_2 + D_3)].$$

Graphically this can be represented as follows:

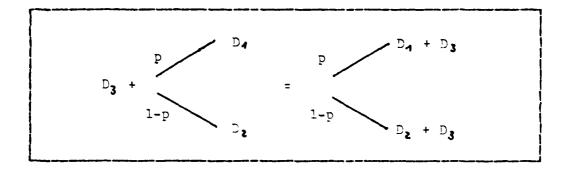


Figure 1: Distributive Property of the MIX-Notation

# 3. Degeneracy at the Origin

Let

$$P(T=0) = 1.$$

Then the distribution of T is degenerate at zero.

In shorthand notation, such a distribution is called the ZERO-distribution.

Now let  $T = T_4 + T_0$ 

where  $T_4$  and  $T_6$  have probability distributions  $D_4$  and ZERO and survival functions  $\overline{F}_4$  (t) and  $\overline{F}_6$  (t) respectively.

Then

$$\vec{F}(t) = \vec{F}_1(t) + \int_0^t \vec{F}_0(t-s) f_1(s) ds$$

$$= \vec{F}_1(t).$$

The ZERO-distribution doesn't add anything to another distribution, so for instance

$$D_1 + ZERO = D_1$$

 $D_2$  + MIX[  $pD_4$ , (1-p) ZERO] = MIX[  $p(D_4 + D_2)$ , (1-p)  $D_2$ ].

#### III. APPLYING A RELIABILITY SHORTHAND

After this brief survey over the concept of a reliability shorthand we will now show how the shorthand can be applied. To do so we will use basic structures. Part A of this chapter will give examples whose representation in shorthand requires only basic notation described in Chapter II, Parts A and B, whereas Part B of this chapter will give examples whose representation in shorthand makes use of the MIX-notation and the ZERO-distribution.

#### A. SUMS OF EXPONENTIALS WITH WEIGHT ONE

#### 1. Simple Series System

A series system is a system which is functioning, when all its components are functioning. A two-component series system can be graphically represented as shown in Fig.2.

Let

T : life of the system

T4: life of component 1

T,: life cf component 2

 $\overline{F}_4$  (t) = survival function of component 1 =  $e^{-\lambda_4 t}$ 

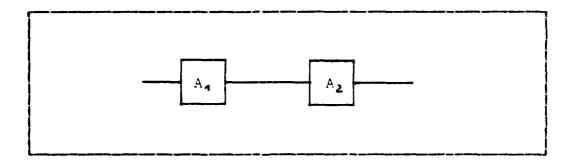


Figure 2: Two-Component Series System

$$\vec{F}_2$$
 (t) = survival function of component 2  
=  $e^{-\lambda_2 t}$ 

Then

$$T = min(T_1, T_2)$$

$$\vec{F}(t)$$
 = survival function of the system  
= P( min (T<sub>4</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>) > t)  
= P( T<sub>4</sub> > t, T<sub>2</sub> > t)

Assuming independence of the two components

$$\overline{F}(t) = P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t)$$

$$= \overline{F}_4(t) \overline{F}_2(t)$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_4 t} e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_4 + \lambda_2) t}.$$

The shorthand notation for this system is

EXP 
$$(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$$
.

This is intuitively apparent, as the system has an exponential survival function with failure rate  $\lambda_4$  +  $\lambda_2$  .

# 2. <u>Simple Parallel System</u>

A parallel system is a system which is functioning, when at least one of its components is functioning. A two-component parallel system can be graphically represented as follows:

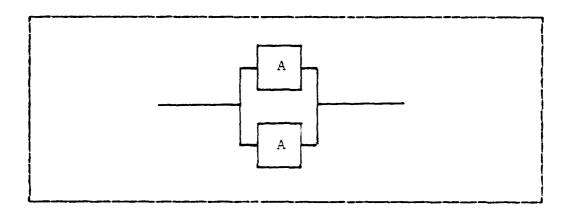


Figure 3: Two-Component Parallel System

Let

$$T_1 \sim EXP(\lambda)$$
,  $T_2 \sim EXP(\lambda)$ .

Then

$$T = \max (T_4, T_2)$$

$$\overline{P}(t) = P(\max (T_4, T_2) > t)$$

$$= 1 - P(\max (T_4, T_2) \leq t)$$

$$= 1 - P(T_4 \leq t, T_2 \leq t)$$

Assuming independence of the two components,

$$\vec{F}(t) = 1 - P(T_1 \le t) P(T_2 \le t)$$

$$= 1 - F_1(t) F_2(t)$$

$$= 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda t}) (1 - e^{-\lambda t})$$

$$= 1 - (1 - 2e^{-\lambda t} + e^{-2\lambda t})$$

$$= 2e^{-\lambda t} - e^{-2\lambda t}.$$

The shorthand notation for the system is

$$EXP(2\lambda) + EXP(\lambda)$$
.

This follows intuition as the system has an EXP( $2\lambda$ ) life to begin with and when one component fails it has an extra EXP( $\lambda$ ) life due to the memoryless property of the exponential distribution.

# 3. Standby-System with Dissimilar Components

Suppose a system consists of two components, one active and one spare. The active component stays in service until it fails and then immediately is replaced by the spare.

Let the time to failure of the two components be  $T_1 \sim \text{EXP}\left(\lambda_1\right) \text{ and } T_2 \sim \text{EXP}\left(\lambda_2\right) \text{ respectively.}$  Then the system time to failure is

$$T = T_1 + T_2$$

and the survival function of the system is

$$\overline{F}(t) = P(T > t)$$

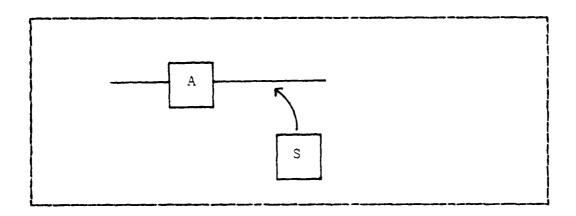


Figure 4: Standby System

$$= \vec{F}_{A}(t) + \int_{0}^{t} \vec{F}_{2}(t-s) f_{4}(s) ds$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_{4}t} + \int_{0}^{t} e^{-\lambda_{2}(t-s)} \lambda_{4} e^{-\lambda_{4}s} ds$$

$$= \frac{\lambda_{4}}{\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2}} e^{-\lambda_{2}t} - \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2}} e^{-\lambda_{4}t}$$

The shorthand notation for the system's survival function should be obvious. The system has an  $\mathrm{EXP}(\lambda_4)$  life from the active component and an additional  $\mathrm{EXP}(\lambda_2)$  life from the spare. So the shorthand notation is

$$EXP(\lambda_1) + EXP(\lambda_2)$$
.

B. SUMS OF EXPONENTIALS WITH WEIGHT BETWEEN ZERO AND ONE

The examples given in the previous chapter only involved exponential lives with weight one. Now we will look at some structures, whose survival function has a shorthand notation which includes the MIX-notation and/or the ZERO-distribution.

1. Parallel System with Dissimilar Failure Rates

The notion of a parallel system has been introduced in Chapter III. A.2 . We now look at the case where

$$T_1 \sim EXP(\lambda_1)$$
 and  $T_2 \sim EXP(\lambda_2)$ .

Then

$$T = max(T_1, T_2)$$

$$\vec{F}(t) = P(max(T_1, T_2) > t)$$

$$= 1-P(max(T_1, T_2) \le t)$$

$$= 1-P(T_1 \le t, T_2 \le t)$$

Assuming independence of the two components

$$\vec{F}(t) = 1 - P(T_1 \le t) \quad P(T_2 \le t)$$

$$= 1 - F_1(t) \quad F_2(t)$$

$$= 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_1 t}) \quad (1 - e^{-\lambda_2 t})$$

$$= 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_1 t}) \quad -e^{-\lambda_2 t} + e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_1 t} + e^{-\lambda_2 t} - e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t}.$$

To find the shorthand notation of the system consider all the ways which lead to the survival of the system:

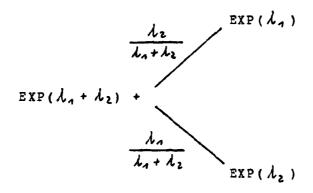
-either both components survive

-or component 1 fails and component 2 survives

-or component 2 fails and component 1 survives.

If one component fails and one survives, in  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_4 + \lambda_2}$  fraction of the cases the survivor will be component 1 and in  $\frac{\lambda_4}{\lambda_4 + \lambda_2}$  fraction of the cases it will be component 2.

This can graphically be represented as



Making use of the MIX-notation the shorthand notation then is

$$EXP(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) + MIX[\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} EXP(\lambda_1), \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} EXP(\lambda_2)]$$

and using the distributive property it becomes

$$\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_4 + \lambda_2} (\text{EXP}(\lambda_1) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)) ,$$

$$\frac{\lambda_3}{\lambda_4 + \lambda_2} (\text{EXP}(\lambda_2) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)) ].$$

As a check to see that this shorthand notation represents the survival function of the system, we derive the survival function from the shorthand notation:

$$\bar{F}(t) = \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2}} \left( e^{-\lambda_{n}t} + \int_{0}^{t} e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})(t-s)} \lambda_{n} e^{-\lambda_{n} s} ds \right) 
+ \frac{\lambda_{n}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2}} \left( e^{-\lambda_{2}t} + \int_{0}^{t} e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})(t-s)} \lambda_{2} e^{-\lambda_{2} s} ds \right) 
= e^{-\lambda_{n}t} + e^{-\lambda_{2}t} - e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})t} 
= e^{-\lambda_{n}t} + e^{-\lambda_{2}t} - e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})t}$$

This verifies that the shorthand notation indeed represents the system's survival function.

# 2. Series System with One Spare

Let

Let us now look at a two-component series system, whose components have dissimilar failure rates with one component having a spare:

Component 1 has the constant failure rate  $\lambda_4$  and component 2 and the spare have the constant failure rate  $\lambda_2$ . The spare can only replace component 2.

 $\overline{P}_{A}$  (t) : the survival function of component 1

 $\overline{F}_2$  (t) : the survival function of the standby system component 2 with its spare.

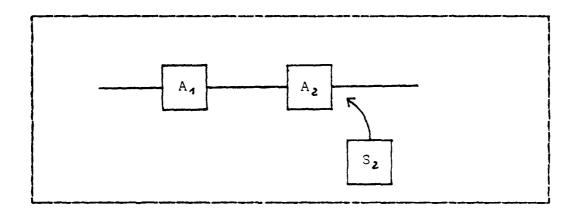


Figure 5: Series System with one Spare

The survival function for a standby system was derived in

Chapter II.B. Therefore

II.B. Therefore

$$\vec{F}_{2}(t) = e^{-\lambda_{2}t} + \int_{0}^{t} e^{-\lambda_{2}(t-s)} \lambda_{2} e^{-\lambda_{2}s} ds$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_{2}t} + \lambda_{2}e^{-\lambda_{2}t} \int_{0}^{t} ds$$

$$= (1 + \lambda_{2}t) e^{-\lambda_{1}t}.$$

Now 
$$\vec{F}_1(t) = e^{-\lambda_n t}$$

Then 
$$\overrightarrow{F}(t) = \overrightarrow{P}_1(t) \overrightarrow{F}_2(t)$$
  
=  $(1 + \lambda_2 t) e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t}$ .

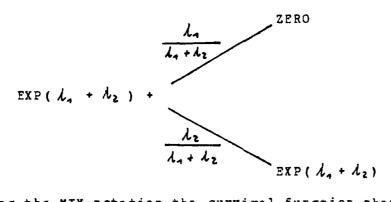
To translate the survival function into shorthand notation, let us consider the ways in which the system can survive:

-either both components survive

-or component 2 fails and its spare survives.

If one component fails, in  $\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$  fraction of the time it will be component 1, which means that the system will not survive: in  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$  fraction of the time the failing component will be component 2.

This can graphically be represented as



Using the MIX-notation the survival function then is

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) + \text{MIX} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2}} \text{ZERO}, \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2}} \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) \right] \\ & = \text{MIX} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2}} \left( \text{ZERO} + \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) \right), \\ & \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2}} \left( \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) + \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) \right) \right] \\ & = \text{MIX} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2}} \left( \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) + \text{EXP} \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

To prove, that the shorthand notation does represent the survival function, we derive the latter from the shorthand:

$$\bar{P}(t) = \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t} + \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \left(e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)t} + \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}\right)$$

$$\int_{0}^{t} e^{-(\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2})(t-s)} (\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2}) e^{-(\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2})s} ds$$

$$= (1 + \lambda_{2} + 1) e^{-(\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2})t}.$$

This is the previously found result and this verifies, that the shorthand notation does represent the system's survival function.

#### 3. Two-out-of-Three System

As a last example in this chapter, we will look at a Two-out-of- Three system.

Consider a three component system, whose components have constant failure rates  $\lambda_a$ ,  $\lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$  respectively. The system is functioning, as long as two out of three components are functioning (see Fig. 6).

In other words, the system is functioning as long as there is a path through the system .

Alternatively, the system can be visualized as a parallel-series system (compare Fig. 7).

The survival function of the system is

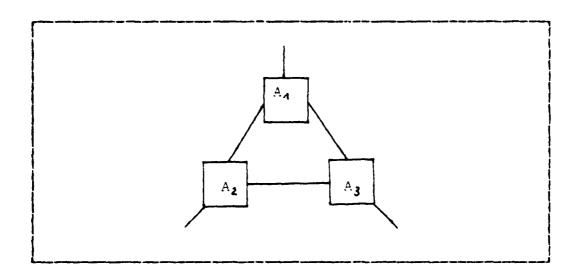
$$\vec{F}(t) = P(T_4 > t \land T_2 > t) + P(T_4 > t \land T_3 > t)$$

$$+ P(T_2 > t \land T_3 > t)$$

$$- P((T_4 > t \land T_2 > t) \land (T_4 > t \land T_3 > t))$$

$$- P((T_4 > t \land T_2 > t) \land (T_2 > t \land T_3 > t))$$

$$- P((T_4 > t \land T_3 > t) \land (T_2 > t \land T_3 > t))$$



Pigure 6: Two-out-of-Three System

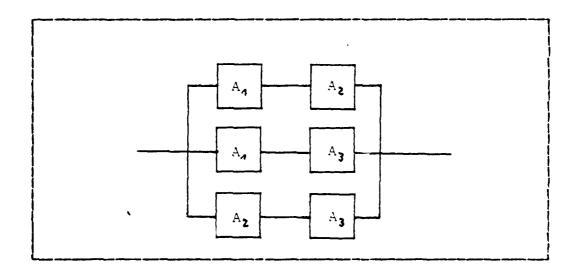


Figure 7: Two-out-of-Three System

+ P((
$$T_4$$
 >t  $\land$   $T_2$  >t)  $\land$  ( $T_4$  >t  $\land$   $T_3$  >t)  
  $\land$  P( $T_2$  >t  $\land$   $T_3$  >t)).

Thus

$$\vec{F}(t) = P(T_A > t \land T_2 > t) + P(T_A > t \land T_3 > t) + P(T_2 > t \land T_3 > t) + P(T_2 > t \land T_3 > t) + P(T_4 > t \land T_2 > t \land T_3 > t) + P(T_4 > t \land T_2 > t \land T_3 > t)$$

Therefore, and assuming independence of the components,

$$\vec{F}(t) = P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) + P(T_4 > T) P(T_3 > t) 
+ P(T_2 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
- 3P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
+ P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
+ P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) + P(T_4 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
= P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) + P(T_4 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
+ P(T_2 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
- 2P(T_4 > t) P(T_2 > t) P(T_3 > t) 
= e^{-(\lambda_4 + \lambda_3)t} + e^{-(\lambda_4 + \lambda_3)t} + e^{-(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)t} 
- 2e^{-(\lambda_4 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3)t} .$$

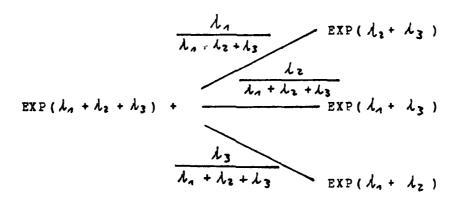
Now let us consider all the possible ways, in which the system can survive:

- either all components survive
- or component 1 fails and component 2 and 3
  survive
- or component 2 fails and component 1 and 3
  survive

- or component 3 fails and component 1 and 2 survive.

If a component fails and the other two survive, in  $\frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_4 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3}$  fraction of the time it will be component i, i = 1,2,3.

This can graphically be represented as



The shorthand notation then is

$$\begin{split} \text{EXP} \left( \, \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3} \right) &+ \text{MIX} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \text{EXP} \left( \, \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3} \, \right) \,, \\ &\frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \text{EXP} \left( \, \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{3} \, \right) \,, \\ &\frac{\lambda_{3}}{\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \text{EXP} \left( \, \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \, \right) \,, \end{split}$$

$$= \text{MIX} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{n}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} (\text{EXP}(\lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})), \\ \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} (\text{EXP}(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3}) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})), \\ \frac{\lambda_{3}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3} + \lambda_{3}} (\text{EXP}(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2}) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})) \right].$$

Again, as a check that the shorthand notation represents the survival function, let us derive the survival function from the shorthand notation:

$$P(t) = \frac{\lambda_{n}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \left[ e^{-(\lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})t} + \int_{e}^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})(t-s)} (\lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})e^{-(\lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})s} ds \right]$$

$$+ \frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \left[ e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3})t} + \int_{e}^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3})(t-s)} (\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3})e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3})s} ds \right]$$

$$+ \frac{\lambda_{3}}{\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}} \left[ e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})t} + \int_{e}^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})(t-s)} (\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})s} ds \right]$$

$$= e^{-(\lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})t} + e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{3})t} + e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2})t}$$

$$- e^{-(\lambda_{n} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3})t}$$

The result again proves that the shorthand notation indeed represents the survival function of the system.

IV. IMPLEMENTING THE SHORTHAND ON THE FI-59
The concept of a reliability shorthand is introduced in the course "Reliability and Weapons System Effectiveness Measurements", OA 4302, at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey. Most students taking the course are in the Operations Research (OR) - Curriculum.

The choice of the TI-59 as the computing device, on which the shorthand was to be implemented, was based on the fact, that each student in the OR-Curriculum is issued a TI-59 for use in basic probability and statistics courses. Thus almost every student at the Naval Postgraduate School, who is introduced to the shorthand, is familiar with the TI-59 and has access to such a calculator.

A program, that uses the shorthand notation, times to failure and failure rates as input, should

- calculate the survival probability of basic structures / small systems and
- require moderate computation time.

To achieve these requirements it was decided to incorporate all solutions for the convolution of up to four exponential random variables in the program. The formulas that were used are given in Appendix A.

Two programs are provided in this paper.

Program 1 can be used when all rates are dissimilar cr all are the same. It uses the formulas on pages 37 and 38 only.

Program 2 can be used for the general case. It makes use of all the formulas given in Appendix A. The program includes a sorting routine that determines the applicable formula from the entered failure rates.

A user guide to the two programs is provided in Appendix B.

#### V. SUMMARY

There is a reliability shorthand that denotes the survival function of a system, assuming that the failure rates of all components are constant.

This shorthand can be implemented on the TI-59 handheld calculator. With failure rates, time to failure and shorthand as input the TI-59 calculates the survival probability of the system.

Knowledge of calculus is not necessary to use this method, whereas the standard procedure, finding the survival probability by convolution, requires knowledge of integral calculus.

The choice of the TI-59 as the computing device for the implementation of the shorthand, though, implied limitations; the number of failure rates is limited due to the limited storage capacity of the TI-59, and computing times are comparatively long. The TI-59 can therefore only be used for smaller systems, preferably for the solution of class-room problems.

For the solution of larger problems, the shorthand should be implemented on a state-of-the-art personal

computer using a general algorithm for the convolution of any number of exponential random variables.

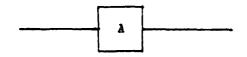
# APPENDIX A

# CONVOLUTION FORMULAS

Appendix A contains formulas for the convolution of up to four exponential random variables.

For the two special cases, when all random variables have the same failure rate and all have different failure rates, general formulas for the convolution of any number of exponential random variables are given.

These formulas are used in the two TI-59 programs provided in Appendix B.



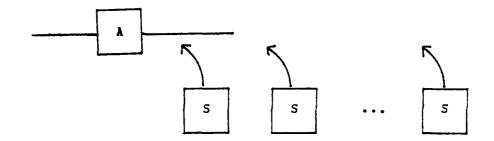
Shorthand:

EXP(ん)

Survival Function:  $\vec{P}(t) = e^{-\lambda t}$ 

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate  $\lambda$  .



Shorthand:

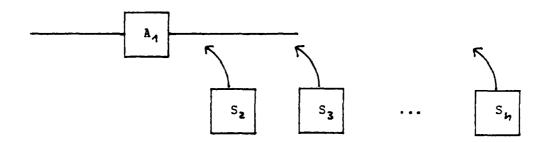
$$EXP(\lambda) + EXP(\lambda) + ... + EXP(\lambda)$$

Survival Function: 
$$\overline{F}(t) = \left(\frac{(\lambda t)^0}{0!} + \frac{(\lambda t)^4}{1!} + \cdots + \frac{(\lambda t)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}\right) e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{(\lambda t)^{i-1}}{(i-1)!} e^{-\lambda t}$$

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate is supported by n-1 identical spares.



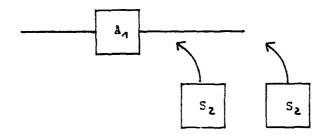
Shorthand:

$$EXP(\lambda_4) + EXP(\lambda_2) + ... + EXP(\lambda_4)$$

Survival Function: 
$$\overline{F}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{h} \left( \frac{\lambda_{i}}{\lambda_{i} - \lambda_{i}} e^{-\lambda_{i} t} \right)$$

#### Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate is supported by n-1 spares. The active component and the spares have all constant, but dissimilar failure rates.



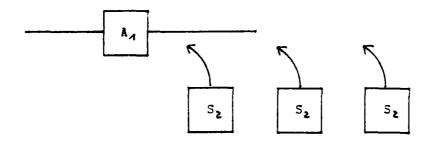
Shorthand:  $EXP(\lambda_1) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2)$ 

Survival Function: 
$$\overline{F}(t) = Ae^{-\lambda_A t} + (B + Ct) e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$

where  $A = \frac{\lambda_z^2}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_A)^2}$ 
 $B = 1 - A$ 
 $C = \frac{\lambda_A \lambda_2}{\lambda_A - \lambda_2}$ 

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate  $A_4$  is supported by two spares with identical constant failure rate  $A_2$ .



Shorthand:

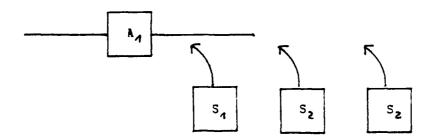
$$EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2)$$

Survival Function: 
$$\overline{F}(t) = Ae^{-\lambda_A t} + (B + Ct + Dt^2)e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$

where  $A = \frac{\lambda_2^3}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_A)^3}$ 
 $B = 1 - A$ 
 $C = \lambda_2 - \frac{\lambda_2^3}{(\lambda_A - \lambda_2)^2}$ 
 $D = \frac{\lambda_A \lambda_2^2}{2(\lambda_A - \lambda_2)}$ 

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate  $\lambda_a$  is supported by three spares with identical constant failure rate  $\lambda_2$ .



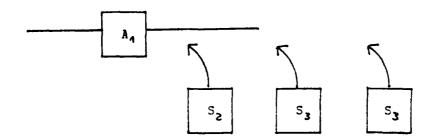
Shorthand:  $EXP(\lambda_1) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2)$ 

Survival Function: 
$$F(t) = (A + Bt)e^{-\lambda_A t} + (C + Dt)e^{-\lambda_2 t}$$

where  $A = \frac{\lambda_2^3 - 3\lambda_2^2 \lambda_A}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_A)^3}$ 
 $B = \frac{\lambda_A \lambda_2^2}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_A)^2}$ 
 $C = 1 - A$ 
 $D = \frac{\lambda_A^2 \lambda_2}{(\lambda_A - \lambda_2)^2}$ 

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate  $\lambda_a$  is supported by one identical spare and two spares with dissimilar, constant failure rate  $\lambda_2$ .



Shorthand:

$$EXP(\lambda_1) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_3) + EXP(\lambda_3)$$

Survival Function:  $\overline{F}(t) = Ae^{-\lambda_2 t} + Be^{-\lambda_2 t} + (C + Dt)e^{-\lambda_2 t}$ 

where 
$$A = \frac{\lambda_2 \lambda_3^2}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_4)(\lambda_3 - \lambda_A)^2}$$

$$B = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_3^2}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_2)(\lambda_3 - \lambda_2)^2}$$

$$C = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_3)(\lambda_2 - \lambda_3)} + \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_2)} \left( \frac{1}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_3)^2} - \frac{1}{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_3)^2} \right)$$

$$D = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_3)(\lambda_2 - \lambda_3)}$$

Description:

A single active component with constant failure rate  $\ell_2$ , has three spares. One spare has constant failure rate  $\ell_2$ , two spares are identical with constant failure rate  $\ell_3$ .

#### APPENDIX B

#### USER GUIDE TO TI-59 PROGRAMS

Appendix B contains a user guide to two TI-59 programs, which use reliability shorthand and failure rates as input to compute the survival probability of a system.

PROGRAM 1 is designed for the two special cases where the reliability shorthand is of the form

$$EXP(\lambda) + EXP(\lambda) + ... + EXP(\lambda)$$

or

$$EXP(\lambda_1) + EXP(\lambda_2) + ... + EXP(\lambda_h)$$
.

In the first case the number of terms is not limited, whereas in the second case the number of terms is limited to 40 due to limited storage capacity of the TI-59. In this case the number of terms can be increased to 70 by entering 9 in the display and pressing 2nd Op 17.

PROGRAM 2 is designed to solve problems of the kind, that were introduced in Chapter III.B. . Due to limited memory of the TI-59 the number of exponential terms under one weight in shorthand notation is limited to four.

All results will be printed, if the TI-59 is connected to a TI FC-100A or TI PC-100C printer.

#### PROGRAM 1 : Procedure

- Use any library module. Read in program 1 (side 1 of the magnetic card)
- 2. Press 2nd C' to initialize.
- 3. Enter n, the number of exponential terms to be convolved, in the display and press A.
- 4. Enter time t and press B.
- 5. Enter  $\lambda_i$  and press C . When all failure rates are the same, enter  $\lambda$  only once.
- 6. a) To find the survival probability of the system,
  when all failure rates are the same, press 2nd A.
  - b) To find the survival probability of the system,
    when all failure rates are dissimilar, press 2nd B.

# PROGRAM 1 : Sample Problems

- 1. Find the survival probability of a parallel system
  - ( compare Chapter III.A. 2 )
  - a) l = .3, t = 7, n = 2
  - b) Shorthand notation:

EXP(.6) + EXP(.3)

c)	Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
		Initia lize	c •	Э	
	2	n	A	0	
	7	t	В	7	
	.6	2 l	c	. 3	
	.3	l	c	. 3	
		F (t)	в•	.2299172	797

calculation takes 13 seconds

- 2. Find the survival probability of a standby-system with dissimilar components ( compare Chapter III.A.3 ) .
  - a)  $l_1 = .4$ ,  $l_2 = .5$ , t = 6, n = 2
  - b) Shorthand notation:

EXP(.4) + EXP(.5)

c)	Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
		Initialize	<b>:</b>	Э	
	2	n	A	0	
	6	ŧ	8	6	
	. 4	da	С	. 4	
	.5	λz	C	. 5	
		F (t)	в•	. 254441493	

calculation takes 13 seconds

- 3. Find the survival probability of a standby-system with one active component and four similar spares.
  - a) l = .3 , t = 7 , n = 5
  - b) Shorthand notation:

$$EXP(.3) + EXP(.3) + EXP(.3) + EXP(.3)$$

c)	Enter	Comment	Press	Display
		Initializa	c •	0
	5	n	A	0
	7	t	В	7
	. 3	λ	С	. 3
		F(t)	A *	.9378738848

calculation takes 9 seconds

#### PROGRAM 2 : Procedure

- CASE I: To find the convolution of up to four exponential random variables.
- 1. Use any library module.

  Re-Partition (enter 2 in the display, press 2nd Op 17).

  Read in all four sides of the magnetic card.
- 2. Press 2nd C' to initialize.
- 3. Enter n, the number of exponential terms to be convolved, in the display and press A.
- 4. Enter time t and press B.
- 5. Enter  $\lambda_i$  and press C ( n entries ) .
  - REMARK: Pailure rates, which appear only once in the expression, have to be entered before failure rates, that appear several times.
- 6. To find the survival probability of the system press E.

PROGRAM 2, CASE I : Sample Problems

### (1) Shorthand notation

 $EXP(\lambda_4) + EXP(\lambda_2) + EXP(\lambda_2)$ 

Sample values:  $\lambda_4$  = .3 ,  $\lambda_2$  = .4 , t = 7

### Procedure :

Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
	Initialize	<b>:</b>	Э	
3	n	A	Э	
7	t	В	7	
.3	da	c	. 3	
. 4	λz	z	• 4	
. 4	Lz	C	. 4	
	F(t)	E	.5363473	866

calculation takes 14 seconds

# (2) Shorthand notation

EXP(
$$\lambda_4$$
) + EXP( $\lambda_2$ ) + EXP( $\lambda_2$ ) + EXP( $\lambda_2$ )

Sample values :  $\lambda_4$  = .2 ,  $\lambda_2$  = .4 , t = 3

Procedure :

Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
	Initialize	<b>:</b>	0	
4	n	A	0	
3	t	В	3	
. 2	da	ε	. 2	
. 4	λz	c	. 4	
- 4	L2	с.	. 4	
. 4	λz	c	. 4	
	F(t)	2	.9809746	099

calculation takes 20 seconds

## (3) Shorthand notation

$$\begin{split} & \text{EXP}(\lambda_4) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_4) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_2) + \text{EXP}(\lambda_2) \\ & \text{Sample values} : \lambda_4 = .4 , \lambda_2 = .3 , t = 5 \end{split}$$

### Procedure:

Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
	Initialize	21	0	
4	n	A	0	
5	t	Б	5	
- 4	d.	С	. 4	
. 4	da	C	• 4	
. 3	Lz	С	.3	
.3	Lz	C	. 3	
	F(t)	E	.9029040	<b>7</b> 21

calculation takes 20 seconds

### (4) Shorthand notation

#### Procedure :

Enter	Comment	Press	Display	
	Initializa	<b>:</b>	Э	
4	n	A	0	
10	t	В	10	
. 1	da	C	. 1	
.3	λz	c	. 3	
• 5	$\lambda_3$	С	. 5	
• 5	$\lambda_3$	ε	. 5	
	F (t)	E	.73126847	03

calculation takes 25 seconds

PROGRAM 2 : Procedure

CASE II: to solve problems of the kind, that were introduced in Chapter III.B. .

- 1. Derive the system's shorthand notation. Find either the
  - graphical representation or
  - the MIX-notation .
- 2. Use any library module.

Re-Partition (enter 2 in the display, press 2nd Op 17).

Read in all four sides of the magnetic card.

- 3. Press 2nd C' to initialize.
- 4. Enter time t and press B.
- 5. Repeat the following steps for each path of the graphical representation, i.e. for each convolution in the MIX-notation.
  - a) Enter n, the number of exponential terms to be convolved, in the display and press A.
  - b) Enter  $\lambda_i$  and press C.

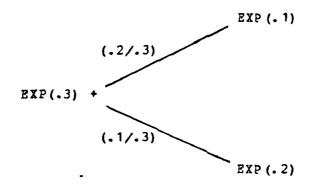
REMARK: Failure rates, which appear only once in the expression, have to be entered before failure rates, that appear several times.

- c) Enter p;, the weight in the ith path, and press D.
- d) To find the part of the system's survival probability, that is contributed by the ith path, press E.

6. To find the survival probability of the system press 2nd E.

PROGRAM 2, CASE II : Sample Problems

- 1. Find the survival probability of a parallel system with dissimilar failure rates (compare Chapter III.B.1).
  - a)  $l_4 = .1$  ,  $l_2 = .2$  , t = 2
  - b) Shorthand notation

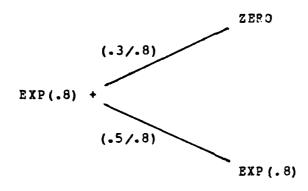


$$\overline{F}(t) = MIX[ (.2/.3) ( EXP(.1) + EXP(.3), (.1/.3) ( EXP(.2) + EXP(.3) ].$$

# Procedure:

Enter	Comment	Press	Display
	Initialize	c <b>'</b>	0
2	t	В	2
2	n <sub>4</sub>	A	Э
. 1	1,	С	.1
.3	$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2$	c	.3
(.2/.3)	Pa	D	.6666666667
		E	.635793541
2	n z	A	o
. 2	12	С	.2
.3	$l_1 + l_2$	С	. 3
(.1/.3)	P <sub>2</sub>	D	.333333333
		E	.304445622
	F(t)	E *	.940239163

- 2. Find the survival probability of a series system with one spare as introduced in Chapter III.B.2.
  - a)  $l_1 = .3$  ,  $l_2 = .5$  , t = 7
  - b) Shorthand notation



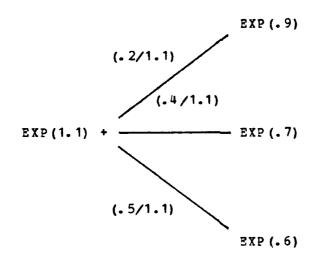
$$\overline{F}(t) = MIX[ (.3/.8) ( EXP(.8), (.5/.8) ( EXP(.8) + EXP(.8) ].$$

C)

### Procedure:

Enter	Comment	Press	Display
	Initialize	<b>c¹</b>	0
7 .	t	В	7
1	$n_A$	A	0
. 8	$l_a + l_z$	С	• 8
(.3/.8)	P <sub>4</sub>	D	.375
		Е	.0013866989
2	n <sub>2</sub>	A	0
. 8	· 1, + 12	С	.8
. 8	$l_4 + l_2$	С	.8 .
(.5/.8)	P <sub>2</sub>	D	.625
		E	.0152536878
	F(t)	E •	.0166403867

- 3. Find the survival probability of a Two-out-of-Three System as introduced in Chapter III.B.3.
  - a)  $l_1 = .2$  ,  $l_2 = .4$  ,  $l_3 = .5$  , t = 9
  - b) Shorthand notation



$$\vec{F}(t) = MIX[ (.2/1.1) ( EXP(.9) + EXP(1.1)),$$

$$(.4/1.1) ( EXP(.7) + EXP(1.1)),$$

$$(.5/1.1) ( EXP(.6) + EXP(1.1))].$$

c)

# Procedure :

Enter	Comment	Press	Display
	Initialize	<b>c¹</b>	0
9	t	В	9
2	n <sub>4</sub>	A	0
1,1	ha + hz + hz	С	1.1
.9	$\lambda_2 + \lambda_3$	c	• 9
(.2/1.1)	P <sub>1</sub>	D	.1818181818
		E	.0002624871
2	n 2	A	0
1.1	14 + 12 + 13	c	1.1
.7	$l_1 + l_3$	ε	.7
(.4/1.1)	Pz	D	.3636363636
		E	.0018043754
2	n <sub>3</sub>	A	0
1.1	$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3$	С	1.1
.6	$d_1 + d_2$	С	.6
(.5/1.1	) p <sub>3</sub>	D	.4545454545
		E	.0044892129
	<u>F</u> (±)	E •	.0065560755

### COMPUTER LISTINGS

# PROGRAM 1

### PACE	B. LO L1	L500440GL L2+VMM R8 TOL
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### LABEL ADRESSES

0-204567880-4084567890-40845678	M**8T**6VGN 60NLND6 *8 XD6L0TL6 EM 60N PR XR I FO GSLTP1 - C0 XR 0 - 19 = GM 60N 638236270961860965385596302365195769618	01234567890123456789012345678901204567866666666667777777777777888888888899999999	M*8+ L1 VX L6 M8L0TL8 QR 8D9LRRSTSL8 PR 0 × C0 ≈ NN × C1 ≈ U1C0TL8 PC BYF3FGBVBMR\BM PR + R IL R S R XR PD GCLPSCPRLC S784531523536548302385195779811671791674837034676263537674997674	0029419706544028 003419706544028 1136998	18 C • G • S • C • A B C • G • S • C • A B C • C • C • C • C • C • C • C • C • C
156 157	26 26 61 GTO	196 197 198 199 200 201	91 RVS 76 LBL 47 CMS 43 RCL 19 18 92 RTN		

# PROGRAM 2

00000000000000000000000000000000000000	5000 L RSSL 00 1 = 09 007 008 015 016 016 07 094005 107 008 01 018 018 018 018 018 018 018 018	01123445678901234567890123456789000000000000000000000000000000000000	985L D75L L0 L1 D2 D4D5D8LG L9Q L2 L5P2 RB D75L 20 L1 D2 S S S LLC C EPCOX CO-9816497156305315220012425286893979325524064062406425286893979325525000404042528689397932552406240624062406240624062406240624062406	012345678901234567890123456789012345678900123456789011234567	4 M8 9 5L5D40GL L2-VX R8 SL 108LS 06 8
036 037 038 039	75 LBL 13 C . 72 S <b>T*</b> 08 <b>08</b>	077 078 079		117 118 119	26 06 01 1 42 37D

01234567890123456789012345678901234567 2222222233333456789012345555555555557	16LN *6GM*8T*6VGN 6GNLND6 *8 XD6LOTL6 9 = G LSCR 0637037026362703618609955341405465957	The second secon	0-204567890-204567890-204567 6666666667777777778888888899999999	M 6	012345678901484567890148345678901433456789	14000 400 400 0 400 0 100 400 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 100 0 10	RLOR R PS RLIR X R R X S R T R O N
154 155 156 157 159	43 ROL 06 06 75 9 95 = 77 GE		194 195 196 197 198	39 C <b>⊡</b> S	7156789 222222 233333	4.50448 9.64058	RCL 01 ) INV

275 54 ) 315 53 ( 355 43 RCL 276 22 INV 316 43 RCL 356 10 10 277 23 LNX 317 07 07 357 75 - 278 95 = 318 94 +/- 358 43 RCL 279 44 SUM 319 85 + 359 11 11	012345678901234567890123456789012345678 444444445555555555566666666677777777777	23 LNX 95 =		0123456789012345678901234567890123456789 2222222222222222222222233333333333333	18RSSLXL1 18MVSLX + (L1 L0 SMV) + (L7 - 17496331440553317404535331740640533314536417406533317456406533364196405332854098		0+204547890+204567890+204567890+204567890+204567890200000000000000000000000000000000000	153315315352305314315315405416112555235330531435345345345316112555235333333333333333333333333333	1+(L1) R R Y R R X R R X R 12+(2x(L1)) R R Y R R X R X R R X R R X R R X R R X R R X R R X R R X R R X R X R R X R X R R X R X R R X R X R R X R R X R X R R X R X R R X X R X X R X R X X R X X R X X R X X R X X X R X X R X X R X X R X X X R X X X X R X X X X X X X X X X X X X
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360 54 ) 400 55 + (	X C O 1 V X C O 2 L 7 - L C O 2 X C O 1 X X C O 2 X C
---------------------	---

0123456789012345678901234567890123456789 8888888889999999999000000001111111111	XC1 VX M8RSSLRL1 L2 + (C1 L0 X X X C1 X X C1 X X C1 X X X C1 X X X C1 X X X C1 X X X X	0-4204567000-42045670000-4444444445670000000000000000000000000000	CLO- L1 VX D8LO L2 C1 C1 C1 C1 X X C1 X C1 X C1 X C1 X C1	0+440+650-600-600-600-600-600-600-600-600-600-	11 L1 VX M8L0 L1 L0 L2 L1 L2 07 L0 L 1/X00/NH U100/C1+(01/Q1///01/01/) T0+C1X0 F X0 F
515 515 516 518 518 519	43 KUL 10 10 54 ) 33 X <sup>2</sup> 95 = 65 X	5556 5557 5559 559	94 ) 33 % 95 ± 65 % 53 RCL	745 6789 769999 55999	0: 07 55 + 43 FCL 10 10 65 × 43 PCL

0-1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789 000000000111111111111233333333333333333	1 L2 (L0 L1) x ((C1 L2 X (C1 L2 X) = +C0 XC1	12 L1	## STF 1
637 638 639	07 07 65 X 43 RCL	677 22 INV 678 86 STF 679 00 00	716 13 12 717 67 EQ 718 22 INV 719 61 GTO

### LABEL ADRESSES

**BBLILLOVFDOVQQQ INTERNITOR INTE	760 43 RCL 3V Q RCL 13V Q RCL 13V Q RCL 13V Q RCL 22 INV Q RCL 22 INV Q RCL 22 INV Q RCL 2763 67 A G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G	005 18 C A B C C A B C A B C A B C A B C A B C A B C A B C A B C A B C A A B C A A A A
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