

# Wiener process and martingales

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Here goes the plot!

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- $(X_t, t \geq 0)$  or  $(X_t)$  — the collection of random variables;
- $X_t$  — one particular random variable.

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Tradition: when we consider two arbitrary moments of time,  $s$  and  $t$ , we usually assume  $s \leq t$ .

# Divide and conquer

The main trick to study properties:

$$\text{Future value} = \text{Known value} + \text{Unpredictable change}$$

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Seems trivial 

$$W_t = W_s + (W_t - W_s)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(W_{10} - W_6 > -1) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{W_{10} - W_6}{2} > -\frac{1}{2}\right) = \\ &= \mathbb{P}(Z > -0.5) = \mathbb{P}(Z < 0.5) = F(0.5) \approx 0.69.\end{aligned}$$

## More gentlemen's agreements

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- $Z$  denotes a standard normal random variable,  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0; 1)$ .
- $F(u)$  denotes the standard normal distribution function,  
 $F(u) = \mathbb{P}(Z \leq u)$ .



# Independence of increments: example

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The increments  $W_6 - W_4, W_4 - W_3, W_{2.5} - W_1$  are independent.

# Independence of increments: full glory

If the time intervals  $[s_1, t_1]$ ,  $[s_2, t_2]$ , ...,  $[s_k, t_k]$  are non overlapping,

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If the time intervals  $[s_1, t_1]$ ,  $[s_2, t_2]$ , ...,  $[s_k, t_k]$  are **non overlapping**,

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then the increments  $W(t_1) - W(s_1)$ ,  $W(t_2) - W(s_2)$ , ...,  $W(t_k) - W(s_k)$  are independent.


Remark: the right border of an interval **may touch** the left border of the next one, but **may not exceed** it,  $t_j \leq s_{j+1}$ .

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Exercise . Find  $\mathbb{E}(W_t)$ ,  $\text{Var}(W_t)$ ,  $\text{Cov}(W_s, W_t)$ .




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$$\text{Cov}(W_7, W_3) = 3.$$

## Two friends

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Stochastic process  $(S_t, t \geq 0)$  that may be written as

$$S_t = S_0 \exp(aW_t + bt),$$


is called **geometric brownian motion**.

## Two plots

here will be the plots of BM with drift and geometric BM



## BM with drift and scaling


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$$\text{Var}(5W_t + 6t) = \text{Var}(5W_t) = 25t$$

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How these are obtained?



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(\exp(aZ)) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp(az) f(z) dz = \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp(az) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-z^2/2\right) dz\end{aligned}$$



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- $M_{W_t}(a) = \exp(a^2 t/2)$  for a Wiener process  $W_t$ .

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$$M^{(k)}(0) = \mathbb{E}(X^k)$$

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# Conditional expectation

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- Modeling information using **sigma-algebras**;
- **Properties** of conditional expected value;
- Conditional **variance**.

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How to model this **mathematically?**

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## Example

The sigma-algebra  $\sigma(X, Y)$  contains the events  $\{X < 5\}$ ,  $\{X > 2Y\}$ ,  $\{\sin Y > \cos X\}$ , ...

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Maria knows **more**:  $\mathcal{F}_J \subset \mathcal{F}_M$ .

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## Theorem



The random variable  $Z$  is measurable with respect to  $\sigma(X, Y)$  if and only if  $Z$  is a deterministic function of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

# Best prediction

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## Difference of $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \mathcal{F})$ and $\mathbb{E}(Z)$

If I know  $X$  and  $Y$  then my best prediction of  $Z$  may depend on  $X$  and  $Y$ .

In general:  $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \mathcal{F})$  is a **random variable**.

# Notation

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- $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \mathcal{F})$ :  
for a general  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}$ ;
- $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \sigma(X, Y))$  or  $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid X, Y)$ :  
for  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $X$  and  $Y$ .

## When we may omit conditioning?

- If  $Z$  is **independend** of  $X$  and  $Y$  then  $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid X, Y) = \mathbb{E}(Z)$ :  
If I know **nothing useful** about  $Z$  then I can drop my information.

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If I know **nothing useful** about  $Z$  then I can drop my information.
- $\mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \mathcal{F})) = \mathbb{E}(Z)$ :  
The **average of best guess** is the average of predicted variable.



## The case of known variable

If  $Z$  is **known** (measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$ ), then we may treat  $Z$  *like* a constant:

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# Properties of conditional variance

- Irrelevant information may be omitted:

If  $Z$  is **independent** of  $\mathcal{F}$  then  $\mathbb{E}(Z \mid \mathcal{F}) = \mathbb{E}(Z)$  and  $\text{Var}(Z \mid \mathcal{F}) = \text{Var}(Z)$ .



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# Martingales

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Reminder: Sigma-algebra  $\mathcal{F}_t$  is the collection of events.

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# Martingale

## Definition



Consider a filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_t, t \geq 0)$  and a process  $(M_t, t \geq 0)$ .

If the best prediction of the future value  $M_t$  of a process is its current value  $M_s$  for  $s \leq t$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(M_t \mid \mathcal{F}_s) = M_s,$$

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Usually we consider natural filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_t)$  of the process  $(M_t)$ .

# Simple examples

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The process  $Z_t = W_t^2 - t$  is a **martingale**.

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The process  $Z_t = \exp(aW_t - a^2t/2)$  is a **martingale** for every constant  $a$ .

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This martingale is very useful in Black and Scholes model.

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is completely equivalent to

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