

Introduction to Chapter: Random Processes

In engineering and science, we often encounter problems, which involve random signals that vary with time. e.g., bit stream in a binary communication system (random message), noise, etc.

So far, we have investigated random events and r.v.'s (numerical functions of events). Now consider assigning *time functions* to the outcome of random events.

Definition:

Let s be a possible outcome of an experiment, assign (according to some rule) a time function, $x(t, s)$ to each outcome. Then,

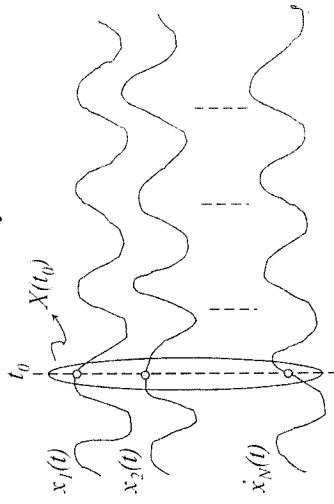
$x(t, s)$: Sample Function

If t is fixed, X becomes a r.v. i.e. randomness w.r.t the ensemble set.

Question: How can we describe some statistical measures on $X(t)$? We could look at a particular time, t_0 then

$$X(t_0) = \{x_1(t_0), x_2(t_0), \dots, x_N(t_0)\}$$

is a r.v., which can be described by either PDF or CDF.



The family of such functions, $X(t, s)$, is called random process (or r.p.), i.e., $X(t, s)$ can take on one of many possible time functions $x(t, s)$'s. Thus $X(t, s)$ is a family or an *ensemble* of time functions $x(t, s)$'s.

$$X(t, s) = \underbrace{\{x(t, s_1), x(t, s_2), \dots\}}_{\text{Ensemble Set}}$$

Suppressing the 's' index, $x(t)$ is a sample function of r.p. $X(t)$.

For example, assume that we have repeated the experiment of collecting a speech signal N times and every time, due to presence of random noise, we get a new signal $x_i(t)$, then

$$X(t) = \underbrace{\{x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)\}}_{\text{Ensemble Set of speech signals}}$$

Thus, we can define its CDF and PDF, i.e.,

$$F_{X(t_0)}(x(t_0)) = P[X(t_0) \leq x(t_0)]$$

and

$$f_{X(t_0)}(x(t_0)) = \frac{dF_{X(t_0)}(x(t_0))}{dx(t_0)}$$

The r.p. is said to be statistically defined if the CDF is known for all t_i 's. In most cases, this is a lot of information to ask for. Thus, some assumptions need to be made to facilitate the representation of r.p. in practical cases.

Definitions:

Continuous vs. Discrete r.p.:

- (1) $X(t)$ is said to be a continuous r.p., if both X and t take Continuous range of values. e.g., Thermal noise in circuits
- (2) $X(t)$ is said to be a discrete r.p., if X takes only a finite number of values while t changes continuously.

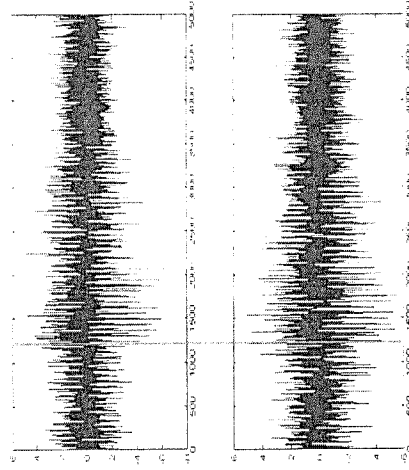
Continuous vs. Discrete random sequence:

- (1) $X(n)$ is said to be a continuous random sequence if X takes continuous range of values while n is discrete.
- (2) $X(n)$ is said to be a discrete random sequence, where both time and amplitude take discrete values (*sampled & quantized*).

discrete r.p.

In what follows, we primarily confine our discussions to the X^{st} case though the results can also be extended to other cases.

Two Noisy Measurements of a Speech Signal ('Hello')



A slice through the

Deterministic (Pseudo-Random) vs. Non-deterministic (True Random):

Deterministic: The function that represents each sample function is known. e.g.,

$$X(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

where A , ω are fixed but ϕ is a r.v. with a specified PDF.

For every new value of ϕ , a r.p. in the ensemble set is generated, i.e., randomness is over the ensemble set not with respect to time. Similarly, the randomness could be due to A or ω .

Non-deterministic: A totally random signal i.e. nothing is predictable about the r.p.

Measures on r.p.'s and Averages:

Since a r.p. is an indexed set of r.v.'s, we may likewise characterize the process by statistical averages of the random variables comprising of random process, such averages are called "*Ensemble Averages*".

(1) Ensemble Mean

$$\mu_X(t) = E[X(t)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) f_{X(t)}(x(t)) dx(t)$$

Note: ~~t~~ is assumed to be fixed.

For discrete case,

$$\mu_X(n) = E[X(n)] = \sum_{i=1}^N x_i(n) P[X(n) = x_i(n)]$$

$x_i(n) = i^{\text{th}}$ sample function

$$P[X(n) = x_i(n)] : \text{PMF of } X(n)$$

In general,

$$\mu_{g(X(t))} = E[g(X(t))] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx$$

(2) Ensemble Auto-Correlation:

Measure of how much $X(t)$ varies in time on the average.

Let t_1 and t_2 be two instances in time, then the autocorrelation is defined by,

$$R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)X(t_2)]$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t_1)x(t_2) f_{X(t_1), X(t_2)}(x(t_1), x(t_2)) dx(t_1) dx(t_2)$$

For discrete case,

$$R_{XX}(n_1, n_2) = E[X(n_1)X(n_2)]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^M x_i(n_1)x_j(n_2)P[X(n_1)=x_i(n_1), X(n_2)=x_j(n_2)]$$

Dependent variables in computer engineering

Measures on two (or more) r.p.'s:

Let $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$ be r.p.'s with ACF's $R_{XX}(t_1, t_2)$ and $R_{YY}(t_1, t_2)$ respectively. The cross-correlation between $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$, which gives a measure of dependence between these r.p.'s is,

$$R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)Y(t_2)]$$

Note that $R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E[Y(t_1)X(t_2)] \neq R_{YX}(t_1, t_2)$

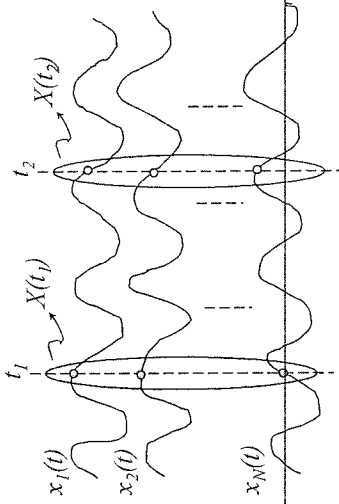
If $X(t_1)$ and $Y(t_2)$ are independent,

$$R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)]E[Y(t_2)] = \mu_X(t_1)\mu_Y(t_2)$$

If $X(t_1)$ and $Y(t_2)$ are orthogonal,

$$R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = 0 \quad \text{for all } t_1 \text{ and } t_2$$

Dependent variables in computer engineering



(3) Ensemble Auto-Covariance:

Measure of spread from the mean.

$$\begin{aligned} C_{XX}(t_1, t_2) &= E[(X(t_1) - \mu_X(t_1))(X(t_2) - \mu_X(t_2))] \\ &= E[X(t_1)X(t_2)] - \mu_X(t_1)\mu_X(t_2) \\ &= R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) - \mu_X(t_1)\mu_X(t_2) \end{aligned}$$

Dependent variables in computer engineering

The cross-covariance function is

$$\begin{aligned} C_{XY}(t_1, t_2) &= E[(X(t_1) - \mu_X(t_1))(Y(t_2) - \mu_Y(t_2))] \\ &= R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) - \mu_X(t_1)\mu_Y(t_2) \end{aligned}$$

For independent processes,

$$C_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = 0 \quad \text{for all } t_1 \text{ and } t_2$$

Example 1:

The process $X(t) = a \cos(\omega t) + b \sin(\omega t)$ (pseudo r.p.)

where a, b are two independent Gaussian (normal) r.v.'s with

$$E[a] = E[b] = 0, \quad E[a^2] = E[b^2] = \sigma^2$$

and ω is a constant. Find $R_{XX}(t_1, t_2)$.

Ans: σ^2

Dependent variables in computer engineering

Solution: Clearly, r.v.'s $X(t_i)$ are linear combinations of normal r.v.'s, a, b , thus they are jointly normal (why?) and to determine their statistics, it suffices to find the mean and autocorrelation of $X(t)$.

$$E[X(t)] = E[a] \cos \omega t + E[b] \sin \omega t$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) &= E[X(t_1)X(t_2)] \\ &= E[\{a \cos \omega t_1 + b \sin \omega t_1\} \{a \cos \omega t_2 + b \sin \omega t_2\}] \\ &= E[a^2] \cos \omega t_1 \cos \omega t_2 + E[ab] \cos \omega t_1 \sin \omega t_2 \\ &\quad + E[b^2] \sin \omega t_1 \sin \omega t_2 + E[ba] \sin \omega t_1 \cos \omega t_2 \\ &= \sigma^2 \cos \omega t_1 \cos \omega t_2 + \sigma^2 \sin \omega t_1 \sin \omega t_2 \\ &= \sigma^2 \cos \omega(t_1 - t_2) \end{aligned}$$

(2) Stationary of order n:

For stationary process of order n , the joint PDF and CDF must be invariant under any finite time shift, i.e.

$$f_X(x(t_1), x(t_2), \dots, x(t_n)) = f_X(x(t_1 + \tau), x(t_2 + \tau), \dots, x(t_n + \tau))$$

$$\forall t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n \text{ and any } \tau$$

and similarly for the joint CDF.

The r.p. is stationary if the above is true for all orders n .

(3) Wide-Sense Stationary (WSS):

A r.p. is stationary of order ~~2~~ 2 or wide-sense stationary if

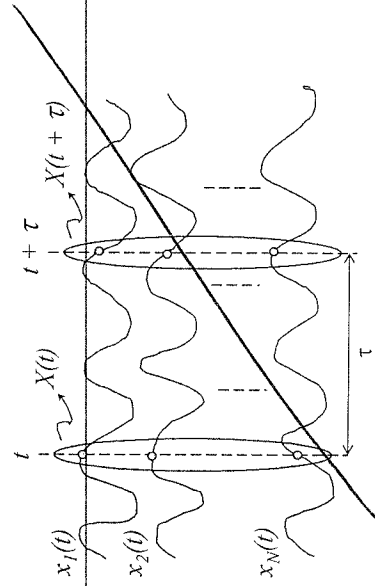
$$f_X(x(t_1)) = f_X(x(t_1 + \tau))$$

$$\text{and } f_X(x(t_1), x(t_2)) = f_X(x(t_1 + \tau), x(t_2 + \tau))$$

Stationary Processes:

(1) Strictly Stationary:

A r.p. is strictly stationary if $X(t)$ and $X(t + \tau)$ have the same statistics (of all orders) for all t, τ .



It can easily be shown that these conditions reduce to

$$E[X(t)] = \mu_X = \text{const.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X(t)X(t + \tau)] &= R_{XX}(\tau) \quad \dots \text{Only dependent on } \tau \\ \text{or } E[X(t_1)X(t_2)] &= R_{XX}(t_2 - t_1) \quad \text{shift, } \tau \text{ and not } t. \end{aligned}$$

i.e., the 1st and 2nd order moments are not time dependent.

Also

$$\begin{aligned} C_{XX}(\tau) &= E[(X(t) - \mu_X)(X(t + \tau) - \mu_X)] \\ &= R_{XX}(\tau) - \mu_X^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Clearly, } C_{XX}(0) = \sigma_X^2$$

Example 2: Given $X(t) = A \cos \pi t$ (pseudo r.p.)

where A is a Gaussian r.v. with $E[A] = 0$ and $E[A^2] = \sigma_A^2$

Find PDF's of $X(t)$ and $X(t)$. Is $X(t)$ stationary in any sense?

Solution:

For $t = 0$,

$$X(0) = A \Rightarrow E[X(0)] = 0$$

$$E[X^2(0)] = \sigma_A^2$$

$$\text{Thus, } f_X(x(0)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_A} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma_A^2}\right]$$

For $t = 1$,

$$X(1) = A \cos \pi = -A \Rightarrow E[X(0)] = 0$$

$$E[X^2(0)] = \sigma_A^2$$

$$\text{Thus again, } f_X(x(1)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_A} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma_A^2}\right]$$

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$$(2) R_{XY}(\tau) = R_{YX}(-\tau) \quad \dots \text{even symmetry.}$$

$$\text{Since, } E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] = E[X(t+\tau)X(t)]$$

$$(3) |R_{XY}(\tau)| \leq R_{XX}(0) \quad \text{i.e., ACF is decreasing function of } \tau \text{ and bounded by } R_{XX}(0).$$

$$(4) \text{ If } X(t) \text{ and } Y(t) \text{ are WSS and jointly WSS, i.e.,}$$

$$f_{X,Y}(x(t), y(t)) = f_{X,Y}(x(t+\tau), y(t+\tau))$$

$$\text{then, } R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = R_{XY}(t_2 - t_1) = R_{XY}(\tau)$$

$$C_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = C_{XY}(t_2 - t_1) = C_{XY}(\tau)$$

For WSS and independent r.p.'s,

$$R_{XY}(\tau) = \mu_X \mu_Y$$

$$C_{XY}(\tau) = 0$$

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$$E[X(t)] = E[A] \cos \pi t = 0 = \text{fixed.}$$

$$E[X^2(t)] = E[A^2] \cos^2 \pi t$$

Since $E[X^2(t)]$ is time dependent, r.p. $X(t)$ is NOT wide-sense stationary.

Properties of WSS Processes (Important):

$$(1) \text{ Recall that } R_{XX}(\tau) = E[X(t)X(t+\tau)]$$

$$R_{XX}(0) = E[X^2(t)] \quad \dots \text{Mean squared value.}$$

$$C_{XX}(0) = E[(X(t) - \mu_X)(X(t) - \mu_X)] = \sigma_X^2$$

$$= R_{XX}(0) - \mu_X^2$$

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$$(5) R_{YX}(\tau) = R_{XY}(-\tau)$$

$$(6) |R_{YX}(\tau)| \leq [R_{XX}(0)R_{YY}(0)]^{1/2}$$

$$|C_{YX}(\tau)| \leq [C_{XX}(0)C_{YY}(0)]^{1/2}$$

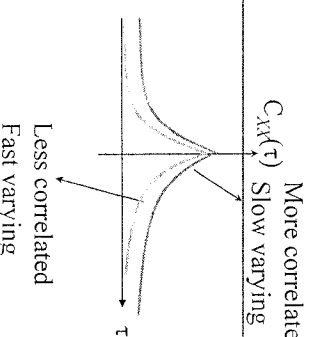
(7) For many r.p.'s, they become less correlated as they become more separated in time. Thus

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} R_{XY}(\tau) = \mu_X \mu_Y$$

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} C_{XY}(\tau) = 0$$

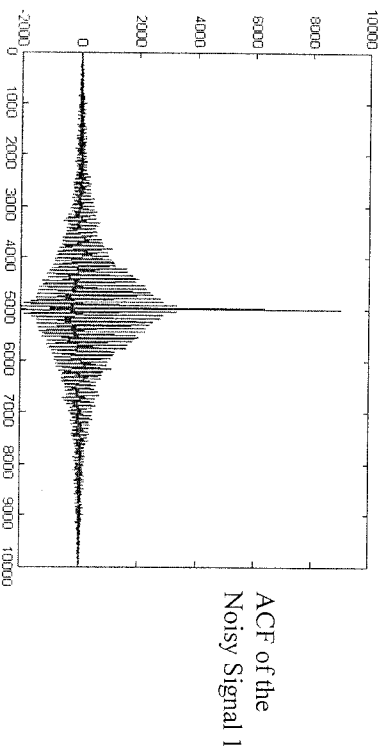
$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} R_{XX}(\tau) = \mu_X \mu_X$$

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} C_{XX}(\tau) = 0$$



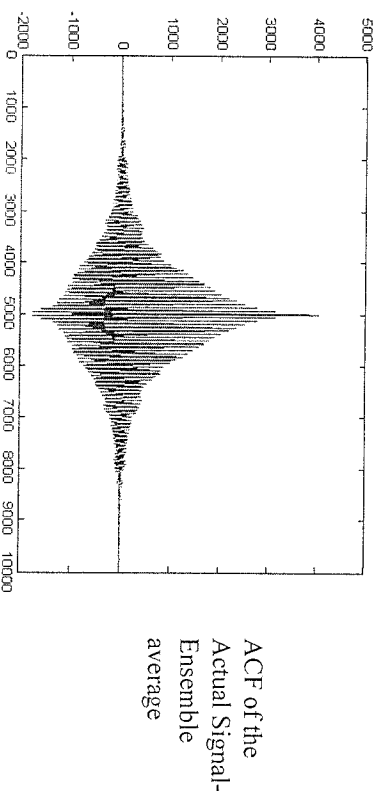
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Plot of Auto-Correlation as a Function of lag (τ)



- The large spike at $\tau=0$ is due to white additive noise.
- The exponentially decreasing behavior of this ACF is clearly noticeable.

Plot of Auto-Correlation as a Function of lag (τ)



- The spike at $\tau=0$ (due to white additive noise) does not exist anymore.

Remarks:

The r.p. $X(t)$ is said to be "white" if

$$C_{XX}(\tau) = \sigma_X^2 \delta(\tau)$$

This is in analogy with *white light*, in which all the frequencies are present.

Example 3:

Given statistically independent, zero mean r.p.'s $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$

with ACF's

$$R_{XX}(\tau) = e^{-|\tau|}$$

$$R_{YY}(\tau) = \cos(2\pi\tau)$$

- Find $R_{W_1 W_1}(\tau)$ of $W_1(t) = X(t) + Y(t)$
- Find $R_{W_2 W_2}(\tau)$ of $W_2(t) = X(t) - Y(t)$
- Find $R_{W_1 W_2}(\tau)$.

Solution:

$$(a) R_{W_1 W_1}(\tau) = E[W_1(t)W_1(t+\tau)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= E[(X(t) + Y(t))(X(t+\tau) + Y(t+\tau))] \\ &= E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] + E[X(t)Y(t+\tau)] + \\ &\quad E[Y(t)X(t+\tau)] + E[Y(t)Y(t+\tau)] \end{aligned}$$

Since statistically independent and zero mean,

$$E[(X(t)Y(t+\tau))] = E[Y(t)X(t+\tau)] = 0$$

$$R_{XY}(\tau) = R_{YX}(\tau) = 0$$

$$\text{Thus, } R_{W_1 W_1}(\tau) = R_{XX}(\tau) + R_{YY}(\tau)$$

$$= e^{-|\tau|} + \cos(2\pi\tau) \quad \leftarrow$$

$$(b) R_{W_2 W_2}(\tau) = E[W_2(t)W_2(t+\tau)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= E[(X(t) - Y(t))(X(t+\tau) - Y(t+\tau))] \\ &= E[(X(t)X(t+\tau)) - E[(X(t)Y(t+\tau))] - \\ &\quad E[(Y(t)X(t+\tau))] + E[(Y(t)Y(t+\tau))]] \\ &= R_{XX}(\tau) + R_{YY}(\tau) \\ &= e^{-|\tau|} + \cos(2\pi\tau) \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) R_{W_1 W_2}(\tau) = E[W_1(t)W_2(t+\tau)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= E[(X(t) + Y(t))(X(t+\tau) - Y(t+\tau))] \\ &= E[(X(t)X(t+\tau)) - E[(X(t)Y(t+\tau))] + \\ &\quad E[(Y(t)X(t+\tau))] - E[(Y(t)Y(t+\tau))]] \\ &= R_{XX}(\tau) - R_{YY}(\tau) \\ &= e^{-|\tau|} - \cos(2\pi\tau) \end{aligned}$$

Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

Reading Assignment For
Week 11: Sections
6.1-6.3 (Problems)

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Quiz 1 (6 minutes - 2%)

1. Give clear definitions of pseudo and true r.p.'s and provide an example of each (different than those discussed in class). Can the sample functions in an ensemble set correspond to different 'phenomenon'? Why?
2. Describe the practical importance of auto- and cross-correlation functions and give real-life examples.

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