

Hand-in assignment 1

There are six non-compulsory home assignments. By the end of the course, I will sum your points on these to decide how much bonus you will obtain for the final exam (no bonus on re-exams).

1. Let $\{w_t\}$, $t = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$, be a white noise process where the w_t are simultaneously independent with variance $\sigma_w^2 = 3$, and let

$$x_t = 2t + w_t w_{t-1} + 0.6w_{t-3}.$$

- (a) Calculate the mean and autocovariance function of x_t and state whether it is stationary. (2p)
- (b) Do the same for the differenced series, ∇x_t . (2p)

2. Consider the series

$$x_t = \sin(2\pi U t),$$

for $t = 1, 2, \dots$, where U is uniformly distributed at the interval $(0, 1)$. (Observe that it is the same U for all t .)

- (a) Prove that x_t is weakly stationary. (2p)
- (b) Prove that x_t is not strictly stationary. (4p)

Hint:

- i. It is enough to prove that, for some constants c_1, c_2 ,

$$P(x_1 > c_1, x_2 > c_2) \neq P(x_2 > c_1, x_3 > c_2), \quad (1)$$

why?

- ii. Take $c_1 = c_2 = c = \sin(\pi/3) = \sqrt{3}/2$.
 For $n = 1, 2, 3$, define a set of intervals $A_n = \{u : \sin(2\pi n u) > c\}$.
 Show that

$$\begin{aligned} P(x_1 > c, x_2 > c) &= l(A_1 \cap A_2), \\ P(x_2 > c, x_3 > c) &= l(A_2 \cap A_3), \end{aligned}$$

where l denotes interval length and \cap is intersection.

- iii. Finally, by e.g. drawing a figure, show that $l(A_1 \cap A_2) = 0$ and $l(A_2 \cap A_3) \neq 0$. Hence, we have that (1) holds, and we are done.