

**HACETTEPE ÜNİVERSİTESİ MATEMATİK  
BÖLÜMÜ GENEL SEMİNERİ**  
**(HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS  
GENERAL SEMINAR)**

**Tarih (Date):** 26.02.2020, Çarşamba (Wednesday)

**Saat (Time):** 15:00

**Yer (Place):** Yaşar Ataman Seminer Salonu

**Konuşmacı (Speaker):** Ali Devin Sezer, Middle East Technical University,  
Institute of Applied Mathematics

**Başlık(Title):** Approximation of Exit Probabilities of Constrained Random  
Walks

**Özet (Abstract):** Let  $X$  be the constrained random walk on  $\mathbb{Z}_+^2$  having increments  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(-1, 1)$ , and  $(0, -1)$  with probabilities  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu_1$ , and  $\mu_2$  representing the lengths of two tandem queues.  $X$  is assumed stable and  $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$ . Let  $\tau_n$  be the first time when the sum of the components of  $X$  equals  $n$ . Let  $Y$  be the constrained random walk on  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_+$  having increments  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $(1, 1)$ , and  $(0, -1)$  with probabilities  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu_1$ , and  $\mu_2$ . Let  $\tau$  be the first time that the components of  $Y$  are equal to each other. We prove that  $P_{n-x_n(1), x_n(2)}(\tau < \infty)$  approximates  $p_{x_n}(\tau_n < \tau_0)$  with relative error *exponentially decaying* in  $n$  for  $x_n = \lfloor nx \rfloor$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$ ,  $0 < x(1) + x(2) < 1$ ,  $x(1) > 0$ . An affine transformation moving the origin to the point  $(n, 0)$  and letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  connects the  $X$  and  $Y$  processes. We use a linear combination of basis functions constructed from single and conjugate points on a characteristic surface associated with  $X$  to derive a simple expression for  $P_y(\tau < \infty)$  in terms of the ratios  $\lambda/\mu_i$ . The proof that the relative error decays exponentially in  $n$  uses an upper bound on the error probability and a lower bound on  $p_n$  obtained via sub and super solutions of a related Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation. We carry out a similar analysis also for the constrained random walk with increments  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $(0, -1)$  and  $(0, 1)$  representing the lengths of two queues in parallel. Although the main ideas generalize from the tandem case there are also significant differences. We provide a comparison of these two cases.