

eg Let (S_n) be a simple symmetric RW on \mathbb{Z} .

Let $T = \inf \{n: S_n = 1\}$. We know $P(T < \infty) = 1$,

and $E(T) = \infty$. Let $Y = \inf \{S_n: n \leq T\}$.

$Y > -\infty$ on $\{T < \infty\}$, so $P(Y > -\infty) = 1$.

We claim $E(Y) = -\infty$.

For each $\omega \in \{T < \infty\}$, $Y(\omega) = \min \{S_n(\omega): n \leq T(\omega)\}$
 $= \min \{S_{T(\omega) \wedge n}(\omega): n \geq 0\}$ (where $a \wedge b = \min\{a, b\}$).

$T \wedge n$ is a stopping time (it "doesn't involve looking into the future")

$E(T \wedge n) < \infty$. So $E(S_{T \wedge n}) = E(S_1) \cdot E(T \wedge n) = 0$ (for all n).

So $\forall \omega \in \{T < \infty\}$, $S_T(\omega) = 1$.

And $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{T \wedge n}(\omega) = S_T(\omega)$.

So $S_T \rightarrow 1$ almost surely.

For all n , $Y \leq S_{T \wedge n} \leq 1$.

So $|S_{T \wedge n}| \leq 1 + |Y|$.

If $E(Y) > -\infty$, then $E(1 + |Y|) < \infty$,

So $E(S_{T \wedge n}) \rightarrow E(1) = 1$ by the dominated convergence theorem.

This contradicts the earlier finding that $E(S_{T \wedge n}) = 0 \forall n$,

So it must be the case that $E(Y) = -\infty$. \square

Wald's Second Eqn

Let (S_n) be a RW wrt a filtration (\mathcal{F}_n) .

Suppose $E(S_1^2) = \sigma^2 < \infty$ and $E(S_1) = 0$.

Let T be a stopping time with $E(T) < \infty$.

Then $E(S_T^2) = \sigma^2 E(T)$.

Lemma Let (Y_n) be an orthogonal sequence in L^2 .

Suppose $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{\|Y_n\|_2^2}_{E(Y_n^2)} < \infty$, and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n$ converges a.s. to Y .

Then $Y \in L^2$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n$ converges to Y in L_2 ,

and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Y_n\|_2^2 = \|Y\|_2^2$.

Pf of Wald's Second Eqn

Let $X_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

... .. $\xrightarrow{\infty}$...

Let $X_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

Let $Y_n = X_n 1_{\{T \geq n\}}$. Then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n$ converges to S_T pointwise on $\{T < \infty\}$ and hence a.s., since $E(T) < \infty$.

$$\|Y_n\|_2^2 = E(Y_n^2) = E[(X_n 1_{\{T \geq n\}})^2] = E(X_n^2 1_{\{T \geq n\}}).$$

Now $\{T \geq n\} = \Omega \setminus \{T \leq n-1\} \in \mathcal{F}_{n-1}$.

So X_n^2 and $1_{\{T \geq n\}}$ are independent.

$$\text{So } \|Y_n\|_2^2 = P(T \geq n) \cdot E(S_1^2) = \sigma^2 P(T \geq n),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Y_n\|_2^2 &= \sigma^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(T \geq n) \\ &= \sigma^2 E\left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1_{\{T \geq n\}}\right) \\ &= \sigma^2 E(T). \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Y_n\|_2^2 < \infty$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now if } m < n, \text{ then } E(Y_m Y_n) &= E(X_m 1_{\{T \geq m\}} X_n 1_{\{T \geq n\}}) \\ &= E(X_m X_n 1_{\{T \geq n\}}). \end{aligned}$$

Now $X_m 1_{\{T \geq n\}}$ is \mathcal{F}_n -mble, so

X_n and $X_m 1_{\{T \geq n\}}$ are independent, so

$$E(X_m X_n 1_{\{T \geq n\}}) = E(X_m 1_{\{T \geq n\}}) \underbrace{E(X_n)}_0 = 0.$$

Thus (Y_n) is an orthogonal sequence in L^2 .

So, by the lemma, with $Y = S_T$, we have

$$E(S_T^2) = \|Y\|_2^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Y_n\|_2^2 = \sigma^2 E(T). \quad \square$$

(Remark More is true. It can be shown that)

$$E\left(\sup_n |S_{T \wedge n}|^2\right) < \infty.$$

eg let (S_n) be a simple symmetric RW on \mathbb{Z} .

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $a < 0 < b$. Let $N = \inf\{n: S_n \notin (a, b)\}$.

As we've seen, $E(N) < \infty$.

Of course, $E(S_1) = 0$ and $E(S_1^2) = 1$.

Hence $E(S_N^2) = E(N)$.

But $P(S_N = a) = \frac{b}{b-a}$ and $P(S_N = b) = \frac{a}{a-b}$,

$$\text{So } E(N) = a^2 \frac{b}{b-a} + b^2 \frac{a}{a-b} = \frac{ab(a-b)}{b-a} = -ab.$$

In particular, if $a = -b$, then $E(N) = b^2$.

It remains to prove the lemma.

First, let's prove the Riesz-Fischer Theorem.

The Riesz-Fischer Theorem (for $p=2$).

Let (X, \mathcal{A}, μ) be a measure space.

Let (f_n) be a Cauchy sequence in $L^2(\mu)$.

Then there exists $f \in L^2(\mu)$ such that $\|f - f_n\|_2 \rightarrow 0$.

Pf By assumption, $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ st. for all $m, n \geq N$, $\|f_m - f_n\|_2 < \varepsilon$.

Hence there exist natural numbers $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$ such that for each k and for all $i, j \geq n_k$, $\|f_i - f_j\|_2 < 2^{-k}$.

Then for all $k > K$, $\|f_{n_k} - f_{n_l}\|_2 < 2^{-k}$.

It suffices to show that there exists $f \in L^2$ such that $\|f - f_{n_k}\|_2 \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Let $g_k = f_{n_k}$. Let $h = |g_1| + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |g_k - g_{k-1}|$

and $h_n = |g_1| + \sum_{k=2}^n |g_k - g_{k-1}|$.

$$\|h_n\|_2 \leq \|g_1\|_2 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \|g_k - g_{k-1}\|_2$$

$$\leq \|g_1\|_2 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} 2^{-(k-1)}$$

$$= \underbrace{\|g_1\|_2 + 1}_{\text{does not depend on } n} < \infty.$$

does not depend on n .

$$h_n \uparrow h, \text{ so } h_n^2 \uparrow h^2, \text{ so } \int h_n^2 d\mu \uparrow \int h^2 d\mu, \text{ so } \|h_n\|_2 \uparrow \|h\|_2.$$

$$\text{So } \|h\|_2 \leq \|g_1\|_2 + 1 < \infty.$$

$$\text{Hence } \int h^2 d\mu = \|h\|_2^2 < \infty. \text{ Thus } h < \infty \text{ almost everywhere.}$$

$$\text{In other words } |g_1| + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |g_k - g_{k-1}| < \infty \text{ a.e.}$$

$$\text{Let } W = \{h < \infty\}. \mu(X \setminus W) = 0 \text{ and for each } x \in W,$$

$$|g_1(x)| + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |g_k(x) - g_{k-1}(x)| < \infty, \text{ so } g_1(x) + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (g_k(x) - g_{k-1}(x)) \text{ converges,}$$

$$\text{But } g_1(x) + \sum_{k=2}^n (g_k(x) - g_{k-1}(x)) = g_n(x).$$

$$\text{Thus for each } x \in W, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n(x) \text{ exists and is finite.}$$

$$\text{Define } f \text{ on } X \text{ by } f(x) = \begin{cases} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n(x) & x \in W \\ 0 & x \in X \setminus W \end{cases}.$$

$$\text{Then } g_n \rightarrow f \text{ a.e.}$$

$$\text{Now } |g_n| \leq |g_1| + \sum_{k=2}^n |g_k - g_{k-1}| \leq h,$$

$$\text{and } |f| \leq h, \text{ so } |f - g_n|^2 \leq (|f| + |g_n|)^2 \leq (h + h)^2 = 4h^2.$$

$$\text{Now } \int 4h^2 d\mu < \infty \text{ and } |f - g_n|^2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.e.,}$$

$$\text{and so } \int |f - g_n|^2 d\mu \rightarrow \int 0 d\mu = 0 \text{ by the dominated convergence theorem. In other words,}$$

$$\|f - g_n\|_2 \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad \square$$

Corollary Let (f_n) be an orthogonal sequence in $L^2(\mu)$. Suppose $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n\|_2^2 < \infty$, and

that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n$ converges a.e. to f .

Then $f \in L^2(\mu)$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^2(\mu)$,

and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n\|_2^2 = \|f\|_2^2$.