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- ▶ It is the position after  $n$  random steps
- ▶ We defined  $X(t)$  by piece-wise constant interpolation of  $X(nT)$
- ▶ We could have also use piece-wise linear interpolation

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$$Pr[X(t) \leq ms] = Pr \left[ \frac{X(t)}{s\sqrt{n}} \leq \frac{ms}{s\sqrt{n}} \right] \approx \Phi \left( \frac{m}{\sqrt{n}} \right), \quad \text{for large } t$$



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- ▶ We are interested in limit of this process as  $T \rightarrow 0$

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This result is known as Donsker's theorem

- ▶ Let us intuitively see some properties of  $W(t)$

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$$\Rightarrow W(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \alpha t)$$

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- ▶ Hence the  $X(nT)$  process has independent increments
- ▶ Hence, we can expect  $W(t)$  to be a process with independent increments

- ▶  $X((m+n+k)T) - X((n+k)T)$  and  $X((m+n)T) - X(nT)$  both are sums of  $m$  of the  $Z_i$ 's



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- ▶ We will now formally define Brownian motion using these properties.

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  - ▶ The mean can be a function of time
  - ▶  $\{Y(t), t \geq 0\}$  is called Brownian motion with a drift

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- ▶ Thus,  $X(t_2) - X(t_1)$  is Gaussian with zero mean and variance  $\sigma^2(t_2 - t_1)$
- ▶ Since increments are also independent, we can show that all  $n^{th}$  order distributions are Gaussian

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- Since  $E[X(t)] = 0, \forall t$ , we have

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- ▶ This is how we can get  $n^{th}$  order density for any continuous-state process with independent increments

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- ▶ Hence the conditional density is Gaussian with mean  $bs/t$  and variance  $s(t-s)/t$



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- ▶ Let  $Y_n = X_n/X_{n-1}$  and assume  $Y_i$  are iid

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$$\Rightarrow \ln(X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(Y_i) + \ln(X_0)$$

# Geometric Brownian Motion

- ▶ Let  $\{Y(t), t \geq 0\}$  is a Brownian motion with drift. Define

$$X(t) = e^{Y(t)}$$

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- ▶ Since  $\ln(Y_i)$  are iid, with suitable normalization, the interpolated process  $\ln(X(t))$  would be Brownian motion and  $X(t)$  would be geometric Brownian motion

# Gaussian Processes

- ▶ A continuous-time continuous-state process  $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$  is said to be a Gaussian process if for all  $n$  and all  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$ , we have that  $X(t_1), \dots, X(t_n)$  are jointly Gaussian.

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- ▶ Recall that the multivariate Gaussian density is specified by the marginal means, variances and the covariances of the random variables
- ▶ Hence, a general Gaussian process is specified by the mean function and the variance and covariance functions

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Recall that, for  $s < t$ , conditional density of  $X(s)$  conditioned on  $X(t) = b$  is gaussian with mean  $bs/t$  and variance  $s(t-s)/t$

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Thus, for  $0 < t < 1$ , conditioned on  $X(1) = 0$ , this process has mean 0 and covariance function  $s(1 - t)$ ,  $s < t$

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- ▶ The actual concept involved is rather deep

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- ▶ We need an example of discrete-time continuous-state process!
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Please note that these are 'simplified' definitions. In the above, the conditioning random variables can be another sequence  $Y_i$  if  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  determine  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .



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**martingale convergence theorem:** If  $X_n$  is a martingale with  $\sup_n E|X_n| < \infty$  then  $X_n$  converges almost surely to a rv  $X$  which will have finite expectation. A positive supermartingale also converges almost surely

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- ▶ So, we can conclude, the algorithm converges almost surely

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- ▶ While we mentioned only discrete-time martingales, one can similarly have continuous-time martingales