

MAST30001 Stochastic Modelling

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Administration

- ▶ LMS - announcements, grades, course documents
- ▶ Lectures/Practicals
- ▶ Student-staff liaison committee (SSLC) representative

Modelling

We develop an *imitation* of the system. It could be, for example,

- ▶ a small replica of a marina development,
- ▶ a set of equations describing the relations between stock prices,
- ▶ a computer simulation that reproduces a complex system (think: the paths of planets in the solar system).

We use a model

- ▶ to understand the evolution of a system,
- ▶ to understand how 'outputs' relate to 'inputs', and
- ▶ to decide how to influence a system.

Why do we model?

We want to understand how a complex system works. Real-world experimentation can be

- ▶ too slow,
- ▶ too expensive,
- ▶ possibly too dangerous,
- ▶ may not deliver insight.

The alternative is to build a physical, mathematical or computational model that captures the essence of the system that we are interested in (think: NASA).

Why a stochastic model?

We want to model such things as

- ▶ traffic in the Internet
- ▶ stock prices and their derivatives
- ▶ waiting times in healthcare queues
- ▶ reliability of multicomponent systems
- ▶ interacting populations
- ▶ epidemics

where the effects of randomness cannot be ignored.

Good mathematical models

- ▶ capture the non-trivial behaviour of a system,
- ▶ are as simple as possible,
- ▶ replicate empirical observations, → can reflect the empirical observation
- ▶ are tractable - they can be analysed to derive the quantities of interest, and
- ▶ can be used to help make decisions.

Stochastic modelling

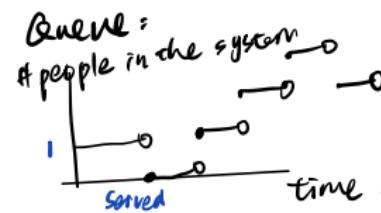
Coin tossing

→ sequences of H's , T's

of length = # tosses

Lifetime

→ $[0, +\infty)$



$\mathcal{N} = \{\text{piecewise integer functions}\}$

Finance



$\mathcal{N} = \text{non-negative function}$

position of phones

$\mathcal{N} = \text{All finite subset of } \mathbb{R}^2$

Stochastic modelling is about the study of random experiments.
For example,

- ▶ toss a coin once, toss a coin twice, toss a coin infinitely-many times
- ▶ the lifetime of a randomly selected battery (quality control)
- ▶ the operation of a queue over the time interval $[0, \infty)$ (service)
- ▶ the changes in the US dollar - Australian dollar exchange rate from 2006 onwards (finance)
- ▶ the positions of all iphones that make connections to a particular telecommunications company over the course of one hour (wireless tower placement)
- ▶ the network "friend" structure of Facebook (ad revenue) → \mathcal{N} simple graph



Stochastic modelling

We study a random experiment in the context of a Probability Space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) . Here,

- ▶ the **sample space** Ω is the set of all possible outcomes of our random experiment,
- ▶ the **class of events** \mathcal{F} is a set of subsets of Ω . We view these as events we can see or *measure*, and
- ▶ P is a **probability measure** defined on the elements of \mathcal{F} .

The sample space Ω

We need to think about the sets of possible outcomes for the random experiments. For those discussed above, these could be

- ▶ $\{H, T\}$, $\{(H, H), (H, T), (T, H), (T, T)\}$, the set of all infinite sequences of *Hs* and *Ts*.
- ▶ $[0, \infty)$.
- ▶ the set of piecewise-constant functions from $[0, \infty)$ to \mathcal{Z}_+ .
- ▶ the set of continuous functions from $[0, \infty)$ to \mathbb{R}_+ .
- ▶ $\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \{(x_1, y_1) \dots (x_n, y_n)\}$, giving locations of the phones when they connected.
- ▶ Set of simple networks with number of vertices equal to the number of users: edges connect friends.

Review of basic notions of set theory

- ▶ $A \subset B$.
 - ▶ A is a **subset** of B or if A occurs, then B occurs.
- ▶ $A \cup B = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ or } \omega \in B\} = B \cup A$.
 - ▶ **Union** of sets (events): at least one occurs.
 - ▶ $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$.
- ▶ $A \cap B = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \in A \text{ and } \omega \in B\} = B \cap A = AB$.
 - ▶ **Intersection** of sets (events): both occur.
 - ▶ $A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i$.
- ▶ $A^c = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \notin A\}$
 - ▶ **Complement** of a set/event: event doesn't occur.
- ▶ \emptyset : the **empty set** or **impossible event**.

The class of events \mathcal{F}

each subset is an event

- ▶ For discrete sample spaces, \mathcal{F} is typically the set of all subsets.
Example: Toss a coin once, $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \{H\}, \{T\}, \{H, T\}\}$
- ▶ For continuous state spaces, the situation is more complicated:

The class of events \mathcal{F}



- ▶ S equals circle of radius 1.
- ▶ We say two points on S are in the same **family** if you can get from one to the other by taking steps of arclength 1 around the circle.
- ▶ Each **family** chooses a single member to be **head**.
- ▶ If X is a point chosen uniformly at random from the circle, what is the chance X is the head of its family?

The class of events \mathcal{F}

- ▶ $A = \{X \text{ is head of its family}\}.$
- ▶ $A_i = \{X \text{ is } i \text{ steps clockwise from its family head}\}.$
- ▶ $B_i = \{X \text{ is } i \text{ steps counterclockwise from its family head}\}.$
- ▶ By uniformity, $P(A) = P(A_i) = P(B_i)$, BUT
- ▶ law of total probability:

infinite sum to 1

$$1 = P(A) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (P(A_i) + P(B_i))!$$

- Each family is countably infinite.

- # family is uncountably infinite

⇒ # head of family are uncountable

$$A \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right\} \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i \right\} = \Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow P(A \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right\} \cup \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i \right\}) = 1$$

The issue is that the event A is not one we can see or measure so
should not be included in \mathcal{F} .

$$= P(A) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i)$$

↑ All sets are disjoint

The class of events \mathcal{F}

These kinds of issues are technical to resolve and are dealt with in later probability or analysis subjects which use *measure theory*.

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The probability measure P

if we run experiment n times independently

$$\text{WANT: } P(A) \approx \frac{n_A}{n}$$

A and B disjoint

$$n_{A \cup B} = n_A + n_B$$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

The probability measure P on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) is a set function from \mathcal{F} satisfying

P1. $P(A) \geq 0$ for all $A \in \mathcal{F}$

[probabilities measure long run %'s or certainty]

P2. $P(\Omega) = 1$

[There is a 100% chance something happens]

P3. Countable additivity: if $A_1, A_2 \dots$ are disjoint events in \mathcal{F} ,
then $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$

[Think about it in terms of frequencies]

How do we specify P ?

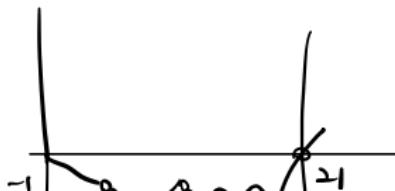
The modelling process consists of

- ▶ defining the values of $P(A)$ for some ‘basic events’ in $A \in \mathcal{F}$,
- ▶ deriving $P(B)$ for the other ‘unknown’ more complicated events in $B \in \mathcal{F}$ from the axioms above.

Example: Toss a fair coin 1000 times. Any length 1000 sequence of H's and T's has chance 2^{-1000} .

$$P(\{w\}) = 2^{-1000}$$
$$P(A) = 2^{-1000} \cdot \#A$$
$$P(\geq 600 \text{ H's}) = \sum_{n=600}^{\infty} \binom{1000}{n} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1000}$$

Better: CLT
 $\#H's - \#T's$



- $P(A) = \sum_{w \in A} P(\{w\})$
- ▶ What is the chance there are more than 600 H's in the sequence?
 - ▶ What is the chance the first time the proportion of heads exceeds the proportion of tails occurs after toss 20?

-2 | 
 Properties of P
 T

proof

- $P(\emptyset) = 0.$
- $P(A^c) = 1 - P(A).$
- $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B).$

$$\begin{aligned} A^c \cap A &= \emptyset \\ A^c \cup A &= \Omega \Rightarrow \text{disjoint.} \end{aligned}$$

$$P(A^c) + P(A) = P(\Omega) = 1,$$

$$\emptyset = \emptyset \cup \emptyset, \quad \emptyset \cap \emptyset = \emptyset. \quad \text{disjoint}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\emptyset) &= P(\emptyset) + P(\emptyset). \\ \Rightarrow P(\emptyset) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$A \subseteq B \Rightarrow P(A) \leq P(B)$$

A_1, A_2, \dots events
 Then $P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right)$.
 (continuity of P).

Conditional probability

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right)$$

Let $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ be events with $P(B) > 0$. Supposing we know that B occurred, how likely is A given that information? That is, what is the **conditional probability** $P(A|B)$?

For a frequency interpretation, consider the situation where we have n trials and B has occurred n_B times. What is the relative frequency of A in these n_B trials? The answer is

$$\frac{n_{A \cap B}}{n_B} = \frac{n_{A \cap B}/n}{n_B/n} \sim \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}.$$

Hence, we define

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}.$$

We need a more sophisticated definition if we want to define the conditional probability $P(A|B)$ when $P(B) = 0$.

Example:

Tickets are drawn consecutively and without replacement from a box of tickets numbered 1 – 10. What is the chance the second ticket is even numbered given the first is

- ▶ even? $\rightarrow A: 1^{\text{st}}$ ticket even
- ▶ labelled 3? $B: 2^{\text{nd}}$ ticket even

Formulism

$$\frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{\binom{5}{2}}{\binom{10}{2}} = \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\downarrow \quad P(B|A) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} = \frac{4}{9}$$

C: 1^{st} ticket label 3.

D: 2^{nd} ticket even

$$P(D|C) = \frac{P(C \cap D)}{P(C)} = \frac{\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{5}{9}}{\frac{1}{10}} = \frac{5}{9}$$

Bayes' formula



Let B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n be mutually exclusive events with $A \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n B_j$, then

$$P(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n P(A|B_j)P(B_j).$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= \sum_i P(A \cap B_i) \quad (\text{LOT P}) \\ &= \sum_i P(A|B_i) \cdot P(B_i) \end{aligned}$$

With the same assumptions as for the Law of Total Probability,

$$P(B_j|A) = \frac{P(B_j \cap A)}{P(A)} = \frac{P(A|B_j)P(B_j)}{\sum_{k=1}^n P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}.$$

Example:

A disease affects 1/1000 newborns and shortly after birth a baby is screened for this disease using a cheap test that has a 2% false positive rate (the test has no false negatives). If the baby tests positive, what is the chance it has the disease?

D : has disease

$+$: test positive

$$P(D) = \frac{1}{1000} \quad P(+|D^c) = 0.02.$$

$$P(D|+) = \frac{P(D \cap +)}{P(+)}$$

$$= \frac{P(D \cap +)}{P(D \cap +) + P(D^c \cap +)} = \frac{B_1}{B_1 + B_2}$$

$$P(-|D) = 0 \rightarrow P(+|D) = 1$$

?

$$= \frac{P(+|D) \cdot P(D)}{P(+|D) \cdot P(D) + P(+|D^c) \cdot P(D^c)} = \frac{\frac{1}{1000}}{\frac{1}{1000} + 0.02 \cdot \frac{999}{1000}} < .05$$

Independent events

Events A and B are said to be **independent** if

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B).$$

If $P(B) \neq 0$ or $P(A) \neq 0$ then this is the same as $P(A|B) = P(A)$ and $P(B|A) = P(B)$.

Events A_1, \dots, A_n are independent if, for any subset $\{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$ of $\{1, \dots, n\}$,

$$P(A_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}) = P(A_{i_1}) \times \dots \times P(A_{i_k}).$$

A,B,C indept \Rightarrow $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A) P(B) P(C)$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) P(B)$$

$$P(A \cap C) = P(A) P(C)$$

$$P(B \cap C) = P(B) P(C)$$

Random variables

^{↑ big ex.} $\omega \mapsto$ seq of length 1000 of H & T
 $x(\omega) = \# H's \text{ in } \omega$.

A **random variable** (rv) on a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) is a function $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Usually, we want to talk about the probabilities that the values of random variables lie in sets of the form $(a, b) = \{x : a < x < b\}$.
The smallest σ -algebra of subsets of \mathbb{R} that contains these sets is called the set $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ of **Borel sets**, after Emile Borel (1871-1956).

The probability that $X \in (a, b)$ is the probability of the subset $\{\omega : X(\omega) \in (a, b)\}$. In order for this to make sense, we need this set to be in \mathcal{F} and we require this condition for all $a < b$ and we say the function X is *measurable* with respect to \mathcal{F} .

So X is measurable with respect to \mathcal{F} if $\{\omega : X(\omega) \in B\} \in \mathcal{F}$ for all Borel sets $B \subset \mathbb{R}$.

probability function is defined on event rather than sample space

Distribution Functions

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} F_X(\omega) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(X \leq \omega) = P(X < \omega)$$

The function $F_X(t) = P(X \leq t) = P(\{\omega : X(\omega) \in (-\infty, t]\})$ that maps \mathbb{R} to $[0, 1]$ is called the **distribution function** of the random variable X .

Any distribution function F

F1. is non-decreasing,

$$s \leq t \cdot F_X(s) \leq F_X(t).$$

F2. is such that $F(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow -\infty$ and $F(x) \rightarrow 1$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$, and

F3. is 'right-continuous', that is $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} F(t + h) = F(t)$ for all t .

Any Function $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ satisfying F_1, F_2, F_3 is a dist function

Distribution Functions

We say that

- ▶ the random variable X is **discrete** if it can take only countably-many values, with $P(X = x_i) = p_i > 0$ and $\sum_i p_i = 1$. Its distribution function $F_X(t)$ is commonly a step function.
- ▶ the random variable X is **continuous** if $F_X(t)$ is **absolutely continuous**, that is if there exists a function $f_X(t)$ that maps R to R_+ such that $F_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t f_X(u)du$.

A **mixed** random variable has some points that have positive probability and also some continuous parts.

Examples of distributions

- ▶ Examples of discrete random variables: binomial, Poisson, geometric, negative binomial, discrete uniform
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:
Discrete_distributions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Discrete_distributions)
- ▶ Examples of continuous random variables: normal, exponential, gamma, beta, uniform on an interval (a, b)
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:
Continuous_distributions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Continuous_distributions)

Random Vectors

A **random vector** $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$ is a measurable mapping of (Ω, \mathcal{F}) to \mathbb{R}^d , that is, for each Borel set $B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$,
 $\{\omega : X(\omega) \in B\} \in \mathcal{F}$.

The distribution function of a random vector is

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{t}) = P(X_1 \leq t_1, \dots, X_d \leq t_d), \quad \mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} P(s_1 < X_1 \leq t_1, s_2 < X_2 \leq t_2) \\ = F(t_1, t_2) - F(s_1, t_2) - F(t_1, s_2) + F(s_1, s_2). \end{aligned}$$

$$P((X, Y) \in A) = \iint_A f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) dx dy$$

Independent Random Variables

The random variables X_1, \dots, X_d are called **independent** if

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{t}) = F_{X_1}(t_1) \times \dots \times F_{X_d}(t_d) \text{ for all } \mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_d).$$

Equivalently,

- ▶ the events $\{X_1 \in B_1\}, \dots, \{X_d \in B_d\}$ are independent for all Borel sets $B_1, \dots, B_d \subset R$,
- ▶ or, in the **absolutely-continuous case**,

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{t}) = f_{X_1}(t_1) \times \dots \times f_{X_d}(t_d) \text{ for all } \mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_d).$$

Revision Exercise

For bivariate random variables (X, Y) with density functions

- ▶ $f(x, y) = 2x + 2y - 4xy$ for $0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1$, and
- ▶ $f(x, y) = 4 - 4x - 4y + 8xy$ for $0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1,$
 $0 < x + y < 1$,

$\iint_{A_1 \cup A_2} f \, dxdy = \iint_{A_1} f \, dxdy + \iint_{A_2} f \, dxdy$

\downarrow
disjoint for A_1, A_2

- ▶ check f is a true density. \rightarrow if $\int \int_D f(x, y) \, dxdy = 1$
- ▶ find the marginal probability density functions $f_X(x)$ and $f_Y(y)$,
- ▶ find the probability density function of Y conditional on the value of X .

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) \, dy$$

continuous version of COTP

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_X(x)}$$

Expectation of X

For a discrete, continuous or mixed random variable X that takes on values in the set S_X , the expectation of X is

$$E(X) = \int_{S_X} x dF_X(x)$$

The integral on the right hand side is a Lebesgue-Stieltjes integral.
It can be evaluated as

$$= \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i P(X = x_i), & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx, & \text{if } X \text{ is absolutely continuous.} \end{cases}$$

In second year, we required that the integral be absolutely convergent. We can allow the expectation to be infinite, provided that we never get in a situation where we have ' $\infty - \infty$ '.

$$\sum |x_i| P(X = x_i) < \infty$$

Expectation of $g(X)$

$$Y = X^2$$

$$P(Y=y) = P(X^2 = y) = P(x = \{\pm\sqrt{y}\})$$

For a measurable function g that maps S_X to some other set S_Y ,
 $Y = g(X)$ is a random variable taking values in S_Y and

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= \sum y P(Y=y) \\ &= \sum y (P(x=\sqrt{y}) + P(x=-\sqrt{y})) \\ \downarrow \\ E(X^2) &= \sum x^2 P(X=x) \end{aligned}$$

$$E(Y) = E(g(X)) = \int_{S_X} g(x) dF_X(x).$$

We can also evaluate $E(Y)$ by calculating its distribution function $F_Y(y)$ and then using the expression

$$E(Y) = \int_{S_Y} y dF_Y(y).$$

Properties of Expectation

- ▶ $E(aX + bY) = aE(X) + bE(Y)$.
- ▶ If $X \leq Y$, then $E(X) \leq E(Y)$.
- ▶ If $X \equiv c$, then $E(X) = c$.

$$\begin{aligned} E(aX + bY) &= \iint ax + by f_{(X,Y)}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= a \iint x f_{(X,Y)}(x,y) dx dy \\ &\quad + b \iint y f_{(X,Y)}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= a \int x f_X(x) dx + b \int y f_Y(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

Moments

- ▶ The *k*th **moment** of X is $E(X^k)$.
- ▶ The *k*th **central moment** of X is $E[(X - E(X))^k]$.
- ▶ The **variance** $V(X)$ of X is the second central moment $E(X^2) - (E(X))^2$.
- ▶ $V(cX) = c^2V(X)$.
- ▶ If X and Y have finite means and are independent, then $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$.
- ▶ If X and Y are independent (or uncorrelated), then $V(X \pm Y) = V(X) + V(Y)$.

$$\begin{aligned} V(X+Y) &= E((X+Y)^2) - (E(X+Y))^2 \\ &= E(X^2) + E(Y^2) + 2E(XY) - E(X)^2 - E(Y)^2 - 2E(X)E(Y) \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

Conditional Probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(A|x=x) &= q(x) \\ P(A|x) &= q(x) \end{aligned}$$

The **conditional probability of event A given X** is a random variable (since it is a function of X). We write it as $P(A|X)$.

- ▶ for a real number x , if $P(X = x) > 0$, then
$$P(A|x) = P(A \cap \{X = x\})/P(\{X = x\}).$$
- ▶ if $P(X = x) = 0$, then

$$P(A|x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} P(A \cap \{X \in (x-\epsilon, x+\epsilon)\})/P(\{X \in (x-\epsilon, x+\epsilon)\}).$$

Conditional Distribution

$$F_{Y|X}(y|x) = P(Y \leq y | X=x) = q(x)$$

conditional pmf

$$P(Y=k | X=j) = \frac{P(Y=k, X=j)}{P(X=j)}$$

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) \approx \frac{P(Y \leq y+ \Delta | X=x)}{\Delta} \quad (\text{small } \Delta)$$

$$\approx \frac{P(Y \in [y, y+\Delta], X \in [x, x+\Delta])}{\Delta^2} \cdot \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)}$$

- ▶ The **conditional distribution function** $F_{Y|X}(y|X)$ of Y evaluated at the real number y is given by $P(\{Y \leq y\}|X)$, where $P(\{Y \leq y\}|x)$ is defined on the previous slide.
- ▶ If (X, Y) is absolutely continuous, then the conditional density of Y given that $X = x$ is $f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_{(X,Y)}(x,y)/f_X(x)$.

Conditional Expectation

The **conditional expectation** $E(Y|X) = \eta(X)$ where

$$\begin{aligned}\eta(x) &= E(Y|X = x) \\ &= \begin{cases} \sum_j y_j P(Y = y_j | X = x) & \text{if } Y \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{S_Y} y f_{Y|X}(y|x) dy & \text{if } Y \text{ is absolutely continuous.} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Properties of Conditional Expectation

$E(Y|X)$

- ▶ Linearity: $E(aY_1 + bY_2|X) = aE(Y_1|X) + bE(Y_2|X)$,
- ▶ Monotonicity: $Y_1 \leq Y_2$, then $E(Y_1|X) \leq E(Y_2|X)$,
- ▶ $E(c|X) = c$,
- ▶ $E(E(Y|X)) = E(Y)$, *condition on X , think as constant*
- ▶ For any measurable function g , $E(g(X)Y|X) = g(X)E(Y|X)$



▶ $E(Y|X)$ is the best predictor of Y from X in the mean square sense. This means that, for all random variables $Z = g(X)$, the expected quadratic error $E((g(X) - Y)^2)$ is minimised when $g(X) = E(Y|X)$ (see Borovkov, page 57).

Exercise

Let $\Omega = \{a, b, c, d\}$, $P(\{a\}) = \frac{1}{2}$, $P(\{b\}) = P(\{c\}) = \frac{1}{8}$ and $P(\{d\}) = \frac{1}{4}$.

Define random variables,

$$Y(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \omega = a \text{ or } b, \\ 0, & \omega = c \text{ or } d, \end{cases}$$

$$X(\omega) = \begin{cases} 2, & \omega = a \text{ or } c, \\ 5, & \omega = b \text{ or } d. \end{cases}$$

Compute $E(X)$, $E(X|Y)$ and $E(E(X|Y))$. $\rightarrow = E(X|Y=1) \cdot P(Y=1) + E(X|Y=0) \cdot P(Y=0)$

$$\downarrow \\ 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\downarrow \\ + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{8} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{8+2+5+10}{8} = \frac{25}{8}$$

$$E(X|Y=1) = \frac{P(X=2|Y=1) + 5P(X=5|Y=1)}{P(Y=1)}$$

$$E(x|Y) = \begin{cases} E(x|Y=1) & \text{with } P(Y=1) \\ E(x|Y=0) & \text{with } P(Y=0) \end{cases}$$

Example

$$N|\lambda=u \sim \text{Poi}(u)$$

$$\lambda \sim \text{Unif}(0, 5)$$

$$P(N \geq 2) = 1 - P(N=1) - P(N=0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(N=n) &= \int f_{(N,\Lambda)}(n, u) du \\ &= \int f_{N|\Lambda}(n|u) \cdot f_{\Lambda}(u) du \\ &= \int_0^5 \frac{e^{-u} u^n}{n!} \cdot \frac{1}{5} du \end{aligned}$$

The number of storms, N , in the upcoming rainy season is distributed according to a Poisson distribution with a parameter value λ that is itself random. Specifically, λ is uniformly distributed over $(0, 5)$. The distribution of N is called a mixed Poisson distribution.

- Find the probability there are at least two storms this season.
- Calculate $E(N|\lambda)$ and $E(N^2|\lambda)$.
- Derive the mean and variance of N .

$$2. E(N|\lambda) = \lambda \quad E(\text{Poisson}(u)) = u$$

$$E(N^2|\lambda) = \lambda + \lambda^2 \quad \text{var}(N|\lambda) = \lambda = E(N^2|\lambda) - E(N|\lambda)^2$$

$$3. E(N) = E(E(N|\lambda)) = E(\lambda) = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$\text{Var}(N) = E(N^2) - E(N)^2$$

Exercise

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= E(E(N^2 | \lambda)) - \left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)^2 \\
 &= E\left(\lambda + \lambda^2\right) - \left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)^2 \\
 &= E(\lambda) + E(\lambda^2) - \frac{\lambda^2}{4} \\
 &= \frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{25}{3} - \frac{\lambda^2}{4} = \frac{25}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\lambda^2) &= \int_0^5 \lambda^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} d\lambda \\
 &= \frac{1}{5} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{2} \lambda^3\right]_0^5 \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} (125) \\
 &= \frac{25}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

The joint density of X and Y is given by

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{e^{-x/y} e^{-y}}{y}, \quad x > 0, y > 0.$$

Calculate $E[X|Y]$ and then calculate $E[X]$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X|Y=y] &= \int x f_{X,Y}(x|y) dx \\
 &= \int x \cdot \underbrace{\frac{e^{-x/y}}{y}}_{\text{Exp}(\frac{1}{y}) \text{.'s expectation}} dx \\
 &= y
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(x) &= E(E(x|Y)) \\
 &= E(Y)
 \end{aligned}$$

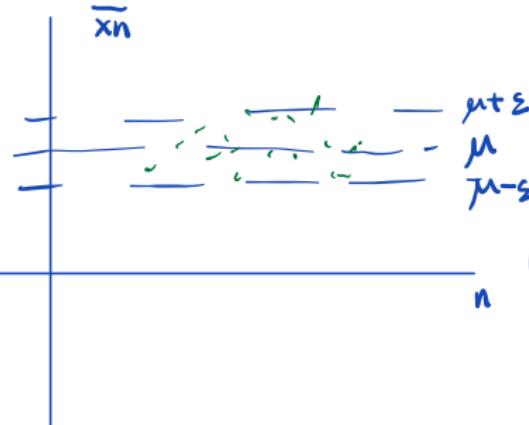
$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{X|Y}(x|y) &= \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} \\
 f_Y(y) &= \int_0^y \frac{e^{-x/y} e^{-y}}{y} dx \\
 &= e^{-y} \int_0^y \frac{e^{-x/y}}{y} dx \\
 &\quad \text{exponential} \\
 &= e^{-y} \quad y > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Limit Theorems (Borovkov §2.9)

proof

The Law of Large Numbers (LLN) states that if X_1, X_2, \dots are independent and identically-distributed with mean μ , then

$$\bar{X}_n \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \rightarrow \mu$$



as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

In the strong form, this is true **almost surely**, which means that it is true on a set A of sequences x_1, x_2, \dots that has probability one.

In the weak form, this is true **in probability** which means that, for all $\epsilon > 0$,

$$P(|\bar{X}_n - \mu| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Limit Theorems (Borovkov §2.9)

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \approx N(0,1)$$

The **Central Limit Theorem** (CLT) states that if X_1, X_2, \dots are independent and identically-distributed with mean μ and variance σ^2 , then for any x ,

$$P\left(\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} < x\right) \xrightarrow{\text{cdf of normal distribution}} \Phi(x) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

That is, a suitably-scaled variation from the mean approaches a standard normal distribution as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Limit Theorems (Borovkov §2.9)

The **Poisson Limit Theorem** states that if X_1, X_2, \dots are independent Bernoulli random variables with $P(X_i = 1) = p_i$, then $X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ is well-approximated by a Poisson random variable with parameter $\lambda = p_1 + \dots + p_n$. → **match the mean** $\text{mean}(X_1 + \dots + X_n) = p_1 + \dots + p_n$

Specifically, with $W = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$, then, for any Borel set $B \subset \mathbb{R}$,

$$P(W \in B) \approx P(Y \in B)$$

where $Y \sim \text{Po}(\lambda)$.

There is, in fact, a bound on the accuracy of this approximation

$$|P(W \in B) - P(Y \in B)| \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i^2}{\max(1, \lambda)},$$

Example

Suppose there are three ethnic groups, A (20%), B (30%) and C (50%), living in a city with a large population. Suppose 0.5%, 1% and 1.5% of people in A, B and C respectively are over 200cm tall. If we know that of 300 selected, 50, 50 and 200 people are from A, B and C, what is the probability that at least four will be over 200 cm?

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{50} x_i^{(A)} + \sum_{i=1}^{50} x_i^{(B)} + \sum_{i=1}^{200} x_i^{(C)}$$

$x_i^{(*)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i\text{th person in group } (*) \text{ is } \geq 200 \text{ cm} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$x_i^{(*)}$ are independent.

$$x_i^{(A)} \sim \text{Ber}(0.05) \quad x_i^{(B)} \sim \text{Ber}(0.01) \quad x_i^{(C)} \sim \text{Ber}(0.015)$$

Prev result
 $W \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$

$$\lambda = 50(0.005) + 50(0.01) + 200(0.015)$$
$$P(W \geq 4) \approx P(Y \geq 4)$$

Stochastic Processes (Borovkov §2.10)

A collection of random variables $\{X_t, t \in T\}$ (or $\{X(t), t \in T\}$) on a common prob space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) is called a **stochastic process**. The index variable t is often called 'time'.

- ▶ If $T = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ or $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, the process is a **discrete time process**.
- ▶ If $T = \mathbb{R}$ or $[0, \infty)$, the process is a **continuous time process**
- ▶ If $T = \mathbb{R}^d$, then the process is a **spatial process**, for example temperature at $t \in T \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, which could be, say, the University campus.

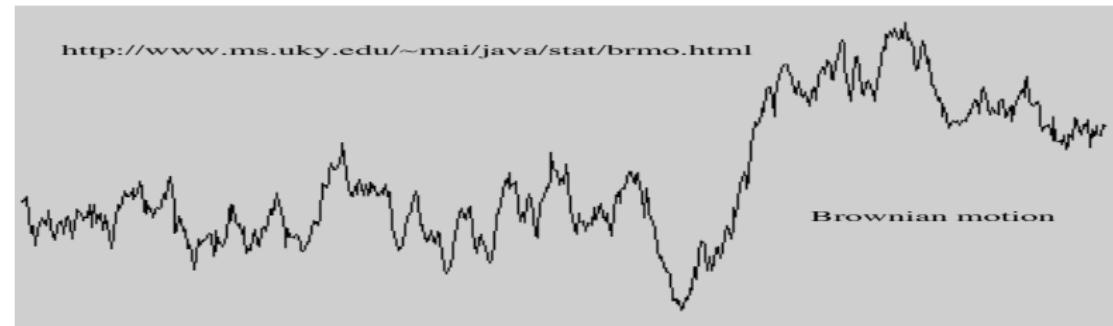
Examples of Stochastic Processes

marginal \rightarrow normal
multi-variate normal.

If X_t has the normal distribution for all t , then X_t is called a Gaussian process. Different processes can be modelled by making different assumptions about the dependence between the X_t for different t .

Standard Brownian Motion is a Gaussian process where

- ▶ For any $0 \leq s_1 < t_1 \leq s_2 < \dots \leq s_k < t_k$, $X(t_1) - X(s_1)$, \dots , $X(t_k) - X(s_k)$ are independent. *independent increment*
- ▶ We also have $V(X(t_1) - X(s_1)) = t_1 - s_1$ for all $s_1 < t_1$.



Examples of Stochastic Processes

X_t is the number of sales of an item up to time t .

piecewise constant
and jump up by 1

what if at the same
time, sold two items?

depend on mechanism.
yes, you can

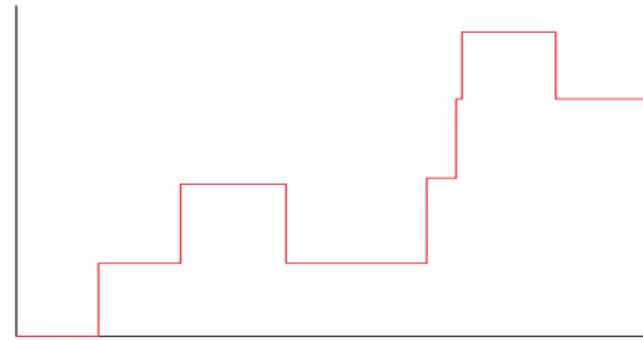
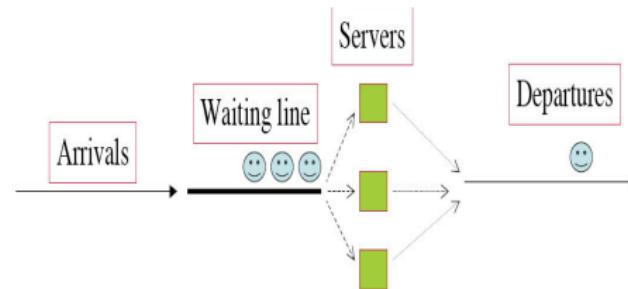


$\{X_t, t \geq 0\}$ is called a **counting process**.

Examples of Stochastic Processes

X_t is the number of people in a queue at time t .

jump up and jump down



$x_t : \omega \rightarrow R$ singlet?

Interpretations

Ω : infinite sequence of H's and T's
 $T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.

x_t : #H in 1st t tosses of ω .
= #H in position

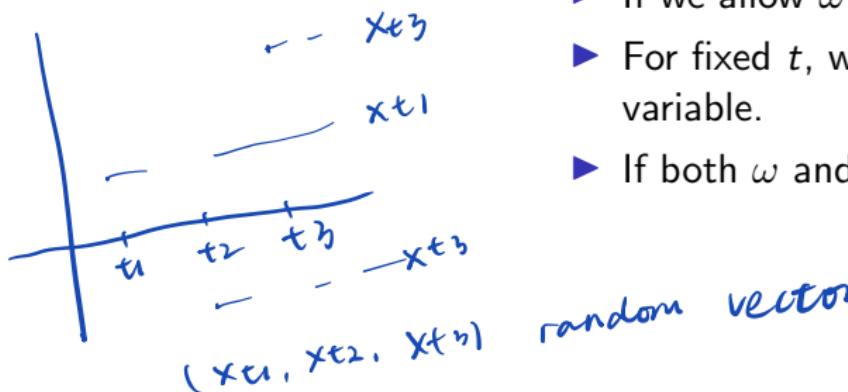
$x_t(\omega) = \#$

$\{x_t(\omega)\}_{t \in T}$

$\{x_t(\omega)\}_{t \in T} \rightarrow$ path / trajectory

We can think of Ω as consisting of the set of sample paths.
 $\Omega = \{X_t : t \in T\}$, that is a set of sequences if T is discrete or a set of functions if T is continuous. Each $\omega \in \Omega$ has a value at each time point $t \in T$. With this interpretation,

- ▶ For a fixed ω , we can think of t as a variable, $X_t(\omega)$ as a deterministic function (realisation, trajectory, sample path) of the process.
- ▶ If we allow ω to vary, we get a collection of trajectories.
- ▶ For fixed t , with ω varying, we see that $X_t(\omega)$ is a random variable.
- ▶ If both ω and t are fixed, then $X_t(\omega)$ is a real number.



Examples of Stochastic Processes

If X_t is a counting process:

- ▶ For fixed ω , $X_t(\omega)$ is a non-decreasing step function of t .
- ▶ For fixed t , $X_t(\omega)$ is a non-negative integer-valued random variable.
- ▶ For $s < t$, $X_t - X_s$ is the number of events that have occurred in the interval $(s, t]$.

If X_t is the number of people in a queue at time t , then

$\{X_t : t \geq 0\}$ is a stochastic process where, for each t , $X_t(\omega)$ is a non-negative integer-valued random variable but it is NOT a counting process because, for fixed ω , $X_t(\omega)$ can decrease.

Finite-Dimensional Distributions

Dist of a stochastic process is specified by dists of (X_t, \dots, X_{t+k}) & $\{t_1, \dots, t_k\} \subseteq T$

as a random vector.

Knowing just the **one-dimensional** (individual) distributions of X_t for all t is not enough to describe a stochastic process.

To specify the complete distribution of a stochastic process $\{X_t, t \in T\}$, we need to know the **finite-dimensional distributions**.

That is, the family of joint distribution functions

$$F_{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

of X_{t_1}, \dots, X_{t_k} for all $k \geq 1$ and $t_1, \dots, t_k \in T$.