

Packets' Congestion Management With Fuzzy Admission Control Policy For Differentiated Service Networks

ABSTRACT

This study presents a priority-based admission control system for ensuring stability in a differentiated service network using a fuzzified admission policy. Packets of varying sizes of data were transmitted from N sources through a traffic conditioner which categorizes the packets into two independent sources, consequently classifying them into "high" and "low" priorities. While class A packets are not denied admission into the buffer, this is not the case with packets of class B . Arrivals from both sources follow a Poisson distribution process of $\alpha(k) = (\lambda^k / k!)e^{-\lambda}$. It is assumed that $r > h / \mu$ in order to avoid a situation in which a class B arrival is denied admission while the system is empty. The arrival rates $\lambda_1 \in [0, \mu)$ and $\lambda_2 \in [0, \alpha)$ serve as fuzzy inputs with four linguistic values while the output is a decision, d . Simulation started with an initial state, zero and system performance for the first 300 time units was monitored. Results indicate that the admission controller admits arriving class B packets provided that the value of $y \leq 4$ while it denied admission to arriving class B packets when $y > 4$, thus giving a threshold policy of $y = 4$. Arrivals denied admission are dropped and transmitted to the "tree manager" via the bottleneck router. These packets are arranged as nodes in an AVL tree structure which adopts tree properties to manage and transmit nodes to the buffer based on node rotations.

Keywords: [tree structure, node, transmission, tree manager, network traffic]

1. INTRODUCTION

A differentiated service (DiffServ) is a class of service model used to specify and control Internet Protocol (IP) network traffic by class. The goal is to ensure that certain types of traffic that require relatively uninterrupted flow of data get precedence over other kinds of traffic. It is one of the most advanced network solutions for managing network traffic as it aims at classifying traffic into multiple classes and treating them differently. Such classification and differentiation are especially useful when there is a shortage of networking resources [1].

DiffServ is a computer networking architecture that specifies a mechanism for classifying and managing network traffic and providing quality of service on modern IP networks. It could, for example, be used to provide low-latency to critical network traffic such as voice or streaming media while providing best-effort service to non-critical services such as web traffic or file transfers [2].

Quality of service is the ability to provide different priorities to different applications, users or data flows in order to guarantee a certain level of performance such as a required bit rate, delay or delay variation, packet loss or bit error rates. It is important for real-time streaming of multimedia applications such as voice over IP, multiplayer online games, etc since these services often require fixed bit rate and are delay-sensitive [2]. In essence, the quality of service is especially important in networks with limited resources such as in cellular data communication.

When too many packets are transmitted through a network, congestion may occur. At very high traffic, performance may collapse, resulting in non-delivery of packets thereby making the bursty nature of network traffic one of the root causes of congestion. Other

37 causes of network congestion may include ill-configuration of networks and slow routers [3].
38 This can be corrected either by open-loop or closed-loop methods. In the open-loop method,
39 congestion is prevented by carefully having a good design of the network parameters and
40 structures. With the closed-loop method, the system is monitored to detect congestion, pass
41 this information to where action can be taken and adjust system operation to correct the
42 problem. This is because packets' dropping wastes network resources used for carrying the
43 packet from its source to the router experiencing congestion.

44 The most common "drop strategy" used for differentiating queue mechanisms is
45 "drop-arrivals", which is otherwise known as "drop-tail" [3]. With this approach, packets are
46 dropped only as they arrive since already queued packets are never dropped. When offering
47 loss-rate differentiation, the drop arrivals strategy could delay packets' dropping. With drop-
48 arrivals, the router waits until packets tagged with higher drop precedence levels arrive and
49 are consequently dropped. Delayed drops can result in complex loss patterns and more jitter
50 compared to dropping packets immediately at congestion [4]. When drops are delayed, the
51 transmission control protocol (TCP) reduces its sending rate later than if drops were made
52 immediately when congestion first occurred. Moreover, TCP increases its sending rate until
53 packet loss is detected exponentially at slow-start and linearly at congestion avoidance.

54 According to [5], advancement in telecommunication technology is now being
55 directed at adapting traffic patterns to network congestion control. As a result,
56 congestion control methods are modeled such that transmission rates increase linearly
57 when there are no congestion signals. In essence, when congestion is detected,
58 transmission rate decreases by a multiplicative factor. This is the case of TCP in the
59 Internet as congestion is detected
60 at the source, through signals such as packet losses or some negative acknowledgment
61 mechanisms [6]. However, continuous increase in the rate of data transmission over
62 networks has made it necessary to ensure that network congestions are addressed as
63 they occur.

64 While TCP congestion control mechanism is used to prevent congestion
65 collapse, Active Queue Management (AQM) schemes have been proposed to complement
66 the TCP network congestion control [7]. In AQM schemes,
67 performance of two thresholds over single threshold is reported. Two thresholds can always
68 be adjusted to give a lower delay for the same throughput. The AQM scheme used with
69 priority structures is able to provide better quality of service, reduce traffic congestion
70 and packet delays [8].

71 A study on single-server finite capacity queueing model under the $\langle p-F \rangle$ policy was
72 investigated by [9]. Results from the study established a steady-state analytical formulae for
73 various performance indices. A finite state-dependent queueing system with admission
74 control F -policy and general retrial attempt was proposed by [10]. The researchers used a
75 recursive method to find system performance indices and derived the cost function. In a
76 similar research, [11] studied Zadeh's extension principle as well as fuzzy Markov chains,
77 thereby generating a general solution for queueing systems in a fuzzy environment.

78 An analysis of a queueing model for priority classes using triangular fuzzy numbers
79 and fuzzy set theory was studied by [12]. In this, the authors investigated the queueing model
80 for F -policy using fuzzy parameters. The researchers used a mathematical programming
81 approach to derive the membership function of the performance measures. An investigation
82 into the admission control for customers using F -policy in a queueing system was studied by
83 [13] which involves mathematical modeling and computation of real-time problems as it relate
84 to queue network. This was done by using the Markovian admission control policy at startup.

85 The management problem of queueing system with F -policy and a startup time to
86 solve the problem of admission in a queueing system was studied by [14]. The researchers
87 used the supplementary variable technique and recursive method for obtaining the steady-
88 state probability distribution of the number of customers in the system. A cost function was
89 also constructed to find the best management admission control F -policy at the best price.

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2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This section is discussed under two sub-headings: related studies and priority scheduling.

2.1. Related Studies

Studies on congestion control in queue networks are enormous in literature. In a study on methods of avoiding queue overflow and reducing queue delay at evolved-NodeB (eNodeB) in Long-Term Evolution networks using congestion feedback mechanism, [15] suggested the use of controlled delay in which the channel rate is changed so that the channel queue capacity can be adapted based on data weight. Result showed that the proposed algorithm outperformed Random Early Detection (RED) gateway. Similarly, [16] proposed an improvement of service quality using queue method in Internet topology. The study adopted the First-In, First-Out (FIFO), Random RED and Per-Connection Queue (PCQ) methods. Results indicated that RED performed better compared to PCQ and FIFO when several users were simultaneously downloading data in the queue.

The performance of two adaptive TCP models were compared with RED and fixed-parameter Proportional Integral (PI) on a MATLAB platform by [17]. Results indicate that the two adaptive TCP models performed better than the fixed-parameter PI and RED controllers. In a similar study, an Adaptive Queue Management algorithm with Random Dropping (AQMRD) was proposed by [18]. It incorporates information about the average queue size and its rate of change to the threshold level that falls in-between the minimum and maximum thresholds. Results indicated that the AQMRD was able to minimize packets' dropping by managing the difference between minimum and maximum thresholds.

While several researches had shown that RED can improve TCP performance under certain parameter settings and network circumstances, yet the basic RED algorithm is subject to several inadequacies including sensitivity to its control parameters, bandwidth unfairness and low throughput [19]. To overcome some of these problems, some researchers had proposed several variants of RED while others suggested making modifications to it. RED with Reconfigurable Maximum Dropping Probability which aims at average queue size reduction and delay time scheduling without any effect on the rate of packet dropping and link utilization via simulation using OPNET was proposed by [20]. Results indicated that the RRMDP has a more controllable average queue size, which led to lower queuing delay without affecting the link utilization and throughput. In addition, the controllable average queue size keeps the router queue away from buffer overrun, even in the case of severe congestion.

While there are enormous studies on the application of series of methods to solve packets' admission problem in queue networks, to the best of our knowledge, there is none which had addressed the problem by the assignment of priority to individual packets while also adopting fuzzy logic approach to process the crisp variables so that admission control policy is based on output. In addition, packets of lower priorities which are dropped are managed in such a way that it is re-transmitted as soon as the buffer can accommodate it. In essence, this study proposes a congestion management model in which packets with lower service priorities are dropped and are arranged in a tree structure and can be re-transmitted when the server becomes idle. Packets dropped are arranged as nodes in an Adelson-Velsky and Landis (AVL) tree structure. These packets are rotated from time to time based on tree properties and are re-transmitted based on rotations once the buffer is ready to admit them. With this

143 approach, packets dropped are not lost but rather arranged based on sizes in the tree
 144 structure. This method ensures that high-priority packets have minimal delay, if any, in
 145 the process of admission into the buffer at any point in time.

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147 **2.2. Priority Scheduling**

148 Multimedia applications such as video streaming could be affected by delay of
 149 individual packets. Since the transmitted content (video frame or voice samples) need to
 150 play continuously on the receiver side, a delay in only a fraction of the packets could result in
 151 a stall or errors in the video or garbling of the received speech signal [21]. This had led to the
 152 development of mechanisms and architectures such as DiffServ which enhances the ability
 153 of network operators to provide different classes of service to different types of network flows
 154 [22]. Consequently, it is possible for an Internet Service Provider to treat packets that it could
 155 identify as belonging to a multimedia traffic flows preferentially by giving such a higher
 156 priority in packet queues or guaranteeing a minimum delay and flow throughput.

157 Priority scheduling processes a packet with higher priority before all packets with a
 158 lower one whenever there is one in queue. This can be pre-emptive by interrupting the
 159 current processing of a low-priority packet that is currently being processed even if it has a
 160 lower priority than another packet arriving during this service time. In order to model this
 161 system, the average waiting time for a queue system with two priorities is derived and then
 162 providing the solution for the general case [23]. If D_{st_i} is the service time distribution of

163 packet priority class i while λ_i is the arrival rate of packets of this class, then $\rho_i = \lambda_i \cdot E[D_{st_i}]$,

164 with $\rho = \sum_i \rho_i < 1$ is necessary for the system to remain stable.

165 In order to distinguish the condition in which an arriving packet is of high priority
 166 (priority class 1) or of a low priority (priority class 2), the average waiting time of a priority
 167 class 1 packet is:

$$168 \quad E[D_{q1}] = E[N_{q1}] \cdot E[D_{s1}] + E[D_r]$$

$$169 \quad E[D_{q1}] = \lambda_1 \cdot E[D_{q1}] \cdot E[D_{s1}] + E[D_r]$$

$$170 \quad E[D_{q1}] = \rho_1 \cdot E[D_{q1}] + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]$$

$$171 \quad E[D_{q1}] = \frac{\lambda E[D_s^2]}{2(1 - \rho_1)} \quad (1)$$

172 In this case $E[D_r]$ is the residual service time for the packet being served upon
 173 arrival. Since this service is not preemptive, it may be a packet of any priority. This can be
 174 expressed as $E[D_r]$ in terms of the general service time distribution. However, the number of
 175 packets in the buffer that need to be processed before the arriving packet is the number of
 176 packets $E[N_{q1}]$ of the high priority class, since it takes precedence over the lower priority
 177 packets. The high-priority packets only need $E[D_{s1}]$ as the average service time.
 178 Consequently, an arriving packet of low priority will wait until:

- 179 a. the server complete service with the packet currently being served;
- 180 b. the packets of both low and high priority found in the queue upon arrival have been
 181 served; and
- 182 c. The packets of high priority that arrived during the waiting period have been served.

183 The average waiting time of the low priority packets, according to [24] can be expressed as:

$$184 \quad E[D_{q2}] = E[N_{q1}] \cdot E[D_{s1}] + E[N_{q2}] \cdot E[D_2] + \lambda_1 \cdot E[D_{q2}] \cdot E[D_{s1}] + E[D_r]$$

185 This can be simplified as:

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$$E[D_{q2}] = \lambda_1 \cdot E[D_{q1}] \cdot E[E_{s1}] + \lambda_2 \cdot E[D_{q2}] \cdot E[D_{s2}] + \lambda_1 \cdot E[D_{q2}] \cdot E[D_{s1}] + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]$$

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$$E[D_{q2}] = \rho_1 E[D_{q1}] + \rho_2 E[D_{q2}] + \rho_1 E[D_{q2}] + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2] \quad (2)$$

188 Further simplification of (2) gives (3):

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$$E[D_{q2}](1 - \rho_2 - \rho_1) = \rho_1 E[D_{q1}] + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]$$

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$$E[D_{q2}] = \frac{\rho_1 E[D_{q1}] + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]}{(1 - \rho_2 - \rho_1)}$$

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$$E[D_{q2}] = \frac{\frac{\rho_1 \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]}{(1 - \rho_1)} + \frac{\lambda}{2} E[D_s^2]}{(1 - \rho_2 - \rho_1)}$$

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$$E[D_{q2}] = \frac{\lambda E[D_s^2]}{2(1 - \rho_2 - \rho_1)(1 - \rho_1)} \quad (3)$$

193 The average waiting time of the low priority packets is given in (3) and it differentiates it from
 194 the high priority packets.

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196 **3.METHODS AND MATERIALS**

197 This section is discussed under the following sub-sections: problem formulation, tree
 198 structure and packets' characteristics, node arrangement of packets in the AVL tree,
 199 packets' re-transmission from tree to buffer, design of fuzzy admissioncontrol policy,
 200 simulation as well as results and discussion.

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202 **3.1. Problem formulation**

203 It is conventional for the TCP flow control mechanism to slow down the sending rates to
 204 avoid packet losses when the network becomes congested. This is one of the inbuilt design
 205 features of the TCP flow control mechanism [25]. In a differentiated service network,
 206 whenever there is a signal of incipient congestion, the controller denies admission to packets
 207 having low service preferences by dropping them to pave way to packets with higher service
 208 preference. Consider a single-server queuing system having two classes of packets' arrivals
 209 as depicted in figure 1.

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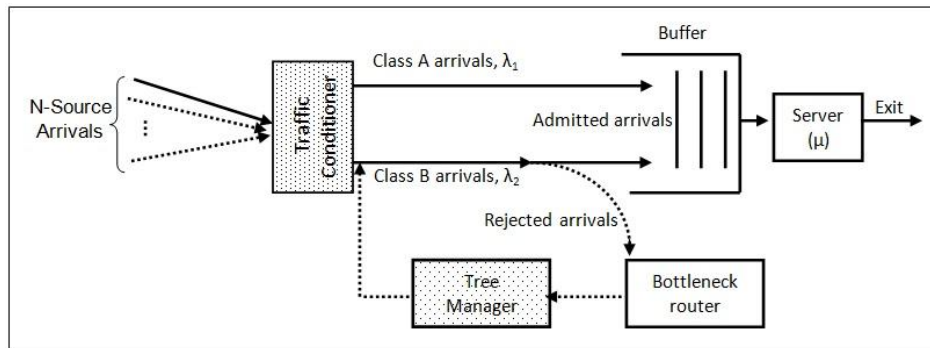


Figure 1: A single-server queue with arrival and congestion control

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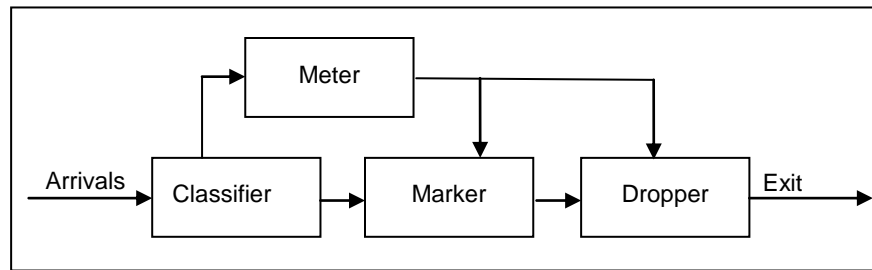
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In figure 1, there are N arrival sources. These arrivals are then classified into independent Poisson arrivals of class A and class B based on priority by the traffic conditioner. Figure 2 is the schematic structure of the traffic conditioner.

Figure 2: Schematic structure of a traffic conditioner.

A traffic conditioner is a part of a network node that takes the node's ingress as its input and places the packets in its output so as to satisfy service requirements' set [24]. The classifier selects packets from a traffic stream based on the content of some portion of the packet header; the meter measures the temporal properties of the stream of packets selected by a classifier against the traffic profile specified in the traffic conditioning agreement. Consequently, it passes state information to the marker, which identifies whether a packet is of high priority or otherwise, while the dropper manages incoming stream by dropping packets that are of low priority, if their admission would result in system congestion or delay service to packets of higher priority.

Packets arrive at the buffer at rates λ_1 and λ_2 for classes A and B respectively while the buffer has unlimited capacity and the order of service is insignificant. An exponential server services the packets at rate μ . Class A packets enter the buffer without restriction while Class B packets could either be admitted or denied admission and consequently dropped into the bottleneck router. The system receives a fixed reward (r) for each admitted arrival of packet and pays a holding cost (h) per arrival per unit time in the system.

3.2 Tree Structure and Packets' Characteristics

A tree is an abstract data type which simulates a hierarchical structure with a root value and subtrees of children with a parent node, represented as a set of linked nodes [26]. It is a non-linear and hierarchical data structure consisting of a collection of nodes such that each node of the tree stores a value which is a list of references to the nodes i.e. the children. Generally, a tree consists of a root and zero or more subtrees i.e. T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n , such that there is an edge from the root of the tree to the root of each subtree [27]. In the design of the proposed model, the structure adopted is an AVL tree structure with several nodes which represent network packets. An AVL tree is a self-balancing binary search tree, where the difference between heights of left and right subtrees for any node cannot be more than one. The difference between the heights of the left subtree and the right subtree for any node is known as the balance factor (bf) of the node.

A packet carries important information such as size, time-to-live, source, destination IP address, checksum for error detection, 16-bit identification number, etc. It may also indicate whether or not the packet can be fragmented while also including information about re-assembling fragmented packets, i.e. fragmentation offsets [28]. However, since packets are treated as nodes in the tree, packet's information considered in the design of the proposed model is the node size. The node size refers to the size of packet (in bytes), treated as nodes in the tree. The minimum size of an internet protocol packet is 21 bytes (which includes 20 bytes for the header and 1 byte of data) while the maximum size is

276 65,535 bytes. However in practice, most packets are about 1500 bytes. For the purpose of
 277 this model, the size of packets, treated as nodes does not include the size of the header but
 278 rather the size of data only. The node size of each packet is arranged in the AVL tree
 279 structure.

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281 **3.3. Node Arrangement of Packets in the AVL Tree**

282 If it is assumed that the following packet sizes (in megabytes): 43, 54, 21, 17, 90, 36, 49, 28
 283 and 46 were dropped and transmitted to the bottleneck router as a result of incipient
 284 congestion. The packets are arranged as nodes in the AVL as depicted in figure 3.

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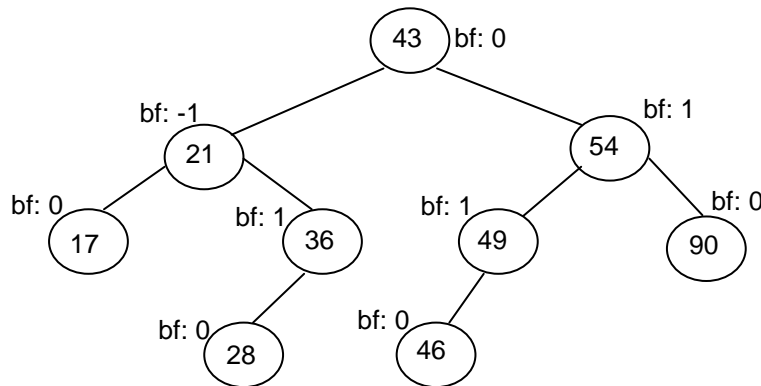
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Figure 3: A balanced AVL tree structure for dropped packets arranged as nodes

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It is important to note that the balance factor is indicated for each node in figure 3. If another node with size 25 megabytes is dropped and consequently transmitted to the bottleneck router, it is added as a node to the existing tree. With this addition, the new tree is depicted in figure 4.

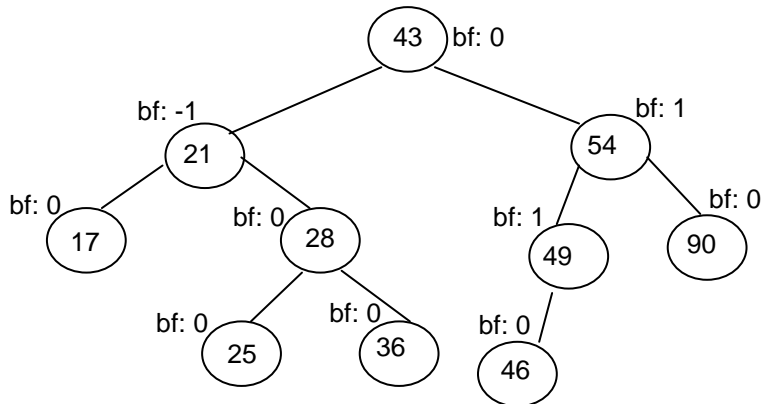


Figure 4: The balanced AVL tree structure after the insertion of node 25

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3.4. Packets' Re-Transmission from Tree to Buffer

Transmission from the AVL tree is done by considering the root node in the tree. The root node is 43 and this is the first to be removed and transmitted to the buffer for service. Once node 43 is removed, the new structure of the tree is as depicted in figure 5.

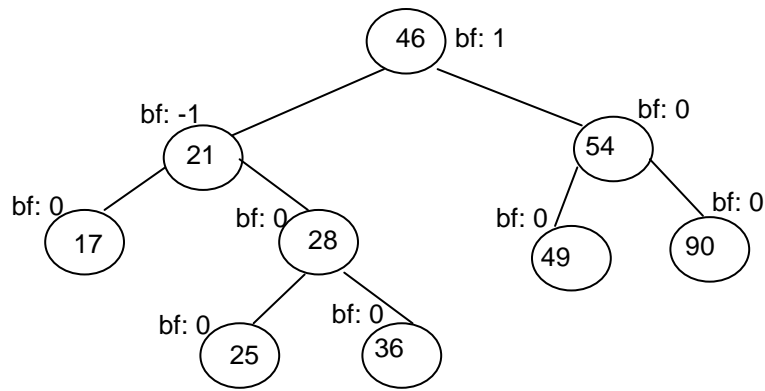


Figure 5: Resulting AVL tree structure after the removal of node 43.

The process of removal of node from the tree and consequent transmission to the buffer for service takes the same form for other nodes until all nodes in the tree are transmitted one after the other.

3.5. Design of the Fuzzy AdmissionControl Policy

The problem of admission control in a queue system requires proper planning for the system to perform optimally. A system based on fuzzy logic theory is an appropriate means to perform this task. Such a system is a combination of fuzzy numbers / membership functions and fuzzy “If-Then” rules that supports representation of complex systems into a processable linguistic model that deals efficiently with the characteristic of uncertainty / inexactness of human thinking and perception in most real-world problems [29].

In the proposed system, the decision epochs at which packets’ arrival are controlled coincide with the arrival times of class B packets. As a result, the state of the system at the decision epochs is described by the total number, y of class A and class B packets in the system including the one in service, if any. Hence, $y = 0, 1, \dots, n$. In order to avoid a trivial situation in which a class B packet is denied admission even while the system is empty, it is assumed that $r > \frac{h}{\mu}$. With this, it is beneficial to the system to admit a class B packet when

the system is empty. For this case, the crisp rule for $y = 0$ could be expressed as:

“If there are no packets in the system, then a class B packet seeking admission into the system is admitted”.

Similarly, it is necessary to consider cases where $y \geq 1$. As only class A packets are uncontrolled, then the system is stable if $\lambda_1 < \mu$. When the arrival rate is high, it becomes necessary to reject class B packets so as to avoid queuing delays and costs. The number of packets in the buffer, s is chosen such that $s = y - 1, s = 0, 1, \dots$. The arrival rates $\lambda_1 \in [0, \mu)$ and $\lambda_2 \in [0, \alpha)$ serve as fuzzy inputs with four linguistic values “zero”, “fairly positive”, “positive” and “highly positive” represented as “ZE”, “FP”, “PO” and “HP” respectively. The decision, $(d = 1, 0)$ is the fuzzy output in which “1” indicates “admit a class B packet” while “0” indicates “reject a class B packet”. There are three main arguments on the basis of which the fuzzy rules are formulated. These are as follows:

- i. A higher arrival rate of class B packets weakens the decision, d : “admit a class B packet”. In this case, it is optimal to accept new packets as it merely incur holding costs.
- ii. As arrivals increases, the holding cost becomes greater than the reward. Consequently, packets are denied admission.
- iii. Class A arrivals, λ_1 negatively affects the decision to admit a class B arrival in anticipation of future uncontrolled class A arrivals.

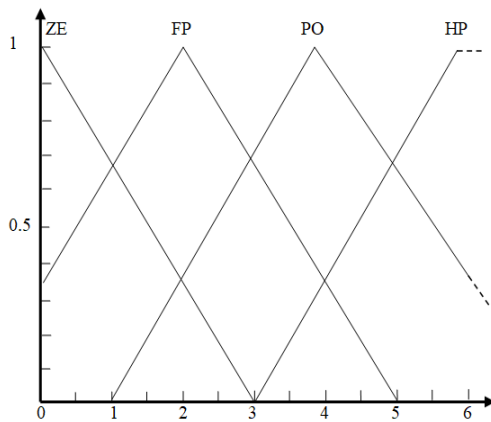
378 Since there are four linguistic values and three crisp input, we have 4^3 i.e. 64 rule
 379 combinations. However only rule combinations with output decision "Admit" and another 10
 380 rule combinations with output decision "Reject" were randomly chosen. These are as follows:

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- Rule Number 1: If s is ZE and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is ZE, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 2: If s is ZE and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is FP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 3: If s is ZE and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is PO, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 4: If s is ZE and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is PO, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 6: If s is ZE and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is ZE, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 7: If s is ZE and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is FP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 11: If s is FP and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is FP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 13: If s is FP and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is ZE, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 15: If s is ZE and λ_1 is PO and λ_2 is FP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 16: If s is ZE and λ_1 is PO and λ_2 is ZE, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 17: If s is ZE and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is HP, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 19: If s is FP and λ_1 is PO and λ_2 is HP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 23: If s is FP and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is ZE, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 27: If s is ZE and λ_1 is HP and λ_2 is ZE, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 29: If s is PO and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is HP, then **Admit** Arrival*
- Rule Number 32: If s is ZE and λ_1 is PO and λ_2 is HP, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 39: If s is FP and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is FP, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 42: If s is FP and λ_1 is FP and λ_2 is PO, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 45: If s is PO and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is ZE, then **Reject** Arrival*
- Rule Number 49: If s is HP and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is ZE, then **Reject** Arrival*

403 The membership functions for λ_1 is shown in figure 6.

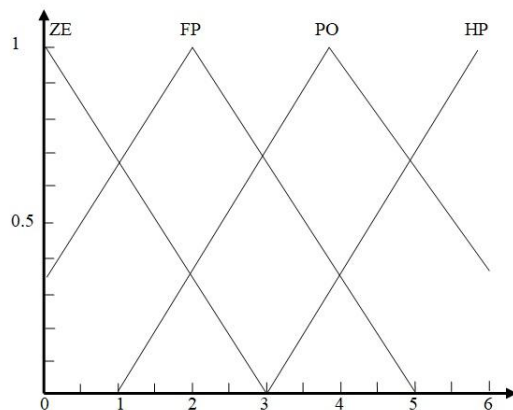
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420 Figure 6: Membership functions for λ_1

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The membership functions for λ_2 is shown in figure 7.



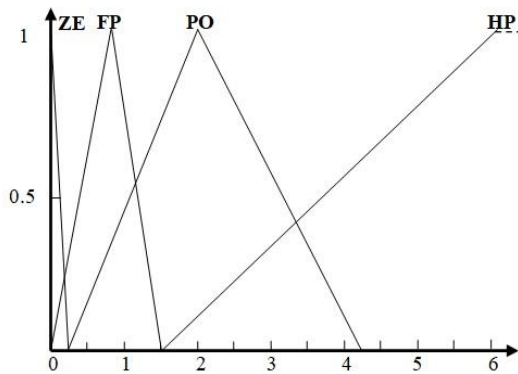
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Figure 7: Membership functions for λ_2

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The membership functions for sis shown in figure 8.

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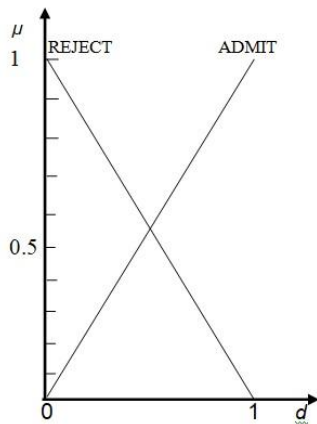
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Figure 8: Membership functions for s

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The output, d is represented with a singleton membership function assigns membership value "1" to "Admit an arriving packet" and value "0" to "Reject an arriving packet". The membership functions for output, d is represented with an impulse function as shown in figure 9.

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Figure 9: Membership functions for output, d

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Mathematically, this is formulated as:

480

$$\mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } d = 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

481

482 It implies from the rule *if s is HP and λ_1 is ZE and λ_2 is ZE, then d is REJECT. Hence HP for s*
 483 *is expressed in (4):*

484
$$y_{\lambda_1} = y_{\lambda_1} = 0 = \frac{r\mu}{h} \quad (4)$$

485
 486 For λ_1 , the rule *if s is ZE and λ_1 is HP and λ_2 is ZE, then d is REJECT. The threshold value can*
 487 *be calculated using (5):*

488
 489
$$\lambda_{1,s} = \lambda_2 = 0 = \frac{\mu(r\mu - 2h)}{h} \quad (5)$$

490
 491 Since λ_2 is bounded from above by μ , it can be expressed as (6):

492
$$\lambda_{2,s} = \lambda_2 = 0 = \mu \quad (6)$$

493
 494 The admission and rejection of packets by the admission controller is a semi-Markov
 495 decision process. This makes it possible for the system to admit a packet provided that the
 496 number y of customers in the buffer is below a threshold value. This implies that the optimal
 497 threshold y_i is expressed in (7):

498
$$y_1 \leq \frac{r\mu}{h} < y_i + 1,$$

499 However, the socially optimal threshold y_s is given by:

500
$$\frac{y_s(1-\rho) - \rho(1-\rho^{y_s})}{(1-\rho)^2} \leq \frac{r\mu}{h} < \frac{(y_s+1)(1-\rho) - \rho(1-\rho^{y_s+1})}{(1-\rho)^2} \quad (7)$$

501
 502 where $\rho = \frac{\lambda}{\mu}$

503
 504 **3.6. Simulation, Results and Discussion**

505 The fuzzy controller to an M/M/1 queuing system with two arrival streams with parameters:
 506 $\lambda_1=0.25$, $\lambda_2=0.05$, $\mu = 0.15$, $h = 2$ and $r=50$ was considered. The simulation began with an
 507 initial state $y= 0$, and the system performance for the first 300 time units is as depicted in
 508 figure 10.

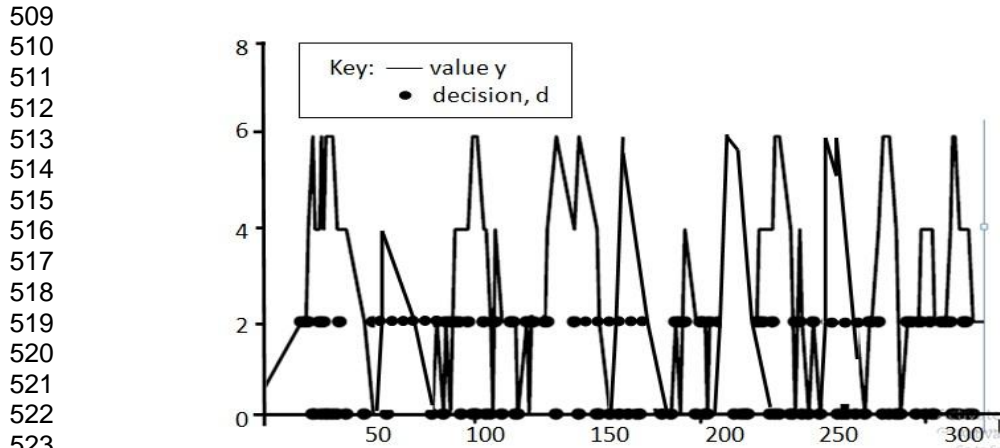


Figure 10: The fuzzy control policy for the evolution of y and decision, d .

525 An observation of figure 10 indicates that the number of customers in the system,
526 i.e. y does not exceed 4. This implies that the admission controller will admit an arriving
527 packet (i.e. $d=1$) into the buffer provided that the value of $y \leq 4$. On the other hand, the
528 admission controller will deny admission (i.e. $d = 0$) to an arriving class B packet into the
529 system if the value of $y > 4$. Consequently, it is obvious that the threshold value, $y_s = 4$. The
530 implication of this is that the two categories of packets in the system are service-prioritized.

531 Packets with priority value less than or equal to 4 are treated as high-preference
532 service arrivals while those with priority value greater than 4 are treated as low-preference
533 service arrivals. This is the basis of classification and treatment when incipient congestion is
534 signaled. If the system discovers that the admission of a low-priority packet will affect the
535 admission and / or service of a high-priority packet, such arrival is dropped into the
536 bottleneck router and consequently transferred to the tree manager where it is treated as a
537 node in an AVL tree structure and later re-transmitted into the buffer when it is safe to do so.

538 The decision epochs at which arrivals are controlled has a direct relationship with
539 the arrival times of class B packets. It is obvious therefore that the state of the system at the
540 decision epochs is a reflection of the total number of packets in the buffer, including the one
541 in service. The management of admission of packets in the system is therefore a semi-
542 Markov decision process. This is why it possible for the system to admit a packet provided

543 that the number y of customers in the buffer is below the threshold value of: $y_1 \leq \frac{r\mu}{h} < y_i + 1$,

544 With this, it is optimal to admit a class B packet provided the buffer is empty. In this case, the
545 value of reward r , is expressed as: $r > h/\mu$, consequently encouraging the admission of a
546 class B packet since it has no effect on any other class of arrival.

547
548
549

550 4. CONCLUSION

551 The study considered a priority-based admission control system for managing congestion in
552 a differentiated service network. Packets of varying sizes of data were transmitted from N
553 sources and classified into two independent sources of high and low priorities. While class A
554 packets are not denied admission into the buffer, this is not the case with class B packets.
555 Arrivals denied admission are dropped and consequently transmitted to the tree manager via
556 the bottleneck router so that the packets could be arranged as nodes in an AVL tree
557 structure which adopts tree properties to manage and transmit nodes to the buffer based on
558 node rotations. Consequently, decision epochs on which admission policy is based has
559 direct relationship with the arrival times of class B packets. This implies that the control of
560 admission is a semi-Markov decision process which is based on the characteristics of the
561 crisp inputs being processed using a fuzzy logic controller to arrive at optimal decisions as
562 far as admission control is concerned.

563
564

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566 Nil

567 **COMPETING INTERESTS**

568 Authors have declared that no competing interests exist

569

570

571 **AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

572 The manuscript was prepared by all the authors. Approval for submission was approved by
573 all the authors as well.

574

575

576 **CONSENT**

577 Nil

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579

580 **ETHICAL APPROVAL**

581 Nil

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