Stochastic Processes

Luke N. Chen

Probability Space: A measure space(Ω, A, P) is a probability space if $P(\Omega)=1$. In this case, P is called a probability measure.

Expected Value of Random Variable X on Probability Space Ω where X is any Measurable Function:

$$\mathsf{E}[X] = \int\limits_{\Omega} X(\omega) \mathsf{P}(d\omega)$$

Integral is for $\omega \in \Omega$

Discrete Time Stochastic Process: A discrete time stochastic process is a sequence of random variables: $\{X_n : n \in Z\}$ where the index n is conventionally interpreted as time

Discrete Time Markov Chain: A discrete time stochastic process is a Markov Chain iff $P(X_{n+1} = j \mid X_n = i, X_{n-1} = i - 1, ... \mid X_{n-d} = i - d) = P(X_{n+1} = j \mid X_n = i)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}, d >= 0$

Continuous Time Stochastic Process: A continuous time stochastic process is a family of random variables: $\{X(t):t\in R\}$ where the index t is conventionally interpreted as time. An alternate viewpoint is that the entire function $(t\mapsto X(t))$ is a random function of time. This is called the **sample path**.

Poisson Process: A Poisson point process is a counting process that has a parameter of λ , often called the rate or intensity. Properties

- 1) N(0)=0;
- 2) It has independent increments; and the number of events (or points) in any interval of length t is a Poisson random variable with parameter (or mean)
- 3) It has probability density function $\Pr\{N(t)=n\}=\frac{(\lambda t)^n}{n!}e^{-\lambda t}$