

Stochastic Process

σ -Field / σ -Algebra (F)

Family of subsets of Ω (sample space) which satisfies:

- (i) $\emptyset \in F$
- (ii) If $A \in F$, then $A^c \in F$.
- (iii) If a countable sequence of sets A_1, A_2, \dots is in F , then $\bigcup_i A_i \in F$.

Smallest σ -field on Ω is $\{\emptyset, \Omega\}$; largest σ -field on Ω is the power set of Ω .

These subsets of Ω which form the σ -field are called F-events / F-measurable sets.

Probability Measure (P)

Let F be a σ -field over Ω . Let P be a real valued function defined on F such that:

- (i) $P(A) \geq 0$, $\forall A \in F$,
- (ii) $P(\Omega) = 1$,
- (iii) If A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots are mutually exclusive, then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i)$$

Then, P is called a Probability Measure. The triplet (Ω, F, P) is called a Probability Space.

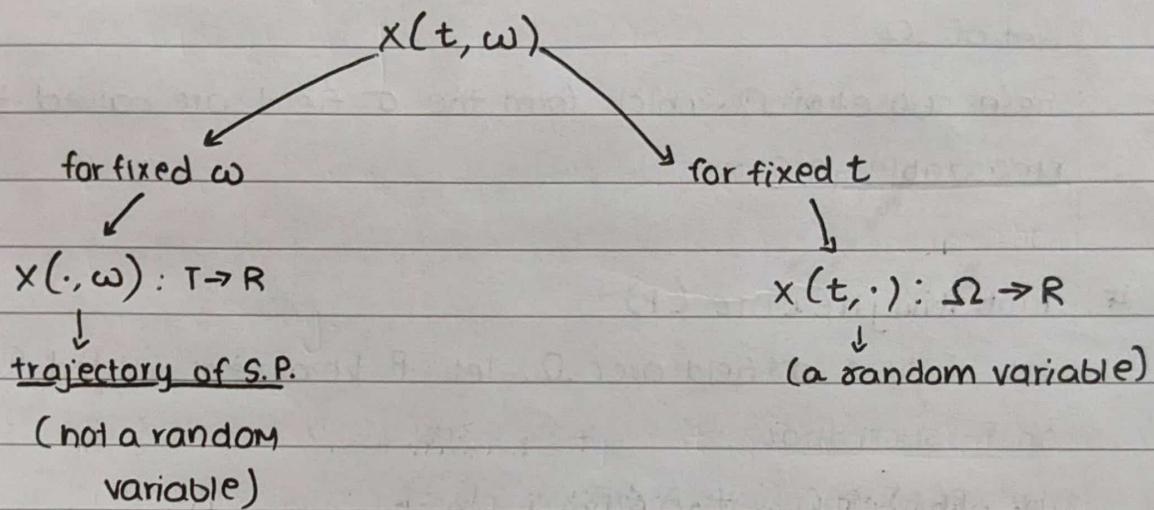
Stochastic Process

Let (Ω, F, P) be a probability space. A collection of random variables $\{x(t), t \in T\}$ defined on the probability space is called a stochastic process.

Given a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , the S.P. $\{X(t), t \in T\}$ can be identified as a real-valued function $X: T \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of two independent variables $t \in T$, $\omega \in \Omega$ such that $X^{-1}(t) \{t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ belongs to \mathcal{F} for every $t \in T$. Here

$$X^{-1}(t) \{(-\infty, x]\} = \{\omega \in \Omega : X(t, \omega) \in (-\infty, x]\}$$

In this sense, the S.P. $\{X(t), t \in T\}$ can be viewed as $\{X(t, \omega) : t \in T, \omega \in \Omega\}$.



Strict Sense Stationary Stochastic Process (Strong stationary S.P.)

The S.P. is S.S.S. if for any $n \geq 1$, and for $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$, the finite dimensional random vectors $(X(t_1), X(t_2), X(t_3), \dots, X(t_n))$ and $(X(t_1+h), X(t_2+h), X(t_3+h), \dots, X(t_n+h))$ have the same joint dist for $\forall h > 0$.

Wide Sense Stationary Stochastic Process (Weak stationary S.P.)

The S.P. $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a wide sense S.P. if it follows the following:

- (i) $E(X(t))$ is independent of t .
- (ii) $\text{cov}(X(t), X(s))$ depends only on the time difference $|t-s|$, $\forall t, s \in T$.
- (iii) $E((X(t))^2) < \infty$ (should be finite)

\downarrow
second order moment

For example,

consider the process $x(t) = A \cos(\theta t) + B \sin(\theta t)$, where A & B are uncorrelated random variables with mean 0 and variance 1, and θ is a positive constant. Is $\{x(t), t \geq 0\}$ a wide sense stationary process?

So:

$$(i) E(x(t)) = E(A \cos \theta t) + E(B \sin \theta t)$$

$$= (\cos \theta t) E(A) + (\sin \theta t) E(B)$$

$$= 0 \quad (\because E(A) = E(B) = 0). \rightarrow \text{independent of } t.$$

∴ (i) is satisfied.

$$(ii) \text{cov}(x(t), x(s))$$

NOTE: $\text{cov}(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X].E[Y]$

$$\therefore \text{cov}(x(t), x(s)) = E(x(t)x(s)) - E(x(t)).E(x(s))$$

$$= E(x(t)x(s)) \quad (\because E(x(t)) = E(x(s)) = 0).$$

$$E(x(t)x(s)) = (\cos \theta t)(\cos \theta s).E(A^2) + (\sin \theta t)(\sin \theta s).E(B^2) +$$

$$(\cos \theta t \cdot \sin \theta s + \sin \theta t \cdot \cos \theta s) E(AB)$$

$$= \cos \theta(t-s)$$

$$(\because E(A^2) = \text{var}(A) + (E(A))^2 \Rightarrow E(A^2) = 1. \text{ Similarly, } E(B^2) = 1).$$

$$\text{Also, } E(AB) = \underbrace{\text{cov}(A, B)}_{0} + E(A).E(B) = 0.$$

(as they are uncorrelated)

∴ (ii) is satisfied.

$$(iii) E((x(t))^2) = \text{var}(x(t)) + (E(x(t)))^2$$

$(x, y, \text{ are constants})$ ← **NOTE:** $\text{var}(x+y) = x^2 \text{var}(x) + y^2 \text{var}(y) + 2xy \text{cov}(x, y)$

$$\therefore E((x(t))^2) = \text{var}(A \cos \theta t + B \sin \theta t) = \cos^2 \theta t \cdot \text{var}(A) + \sin^2 \theta t \cdot \text{var}(B) + 2 \cos \theta t \sin \theta t \underbrace{\text{cov}(A, B)}_0$$

$$= \cos^2 \theta t + \sin^2 \theta t \quad (\because \text{var}(A) = \text{var}(B) = 1)$$

$$= 1.$$

∴ (iii) is satisfied. ∴ S.P. is a wide sense stationary S.P.

Independent Increments

If for all n and for $t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n$, $x(t_2) - x(t_1)$, $x(t_3) - x(t_2) \dots$, $x(t_n) - x(t_{n-1})$ are independent random variables, then the process is said to have Independent Increments.

Markov Property

A given S.P. is said to have Markov Property if for all n and for all $0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n < t$, the conditional CDF (Cumulative Dist' Func.) satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} P(x(t) \leq \infty \mid x(0) = x_0, x(t_1) = x_1, \dots, x(t_n) = x_n) \\ = P(x(t) \leq \infty \mid x(t_n) = x_n). \end{aligned}$$

That is,

if the future prediction depends only on the current state of the stochastic process and doesn't depend on the past information, then it has the Markov property.

A Markov Process is a S.P. with property that, given the value of $X(s)$, the values of $X(t)$, $t > s$, do not depend on the values of $X(u)$, $u < s$, i.e.

- "the probability of any particular future behaviour of the process, when its present state is known exactly, is not altered by additional knowledge concerning its past behaviour."

Brownian Motion (Wiener Process)

A S.P. is said to be a B.M. if it satisfies the following properties:

$$\{\overset{\downarrow}{W}(t), t \geq 0\}$$

- (i) $W(0) = 0$; starts from 0.
- (ii) for $t > 0$, sample path of $W(t)$ is continuous.
- (iii) $W(t)$, $t \geq 0$, has independent and stationary increments.
- (iv) for $0 \leq s < t < \infty$, $W(t) - W(s)$ is a normally distributed random variable with mean 0 and variance $t-s$.

- NOTE:
- The path followed by a Brownian Process is always continuous but nowhere differentiable.
 - Weiner process is not wide sense stationary S.P. as $\text{cov}[W(t), W(s)] = \min\{s, t\}$
 - Wiener process is a Markov Process because given $W(t)$, the future $W(t+h)$ for any $h > 0$ only depends on the increment $W(t+h) - W(t)$, and is independent of the past.
 - $E[W(t)] = 0$ because for $t = t$, $s = 0$, $E[W(t-s)] = 0$ and $\text{var}(W(t-s)) = t - s$ ($0 \leq s < t < \infty$).

Brownian Motion with drift μ and volatility σ (Generalized Brownian Mtn.)

A S.P. $\{x(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a B.M. with drift ' μ ' and volatility ' σ ' if

$$x(t) = \mu t + \sigma W(t) \text{ where}$$

(i) $W(t)$ is a standard B.M.

(ii) $-\infty < \mu < \infty$ is a constant.

(iii) $\sigma > 0$ is a constant.

$$\bullet E[W(t)] = E[\mu t + \sigma W(t)] = \mu t + \sigma \underbrace{E[W(t)]}_{\text{if } W(t) \text{ is a standard B.M.}} = \boxed{\mu t}$$

$$\bullet \text{cov}\{x(t), x(s)\} = \sigma^2 \text{cov}\{W(s), W(t)\} = \boxed{\sigma^2 \min\{s, t\}}, s, t \geq 0$$

$$[\text{cov}[x(t), x(s)] = E[x(t)x(s)] - E[x(t)]E[x(s)]]$$

$$= E[(\mu t + \sigma W(t))(\mu s + \sigma W(s))] - E[\mu t + \sigma W(t)]E[\mu s +$$

$$= E[\mu^2 st + \mu t \sigma W(s) + \sigma^2 W(t)W(s) + \sigma \mu s W(s)] - \sigma \mu s W(s)$$

$$\cancel{E[\mu^2 st + \mu^2 st]}$$

$$= \mu^2 st + E[\sigma^2 W(t)W(s)] - \mu^2 st = \sigma^2 E[W(t)W(s)] - \sigma^2 \min\{s, t\}$$

Geometric Brownian Motion

A.s.p $\{x(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a GBM if

$$x(t) = x(0) e^{w(t)}, \text{ where}$$

$w(t)$ is a standard B.M. for

- For any $h > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x(t+h) &= x(0) e^{w(t+h)} \\ &= x(0) e^{w(t) + w(t+h) - w(t)} \\ &= x(t) e^{w(t+h) - w(t)} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, this B.M. has independent increments. Also, given $x(t)$, the future $x(t+h)$ only depends upon the future increment ($w(t+h) - w(t)$) and not on the past. Hence GBM is a Markov Process.

GBM TO Model Stock Price

let the stock price $S(t)$ at time 't' is given by $S(t) = S(0) e^{H(t)}$, where
 $S(0)$ = initial price , $H(t) = \mu t + \sigma w(t)$ is brownian motion with
drift ' μ ' and 'volatility' ' σ '.

($H(t)$ represents the continuously compounded rate of interest over $[0, t]$).

$$S(t) = S(0) e^{H(t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(S(t)) = \ln(S(0)) + H(t).$$

- $\ln(S(t))$ has a normal distⁿ with mean $\underline{\mu t + \ln(S(0))}$ and variance $\underline{\sigma^2 t}$.

- $\frac{\ln(S(t))}{\ln(S(0))} = H(t)$. $\left(\frac{S(t)}{S(0)}\right)$ is lognormally distributed.
normally distributed

- $E(S(t)) \Rightarrow$

NOTE: The Moment Generating Function of a Normal Distⁿ $H(t)$ can be expressed as :

$$M_{H(t)}(\theta) = E(e^{\theta H(t)}) \quad \blacksquare$$

$$\therefore M_{H(t)}(\theta) = E(e^{\theta H(t)}) = \exp(\mu t \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t \theta^2)$$

where, $H(t) = \mu t + \sigma w(t)$

($w(t)$ is a normal distⁿ with mean '0' and variance 't')

$$\begin{aligned} E(e^{\theta H(t)}) &= E(e^{\theta(\mu t + \sigma w(t))}) = E\left(e^{\theta \mu t} \cdot e^{\theta \sigma w(t)}\right) \\ &= e^{\theta \mu t} \cdot E(e^{\theta \sigma w(t)}) = e^{\theta \mu t} \cdot e^{\theta^2 \sigma^2 t / 2} \quad (\because w(t) \text{ is a Normal dist} \approx N(0, t)) \\ &= \boxed{\exp(\theta \mu t + \frac{\theta^2 \sigma^2 t}{2})} - \textcircled{A} \end{aligned}$$

NOTE:

$$(M(t) = e^{\mu t + \frac{\sigma^2 t^2}{2}})$$

\downarrow
 $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
Mean Variance

$$S(t) = S(0) e^{H(t)} \Rightarrow E(S(t)) = E(S(0) \cdot e^{H(t)}) = S(0) \cdot E(e^{H(t)})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E(S(t)) = S(0) \cdot \exp(\mu t + \frac{\sigma^2 t}{2})} \quad (\text{put } \theta=1 \text{ in } \textcircled{A})$$

$$\bullet \text{var}(S(t)) \Rightarrow \text{var}(S(t)) = E((S(t))^2) - (E(S(t)))^2$$

$$E((S(t))^2) = E((S(0))^2 \cdot e^{2H(t)}) = (S(0))^2 \cdot E(e^{2H(t)})$$

put $\theta=2$ in $\textcircled{A} \Rightarrow$

$$E((S(t))^2) = (S(0))^2 \cdot \exp(2\mu t + 2\sigma^2 t)$$

and,

$$(E(S(t)))^2 = (S(0))^2 \cdot \exp(2\mu t + \sigma^2 t)$$

$$\therefore \text{var}(S(t)) = (S(0))^2 \left[e^{(2\mu t + 2\sigma^2 t)} - e^{(2\mu t + \sigma^2 t)} \right]$$

$$= \boxed{(S(0) \cdot \exp((\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2})t))^2 \cdot (\exp(\sigma^2 t) - 1)}$$

Filtration and Martingales

Filtration

consider the given probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ and let $T > 0$.

Assume that for $0 \leq t \leq T$, \exists a σ -algebra (σ -field), $\mathcal{F}(t)$ (for continuous time) or \mathcal{F}_t (for discrete time), such that $\mathcal{F}(t) \subset \mathcal{F}$ and for $\forall s$, $0 \leq s \leq t$, $\mathcal{F}(s) \subseteq \mathcal{F}(t)$, then, such a collection of σ -fields, $\{\mathcal{F}(t)\}_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is called a Filtration associated with $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$.

↓ less formally

As the process/experiment goes on with time, more and more information, (which can be considered as the subsets of the complete σ -algebra \mathcal{F}) is revealed to us. For example, consider a toss of 3 coins.

These are the possible outcomes: { HHT, HTH, HHH, HTT, THT, TTH, TTT, THH }
This is the sample space Ω .

Now, suppose we say that the outcome of the toss of the 1st coin is revealed to us, that is,

$$A_H \text{ (1st coin comes out to be 'H')} = \{ \text{HHT, HTH, THH, HTT} \}$$

$$\text{or } A_T \text{ (1st coin comes out to be 'T')} = \{ \text{TTT, THT, THH, TTH} \}$$

We can guess what will be the consequent outcomes; we can make an estimation. Therefore, the first σ -algebra that can be formed, using the information disclosed at this step is:

$$\mathcal{F}_1 = \{ \emptyset, \Omega, A_H, A_T \}.$$

Evidently, $\mathcal{F}_1 \subset \mathcal{F}$ which is to say that a part (some subsets) of the σ -algebra \mathcal{F} is revealed when 'some' information is revealed

If we further reveal the outcome of the toss of the 2nd coin, then the following events can occur next :

$$A_{HH} = \{HHH, HHT\}$$

$$A_{HT} = \{HTH, HTT\}$$

$$A_{TT} = \{TTH, TTT\}$$

$$A_{TH} = \{THH, THT\}$$

→ we further divided / refined / **filtered** the outcomes based on the information revealed.

Corresponding to this, the σ -algebra F_2 can be formed as :

$$F_2 = \{\emptyset, \Omega, A_H, A_T, A_{HH}, A_{HT}, A_{TH}, A_{TT}, A_{HH}^c, A_{HT}^c, A_{TH}^c, A_{TT}^c, (A_{HH} \cup A_{HT}), (A_{HH} \cup A_{TH}), (A_{HT} \cup A_{TH})\}$$

what was revealed, ← will continue to be known to us and will be carried along in every subsequent encoding.

Thus, F_2 contains (encodes) all the information we could obtain after two steps of revelations / conduction of experiment.

If we say that we reveal F_3 , we will basically be saying that we know the outcome of all the 3 tosses, ie. $F_3 = F$, having 256 elements.

We can also note that F_0 implies when nothing is known. This compels us to estimate that nothing will happen OR everything happens, ie.

$$F_0 = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}.$$

As we can observe, $F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq F_2 \subseteq F_3$. And the set $\{F_0, F_1, F_2, F_3\}$ is called a FILTRATION.

[NOTE]: The σ -field F_n maybe thought of as the events of which the occurrence is determined at or before time 'n', ie., the "known events" at time n.

Filtration is used to model the flow of information over time. As an example, we think of X_t as the price of some asset at time t and \mathcal{F}_t as the information obtained by watching all the prices in the market upto time t .

- X_t is \mathcal{F}_t -measurable : We say that a discrete time S.P. $\{X_0, X_1, \dots\}$ is \mathcal{F}_t -measurable, if the σ -field generated by X_t is a subset of \mathcal{F}_t , ie. $\sigma(X_t) \subset \mathcal{F}_t$, for $\forall t$. In a similar manner, a continuous time S.P. $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be \mathcal{F}_t -measurable if $\sigma(X(t)) \subset \mathcal{F}_t \quad \forall t \geq 0$.

In simple terms, a r.v. is \mathcal{F}_t -measurable iff the information in \mathcal{F}_t is sufficient to determine the value of X_t .

Martingales

Discrete Time Martingale

Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space. let $\{X_n, n=0,1,\dots\}$ be a S.P. and $\{\mathcal{F}_n, n=0,1,\dots\}$ be the filtration. The S.P. $\{X_n\}$ is said to be a martingale corresponding to the filtration $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}$, if it satisfies the following :

- i) For every n , $E(X_n)$ exists.
- ii) Each X_n is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable
- iii) $\forall n$, $E[X_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] = X_n$.

NOTE: conditional expectations and calculation rules :

- $E(X) = \int_X X(\omega) dP(\omega)$ on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) .
- $E(ax_1 + bx_2 | y) = aE(x_1 | y) + bE(x_2 | y)$
- $E[E[x|y]] = E[x]$ (average property)
- $E[E[x|y,z]|z] = E[x|z]$ (tower property)
- $E[ax|y] = a$ (a is some constant)

this is basically $E[E[X_{n+1} | F_n]]$

$$\bullet E[X_n] = \int_{\Omega} X_n dP = \int_{\Omega} E[X_{n+1} | F_n] dP = \int_{\Omega} X_{n+1} dP = E[X_{n+1}]$$

\downarrow \uparrow
(using average property).

\therefore If $\{X_n\}$ is a Martingale, then

$$[E[X_0] = E[X_1] = E[X_2] = \dots E[X_n]]$$

$\bullet E[X_m | F_n] = X_n, \forall m \geq n.$

which essentially translates to : we cannot hope to get something ^{more than} _{we have} that got at the n^{th} step, provided we only have the information upto n steps.
We cannot do better than what we know. This is the idea behind Martingales.

- If $E[X_{n+1} | F_n] \geq X_n \rightarrow$ Sub-Martingale
- If $E[X_{n+1} | F_n] \leq X_n \rightarrow$ Super-Martingale

\bullet Examples :

[1] 8.6.2 (Pg 302) let x_1, x_2, \dots be a seqⁿ of i.i.d. r.v. ...

Solⁿ:

$$E(S_n) = E(\sum_i x_i) = \sum_i E(x_i) = 0 \quad (\because E(x_i) = \frac{1}{2}(+1) + \frac{1}{2}(-1) = 0)$$

Let us prove (ii) \Rightarrow

$$E[S_{n+1} | F_n] = E[S_n + x_{n+1} | F_n] = E[S_n | F_n] + E[x_{n+1} | F_n]$$

$$(F_n = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\})$$

$$E[S_{n+1} | F_n] = \underbrace{E[S_n | F_n]}_{= S_n} + \underbrace{E[x_{n+1} | (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)]}_{= E[x_{n+1}] \text{ as all } x_i \text{ s are i.i.d.}}$$

(This tells us that S_n is F_n -measurable)

$$= S_n + E[x_{n+1}] = S_n + 0 = S_n.$$

$\therefore \{S_n\}$ is a Martingale.

[2] 8.6.3 (Pg 304) Consider a symmetric random walk $\{S_n, n=0, 1, \dots\}$...

Solⁿ:

$$S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \Rightarrow S_n^2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right)^2$$

$$\therefore E(S_n^2) = E\left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right)^2\right) = E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i^2) = 1 \text{ (finite)}$$

↑

(because say for $n=2$, $S_n^2 = X_1^2 + X_2^2 + 2X_1 X_2 \Rightarrow E(S_n^2) = E(X_1^2) + E(X_2^2) + E(X_1 X_2) = 2 E(X_1) E(X_2)$)

same can be said for $n=3, 4, \dots$

Also, S_n^2 is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable because S_n is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable.

NOW,

$$E[S_{n+1}^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] = E[(S_{n+1} - S_n + S_n)^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] = E[(S_{n+1} - S_n)^2 + S_n^2 + 2S_n(S_{n+1} - S_n) | \mathcal{F}_n]$$

$$= E[(S_{n+1} - S_n)^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] + E[S_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] + 2E[S_n(S_{n+1} - S_n) | \mathcal{F}_n]$$

$$= E[X_{n+1}^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] + E[S_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_n] + 2E[S_n X_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n]$$

$$= E[X_{n+1}^2] + S_n^2 + 2S_n E[X_{n+1}]$$

(because X_{n+1} is independent of (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)) (because given \mathcal{F}_n , we can calculate and hence know that value of S_n^2 , making it a constant)

$$= 1 + S_n^2 \neq S_n^2$$

$\therefore \{S_n^2\}$ is not a Martingale

3) 8.6.5 (pg 306) Let a person start with Rs. 1.

Soln: Let X_1, X_2, \dots be a seq'y of r.v. such that

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 2, & p=0.5 \\ 0, & p=0.5 \end{cases}$$

Since the game is double or nothing, his fortune at the end of n^{th} toss is given by

$$Y_n = X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \quad (n=1, 2, \dots), \quad (0 \leq Y_n \leq 2^n)$$

Let \mathcal{F}_n be a σ -field generated by (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)

$$E[Y_n] = E[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n] = E[X_1] \cdot E[X_2] \cdots E[X_n] = 1 \quad (\because E[X_i] = 1)$$

Also,

$$E[Y_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] = E[Y_n X_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] = Y_n E[X_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] = Y_n E[X_{n+1}] = Y_n$$

$\therefore \{Y_n\}$ is a Martingale

continuous Time Martingale

A s.p. $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is said to be a Martingale, corresponding to the filtration $\{\mathcal{F}(t), t \geq 0\}$ on the probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) if it satisfies the following:

- (i) $E[X(t)]$ exists $\forall t \geq 0$
- (ii) $X(t)$ is $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable, $\forall t \geq 0$
- (iii) $E[X(t) | \mathcal{F}(\tau)] = X(t) \quad \forall 0 < \tau < t.$