

Stochastic Processes



Week 01

Review of Probability

Introduction to Stochastic Processes

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Outline of Week 01 Lectures

- History/Philosophy
- Random Variables
- Density/Distribution Functions
- Joint/Conditional Distributions
- Correlation
- Important Theorems
- Introduction to Stochastic Processes

History & Philosophy

- Started by gamblers' dispute!
- Probability as a game analyzer
- Formulated by B. Pascal and P. Fermet
- First Problem (1654) :
 - "Double Six" during 24 throws!
- First Book (1657):
 - *Christian Huygens, "De Ratiociniis in Ludo Aleae", In German, 1657.*

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

- Rapid development during 18th Century
- **Major Contributions:**
 - J. Bernoulli (1654-1705)
 - A. De Moivre (1667-1754)
- A renaissance: Generalizing the concepts from mathematical analysis of games to analyzing scientific and practical problems: P. Laplace (1749-1827)
- **New approach first book:**
 - P. Laplace, "*Théorie Analytique des Probabilités*", In France, 1812.

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

- 19th century's developments:
 - Theory of errors
 - Actuarial mathematics
 - Statistical mechanics
- Modern theory of probability (20th Century):
 - A. Kolmogorov : Axiomatic approach
- First modern book:
 - A. Kolmogorov, "Foundations of Probability Theory", Chelsea, New York, 1950.
- Other giants in the field:
 - Chebyshev, Markov and Kolmogorov

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

- Two major philosophies:
 - **Frequentist Philosophy**
 - Observation is enough!
 - **Bayesian Philosophy:**
 - Observation is NOT enough
 - Prior knowledge is essential

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

Frequentist philosophy

- There exist fixed parameters like mean, θ .
- There is an underlying distribution from which samples are drawn
- Likelihood functions($L(\theta)$) maximize parameter/data
- For Gaussian distribution the $L(\theta)$ for the mean happens to be $1/N \sum_i x_i$ or the average.

Bayesian philosophy

- Parameters are variable
- Variation of the parameter defined by the prior probability
- This is combined with sample data $p(X/\theta)$ to update the posterior distribution $p(\theta/X)$.
- Mean of the posterior, $p(\theta/X)$, can be considered a point estimate of θ .

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

- An Example:

- A coin is tossed 1000 times, yielding 800 heads and 200 tails. Let $p = P(\text{heads})$ be the bias of the coin. What is p ?

- Bayesian Analysis

- Our prior knowledge (believe): $\pi(p) = 1$ (Uniform(0,1))
- Our posterior knowledge: $\pi(p|Observation) = p^{800}(1-p)^{200}$

- Frequentist Analysis

- Answer is an estimator \hat{p} such that
 - Mean: $E[\hat{p}] = 0.8$
 - Confidence Interval: $P(0.774 \leq \hat{p} \leq 0.826) \geq 0.95$

History & Philosophy (Cont'd)

Nowadays, Probability Theory is considered to be
a part Measure Theory !

- Further reading:

- <http://www.leidenuniv.nl/fsw/verduin/stathist/stathist.htm>
- <http://www.mrs.umn.edu/~sungurea/introstat/history/indexhistory.shtml>
- www.cs.ucl.ac.uk/staff/D.Wischik/Talks/histprob.pdf

Outline

- History/Philosophy
- **Random Variables**
- Density/Distribution Functions
- Joint/Conditional Distributions
- Correlation
- Important Theorems
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Random Variables

- Probability Space

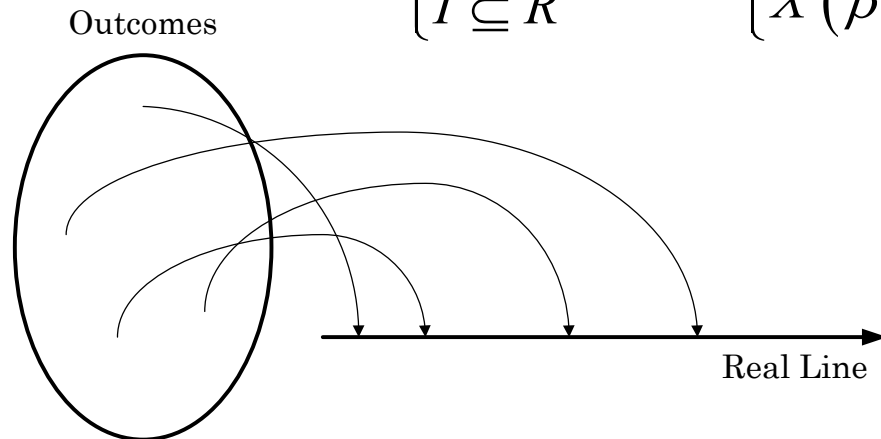
- A triple of (Ω, F, P)
 - Ω represents a nonempty set, whose elements are sometimes known as outcomes or states of nature.
 - F represents a set, whose elements are called events. The events are subsets of Ω . F should be a “Borel Field”.
 - P represents the probability measure.

- Fact: $P(\Omega) = 1$

Random Variables (Cont'd)

- **Random variable** is a “function” (“mapping”) from a set of possible outcomes of the experiment to an interval of real (complex) numbers.
- In other words :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} F \subseteq P(\Omega) \\ I \subseteq R \end{array} \right\} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X : F \rightarrow I \\ X(\beta) = r \end{array} \right.$$



Random Variables (Cont'd)

- **Example I:**
 - Mapping faces of a dice to the first six natural numbers.
- **Example II:**
 - Mapping height of a man to the real interval $(0,3]$ (meter or something else).
- **Example III:**
 - Mapping success in an exam to the discrete interval $[0,20]$ by quantum 0.1.

Random Variables (Cont'd)

- Random Variables

- Discrete

- Dice, Coin, Grade of a course, etc.

- Continuous

- Temperature, Humidity, Length, etc.

- Random Variables

- Real

- Complex

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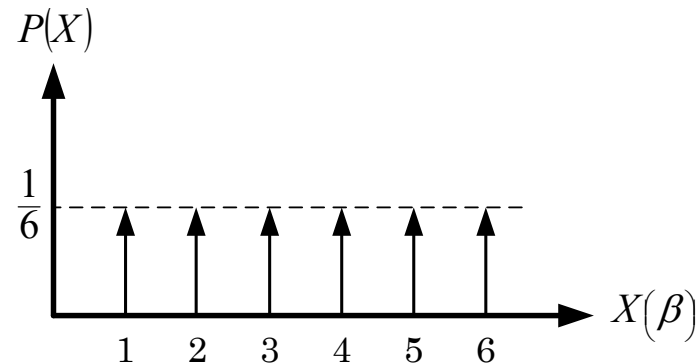
Density/Distribution Functions

- **Probability Mass Function (PMF)**

- Discrete random variables
- Summation of impulses
- The magnitude of each impulse represents the probability of occurrence of the outcome

- **Example I:**

- Rolling a fair dice



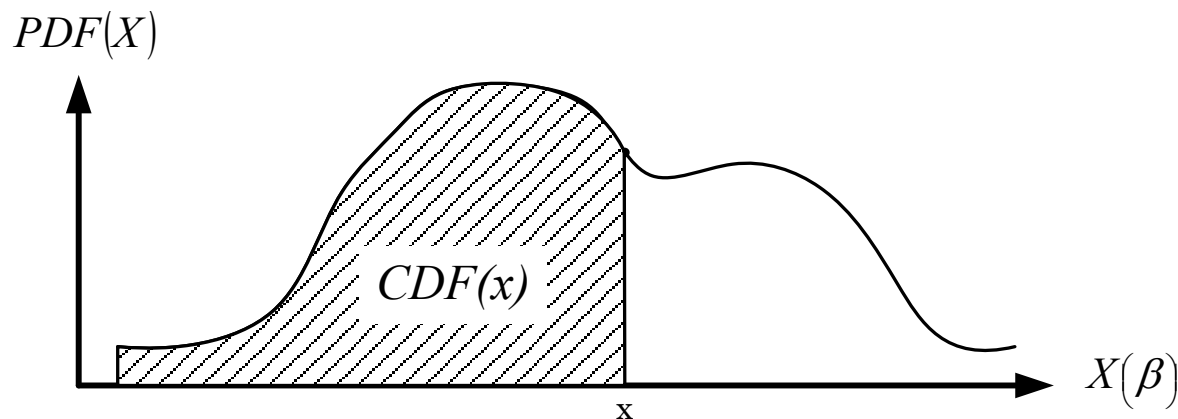
$$PMF = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=1}^6 \delta(X-i)$$

Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)
 - Both Continuous and Discrete
 - Could be defined as the integration of PDF

$$CDF(x) = F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(x).dx$$



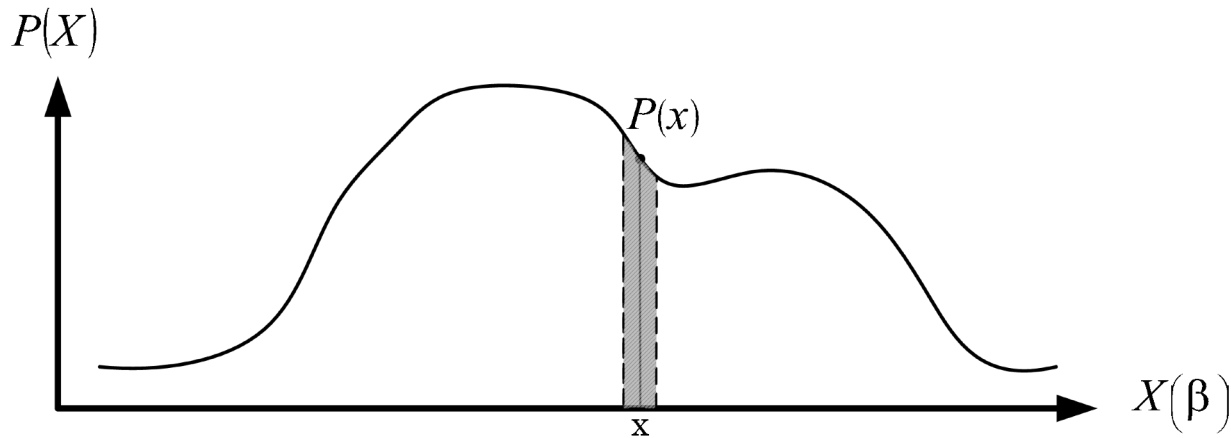
Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Some CDF properties
 - Non-decreasing
 - Right Continuous
 - $F(-\infty) = 0$
 - $F(\infty) = 1$

Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- **Probability Density Function (PDF)**

- Continuous random variables
- The probability of occurrence of $x_0 \in \left(x - \frac{dx}{2}, x + \frac{dx}{2}\right)$ will be $P(x).dx$

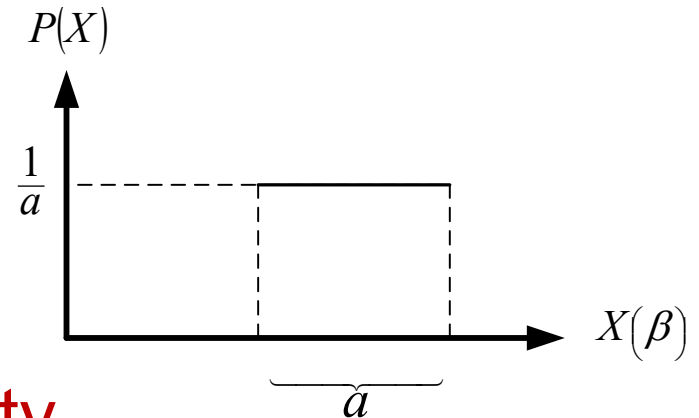


Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Some famous masses and densities:

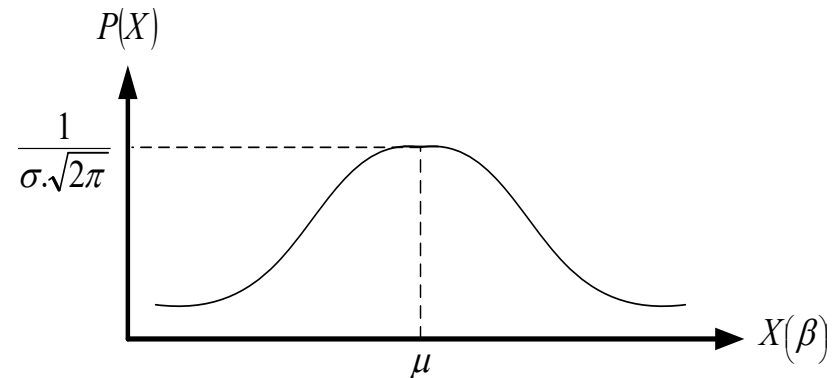
- **Uniform Density**

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{a} \cdot (U(\text{end}) - U(\text{begin}))$$



- **Gaussian (Normal) Density**

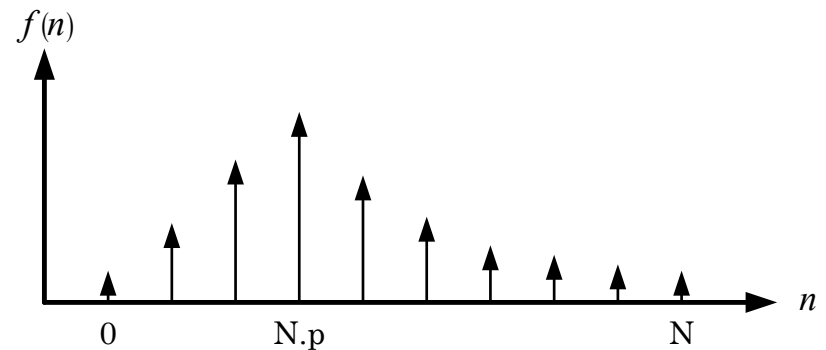
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \cdot \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} = N(\mu, \sigma)$$



Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Binomial Density

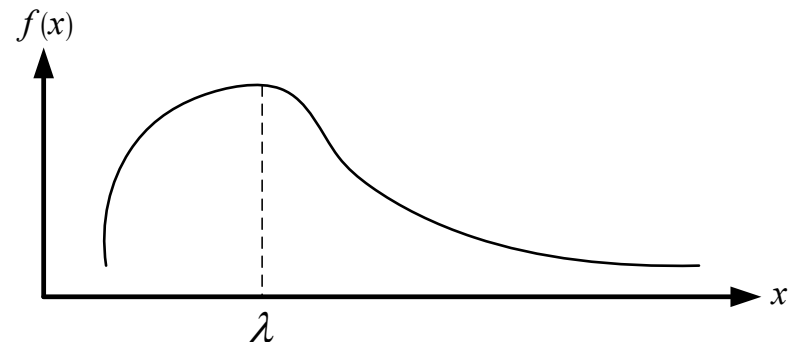
$$f(n) = \binom{N}{n} \cdot (1-p)^n \cdot p^{N-n}$$



- Poisson Density

$$f(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{\Gamma(x+1)}$$

Note: $x \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \Gamma(x+1) = x!$



- Important Fact:

$$\text{For Sufficiently large } N : \binom{N}{n} \cdot (1-p)^{N-n} \cdot p^n \approx e^{-N \cdot p} \frac{(N \cdot p)^n}{n!}$$

Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Exponential Density

$$f(x) = \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda x} \cdot U(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- Expected Value

- The most likelihood value:

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

- Linear Operator:

$$E[a \cdot X + b] = a \cdot E[X] + b$$

- Function of a random variable:

- Expectation

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

Density/Distribution Functions (Cont'd)

- PDF of a function of random variables:
 - Assume RV “Y” such that $Y = g(X)$
 - The inverse equation $X = g^{-1}(Y)$ may have more than one solution called X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n
 - PDF of “Y” can be obtained from PDF of “X” as follows:

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{f_X(x_i)}{\left. \frac{d}{dx} g(x) \right|_{x=x_i}}$$

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Joint/Conditional Distributions

• Joint Probability Functions

• Density $F_{X,Y}(x, y) = P(X \leq x \text{ and } Y \leq y)$

• Distribution
$$= \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$

• Example I:

• In a rolling fair dice experiment represent the outcome as a 3-bit digital number “xyz”.

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6} & x=0; y=0 & \overset{xyz}{1 \rightarrow 001} \\ \frac{1}{3} & x=0; y=1 & 2 \rightarrow 010 \\ & & 3 \rightarrow 011 \\ \frac{1}{3} & x=1; y=0 & 4 \rightarrow 100 \\ \frac{1}{6} & x=1; y=1 & 5 \rightarrow 101 \\ 0 & O.W. & 6 \rightarrow 110 \end{cases}$$

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- **Example II:**
 - Two normal random variables

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot \sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y \cdot \sqrt{1-r^2}} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{2(1-r^2)} \left(\frac{(x-\mu_x)^2}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{(y-\mu_y)^2}{\sigma_y^2} - \frac{2r(x-\mu_x)(y-\mu_y)}{\sigma_x \cdot \sigma_y} \right) \right)}$$

- What is “r” ?
- **Independent Events (Strong Axiom)**

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y)$$

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- Obtaining one variable **density** functions:

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

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx$$

- **Distribution** functions can be obtained **just** from the density functions. (How?)

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- **Conditional Density Function:**

- Probability of occurrence of an event if another event is observed (we know what “Y” is).

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

- **Bayes' Rule:**

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{Y|X}(y|x) \cdot f_X(x)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{Y|X}(y|x) \cdot f_X(x) dx}$$

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- **Example I:**

- Rolling a fair dice:
 - X : the outcome is an even number
 - Y : the outcome is a prime number

$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(X,Y)}{P(Y)} = \frac{1/6}{1/2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

- **Example II:**

- Joint normal (Gaussian) random variables:

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \sigma_x \cdot \sqrt{1-r^2}} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{2(1-r^2)} \left(\frac{x-\mu_x}{\sigma_x} - r \times \frac{y-\mu_y}{\sigma_y} \right)^2 \right)}$$

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- Conditional Distribution Function:

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

$$= \int_{-\infty}^x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$

$$= \frac{\int_{-\infty}^x f_{X,Y}(t, y) dt}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(t, y) dt}$$

- Note that “y” is a constant during the integration.

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- Independent Random Variables:

$$\begin{aligned}f_{X|Y}(x|y) &= \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} \\&= \frac{f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y)}{f_Y(y)} \\&= f_X(x)\end{aligned}$$

- Remember! Independency is **NOT** heuristic.

Joint/Conditional Distributions (Cont'd)

- PDF of a functions of joint random variables
 - Assume that $(U, V) = g(X, Y)$
 - The inverse equation set $(X, Y) = g^{-1}(U, V)$ has a set of solutions $(X_1, Y_1), (X_2, Y_2), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$
 - Define **Jacobian matrix** as follows:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial X} U & \frac{\partial}{\partial X} V \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial Y} U & \frac{\partial}{\partial Y} V \end{bmatrix}$$

- The joint PDF will be:

$$f_{U,V}(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{f_{X,Y}(x_i, y_i)}{\text{absolute determinant}(J|_{(x,y)=(x_i,y_i)})}$$

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Correlation

- Knowing about a random variable “X”, how much information will we gain about the other random variable “Y” ?
- Shows **linear** similarity

- More formal: $Crr(X, Y) = E[X.Y]$

- **Covariance** is normalized correlation

$$Cov(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X).(Y - \mu_Y)] = E[X.Y] - \mu_X.\mu_Y$$

Correlation (cont'd)

- **Variance**

- Covariance of a random variable with itself

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma_X^2 = E[(X - \mu_X)^2]$$

- Relation between correlation and covariance

$$E[X^2] = \sigma_X^2 + \mu_X^2$$

- **Standard Deviation**

- Square root of variance

Correlation (cont'd)

- **Moments**

- n^{th} order moment of a random variable “X” is the expected value of “ X^n ”

$$M_n = E(X^n)$$

- **Normalized form**

$$M_n = E((X - \mu_X)^n)$$

- **Mean** is the first moment
- **Variance** is second moment added by the square of the mean

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Important Theorems

- **Central limit theorem (CLT)**
 - Consider i.i.d. (Independent Identically Distributed) RVs “ X_k ” with finite variances
 - Let $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_n \cdot X_n$
 - Then PDF of “ S_n ” converges to a **normal distribution** as n increases, regardless of the initial density of RVs.
 - **Exception**: Cauchy Distribution (Why?)

Important Theorems (cont'd)

- **Law of Large Numbers (Weak)**

- For i.i.d. RVs “ X_k ”

$$\forall_{\varepsilon > 0} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr \left\{ \left| \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} - \mu_X \right| > \varepsilon \right\} = 0$$

Important Theorems (cont'd)

- **Law of Large Numbers (Strong)**

- For i.i.d. RVs “ X_k ”

$$\Pr \left\{ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} = \mu_X \right\} = 1$$

- Why this definition is stronger than the weak law of large numbers?

Important Theorems (cont'd)

- **Chebyshev's Inequality**

- Let “X” be a nonnegative RV
- Let “c” be a positive number, then:

$$\Pr\{X > c\} \leq \frac{1}{c} E[X]$$

- Another form:

$$\Pr\{|X - \mu_X| > \varepsilon\} \leq \frac{\sigma_X^2}{\varepsilon^2}$$

- This could also be rewritten for negative RVs. (How?)

Important Theorems (cont'd)

- **Schwarz Inequality**

- For two RVs “X” and “Y” with finite second moments:

$$E[X.Y]^2 \leq E[X^2].E[Y^2]$$

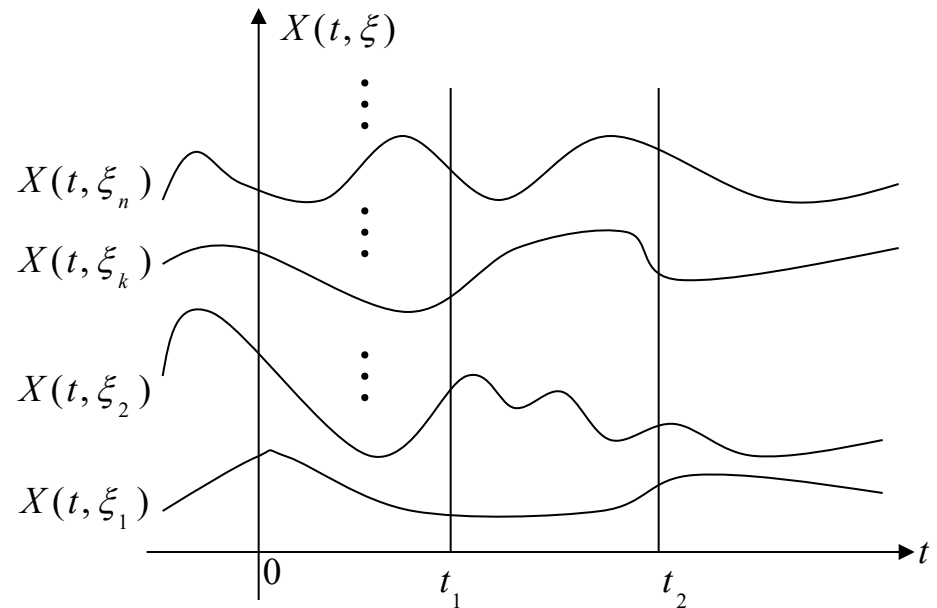
- Equality holds in case of **linear dependency**.

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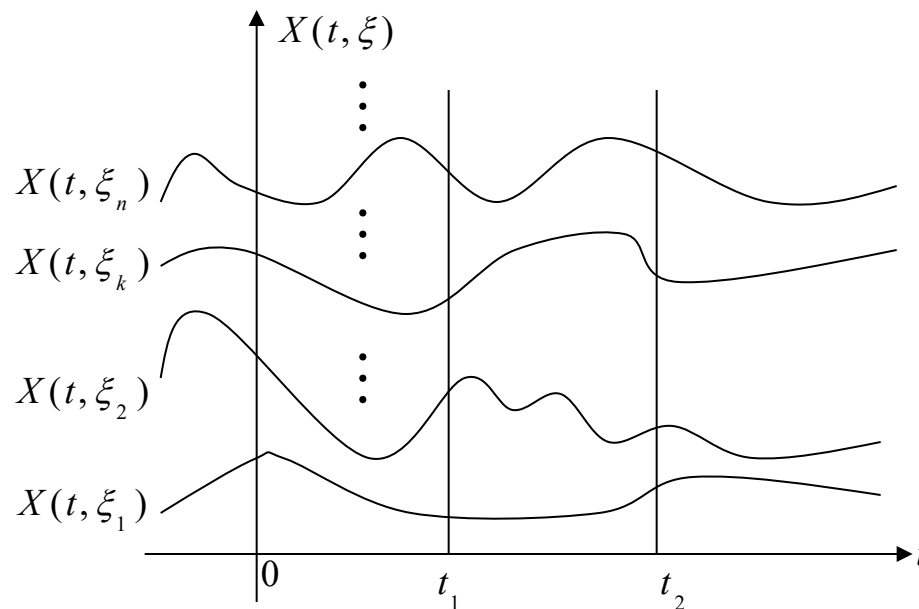
Introduction to Stochastic Processes

- Let ξ denote the random outcome of an experiment.
- To every such outcome suppose a function $X(t, \xi)$ is assigned.
- The collection of such functions form a **stochastic process**.
- The set of $\{\xi_k\}$ and the time index t can be **continuous or discrete** (countably infinite or finite).
- For fixed $\xi_i \in S$ (the set of all experimental outcomes), $X(t, \xi)$ is a **specific time function**.



Introduction to Stochastic Processes

- For fixed t , $X_1 = X(t_1, \xi_i)$ is a **random variable**.
- The **ensemble** of all such realizations $X(t, \xi)$ over time represents the stochastic process $X(t)$.



Introduction to Stochastic Processes

- **Examples:**
- Let $X(t) = a \cos(\omega_0 t + \varphi)$,
where φ is a uniformly distributed random variable in $(0, 2\pi)$, represents a stochastic process.
- Stochastic processes are everywhere:
 - stock market fluctuations
 - various queuing systems
 - Earthquake Signals
 - 1-D Audios
 - 2-D Images
 - 3-D Videos

Next Week:

**Stochastic Processes
Stationary Stochastic Processes**

Have a good day!