

Interpretation of the Markov chain representation of the 2×2 input switch.

Each circle represents a possible state of the inputs. For example, $(1,1)$ means that there are two packets in the input ports, and they both want to go to output port 1. They can't both be serviced since output port 1 can only consume one packet at a time. (That is why there is no arrow linking states $(1,1)$ to $(2,2)$). Possibilities are:

a) packet in the input port 1 is serviced and immediately replaced by another packet which

a.1. wants to go to ^{output} port 1 OR \rightarrow $(1,1)$ ^{next state}

a.2. wants to go to output port 2. \rightarrow $(2,1)$

OR

b) packet in the ^{input} port 2 is serviced and immediately replaced by another packet which

b.1. wants to go to ^{output} port 1 OR \rightarrow $(1,1)$

b.2. " " port 2. \rightarrow $(1,2)$

Since there are 4 independent possibilities each with 0.25 probability. Same analysis can be applied easily to the other states as well.