# **Lecture 2**

# **Random Variables and Stochastic Processes**

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In our attempts to filter a signal, we will be trying to extract meaningful information from a noisy signal. In order to accomplish this, we need to know something about what the noise is, some of its characteristics, and how it works.

# **Probability**

The probability of event *A* (see refs for formal definition)

$$
P(A) = \frac{\text{Number of times } A \text{ occurs}}{\text{Total number of outcomes}}
$$

Example: what is the probability of getting the number 1 four times when rolling a six-sided die 6 times?)

$$
P(A) = \frac{C_6^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 5}{6^6} = 0.0080
$$

# **Probability**

- The conditional probability of event *A* given event *B*:  $(P(B) \neq 0)$  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A,B)}{P(B)}$ 
	- $\circ$   $P(A|B)$  is the conditional probability of  $A$  given  $B$ , i.e, the probability that A occurs given the fact that *B* occurred
	- $P(A, B)$  is the joint probability of A and B, i.e., the probability that event *A* and *B* both occur
	- $P(A)$  or  $P(B)$  is called an *a priori* probability as it applies to the probability of an event apart from any previously known information
	- The conditional probability is called an a *posteriori* probability as it applies to a probability given the fact that some information about a possibly related event is already known

# **Example**



 $P(\text{circle}) = 3/8, P(\text{square}) = 5/8;$  $P(\text{gray}, \text{ circle}) = 1/8, P(\text{gray}| \text{ circle}) = 1/3;$  $P(\textsf{white}|\textsf{square}) = \frac{1/8}{5/8} = 1/5.$ 

#### Bayers' Rule

\n- \n
$$
P(A, B) = P(A|B)P(B) = P(B|A)P(A)
$$
\n
\n- \n
$$
P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}
$$
 (statement of theorem)\n
\n- \n
$$
P(\text{gray}|circle}) = \frac{P(\text{circle}|gray)P(\text{gray})}{P(\text{circle})} = \frac{(1/5)(5/8)}{3/8} = 1/3
$$
\n
\n

Independence

We say that two events are independent if the occurrence of one event has no effect on the probability of the occurrence of the other event.

$$
\circ \; P(A,B) = P(A)P(B)
$$

- $P(A|B) = P(A)$
- $P(B|A) = P(B)$

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# **Random variables**

- RV (random variable): a functional mapping from a set of experimental outcomes (the domain) to a set of real numbers (the range)
- the outcome of a particular experiment is not a RV
- the RV *X* exists independently of any of its realizations
- $\bullet$  the RV  $X$  will always be random and will never be equal to a specific value

### **Random variables**

- A RV can be either continuous or discrete (realizations belong to a discrete or continuous set of values)
- Probability distribution function (PDF):

$$
F_X(x) = P(X \le x)
$$

Properties:

- $\bullet$   $F_X(x)$  is the PDF of the RV *X*
- *x* is a nonrandom independent variable or constant
- $\mathbf{F}_X(x) \in [0, 1], F_X(-\infty) = 0, F_X(\infty) = 1$
- $F_X(a) \leq F_X(b)$  if  $a \leq b$
- $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) F_X(a)$

# **Probability density function (pdf)**

$$
f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}
$$

Properties:

 $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(z) dz$  $\varphi$  *f*<sub>*X*</sub>(*x*) > 0  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$  $P(a < x \leq b) = \int_a^b f_X(x) dx$ 

## **Example: uniformly-distributed RV**

- Take a measurement with the set *S* of outcomes equal to any number between -1 and 1;
- Define the RV *Z* by  $Z(\alpha) = \alpha$ ;
- the distribution function is given by

$$
F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0, & z < -1 \\ 0.5(z+1), & -1 < z < 1; \\ 1, & z > 1; \end{cases}
$$

• the density function is

$$
f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0.5, & -1 < z < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

The RV *Z* is a uniformly distributed continuous RV.

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# **Example: Gaussian RV**

- Take a measurement with the set *S* of outcomes equal to any number between -1 and 1;
- Define the RV *Z* by  $Z(\alpha) = \alpha$ ;
- Assume the density function is

$$
f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(z-\eta)^2}{2\sigma^2}},
$$

where  $\eta$  is a real number and  $\sigma$  is a positive number;

The RV  $Z$  is a Gaussian or normal RV, denoted as  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(\eta, \sigma^2).$ 

## **Expected value**

The expected value (expectation, mean, average) of a RV *X* is defined as its average value over a large number of experiments.

$$
\bullet \ E(X) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{m} A_i n_i
$$

• the outcome  $A_i$  occurs  $n_i$  times

• The expected value of any function  $g(X)$ :

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

# **Variance**

- The variance of a RV is a measure of how much we expect the RV to vary from its mean.
- The variance is a measure of how much variability there is in a RV.

• 
$$
\sigma_X^2 = E[(X - EX)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - EX)^2 f_X(x) dx, \ \sigma_X^2 = E(X^2) - (EX)^2.
$$

Standard deviation *σ*(*σX*)

## **Transformations of random variables**

Suppose that we have two RVs, *X* and *Y* , related to one another by the monotonic functions  $g(\cdot)$  and  $h(\cdot)$ :

> $Y = g(X)$  $X = g^{-1}(Y) = h(Y)$

If we know the pdf of *X*, then we can compute the pdf of *Y* as follows:

$$
P(X \in [x, x + dx]) = P(Y \in [y, y + dy])(dx > 0)
$$

$$
\int_x^{x+dx} f_X(z)dz = \begin{cases} \int_y^{y+dy} f_Y(z)dz & \text{if dy>0} \\ -\int_y^{y+dy} f_Y(z)dz & \text{if dy<0} \end{cases}
$$

$$
f_X(x)dx = f_Y(y)|dy|
$$

$$
f_Y(y) = |\frac{dx}{dy}|f_X[h(y)] = |h'(y)|f_X[h(y)]
$$

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# **Example: find the pdf of a linear function of a Gaussian RV**

Suppose  $X \sim N(\bar{x}, \sigma_x^2)$  and  $Y = g(X) = aX + b, a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , Solve  $f_Y(y)$ .

$$
X = h(Y)
$$
  
\n
$$
= (Y - b)/a
$$
  
\n
$$
h'(y) = 1/a
$$
  
\n
$$
f_Y(y) = |h'(y)|f_X[h(y)]
$$
  
\n
$$
= |\frac{1}{a}| \frac{1}{\sigma_X \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ \frac{-[(y-b)/a - \bar{x}]^2}{2\sigma_X^2} \right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{|a|\sigma_X \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ \frac{-[y-(a\bar{x}+b)]^2}{2a^2\sigma_X^2} \right\}
$$

i.e.,  $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(a\bar{x}+b, a^2\sigma_x^2)$ .

# **Multiple random variables**

#### Joint distribution function

\n- \n
$$
F_{XY}(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) \left( F(x, y) \right)
$$
\n
\n- \n $F(x, y) \in [0, 1], F(x, -\infty) = F(-\infty, y) = 0, F(\infty, \infty) = 1$ \n
\n- \n $F(a, c) \leq F(b, d)$  if  $a \leq b$  and  $c \leq d$ \n
\n- \n $P(a < X \leq b, c < Y \leq d) = F(b, d) + F(a, c) - F(a, d) - F(b, c)$ \n
\n- \n $F(x, \infty) = F(x), F(\infty, y) = F(y)$  (marginal distribution function)\n
\n

# **Joint probability density function**

\n- \n
$$
f_{XY}(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2 F_{XY}(x,y)}{\partial x \partial y} \left( f(x,y) \right)
$$
\n
\n- \n
$$
F(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^y f(z_1, z_2) \, dz_1 \, dz_2
$$
\n
\n- \n
$$
f(x,y) \geq 0, \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x,y) \, dx \, dy = 1
$$
\n
\n- \n
$$
P(a < X \leq b, c < Y \leq d) = \int_c^d \int_a^b f(x,y) \, dx \, dy
$$
\n
\n- \n
$$
f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x,y) \, dy, \, f(y) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x,y) \, dx \text{ (marginal density function)}
$$
\n
\n

## **Mixed moments**

Expectation of functions of *X* and *Y* :

$$
E[g(X,Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x,y)f(x,y)dxdy
$$

 $\bullet$  Covariance of two scalar RVs *X* and *Y* :  $C_{XY} = E[(X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))]$  $E(Y)$ )] =  $E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$ 

## **Statistical independence**

The RVs *X* and *Y* are independent if they satisfy the following equality

$$
P(X \le x, Y \le y) = P(X \le x)P(Y \le y), \ \forall x, y
$$

$$
\bullet \ \ F_{XY}(x,y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y), \ f_{XY}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)
$$

## **Statistical Uncorrelatedness**

- Correlation coefficient of two scalar RVs *X* and *Y*:  $\rho = \frac{C_{XY}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$ .
- Correlation of two scalar RVs *X* and *Y* is defined as  $R_{XY} = E(XY)$ .
- The RVs *X* and *Y* are uncorrelated if

$$
\rho = 0 \text{ or } R_{XY} = E(X)E(Y).
$$

Independent ⊊ Uncorrelated

## **Uncorrelatedness VS independence**

- Two RVs *X* and *Y* have either a relationship or they don't have a relationship at all
- Now if there is a relationship, it's either linear or non-linear

Assume  $Y = aX + b$ , we have

$$
E(XY) = aEX^2 + bEX
$$

On the other hand,

$$
EXEY = a(EX)^2 + bEX
$$

Except for the case  $EX^2 = (EX)^2$ , i.e.,  $DX = 0$ , we have

$$
E(XY) \neq EXEY
$$

# **Cases when there are no linear relationship between 2 RVs**

Assume  $(X, Y)$  conforms to the uniform distribution on the boundary of a unit circle, and they satisfy,

$$
X^2 + Y^2 = 1,
$$

then we have  $f(x,y) = \frac{1}{\pi}, \forall x \in [-1,1], y = \pm$ √  $1 - x^2$ . We further have

$$
f_X(x) = \frac{2\sqrt{1-x^2}}{\pi}, \forall x \in [-1, 1]
$$

$$
f_Y(y) = \frac{2\sqrt{1-y^2}}{\pi}, \forall y \in [-1, 1]
$$

#### Thus

$$
E(XY) = 0, EX = 0, EY = 0
$$

# **Statistical Orthogonality**

- Two RVs are said to be orthogonal if  $R_{XY} = 0$
- Two uncorrelated RVs are orthogonal only if at least one of them is zero-mean

# **Example**

A slot machine is rigged so you get -1, 0, or 1 with equal probability for the first spin X. On the second spin Y you get 1 if  $X = 0$ , and 0 if  $X \neq 0$ .

$$
E(X) = \frac{-1+0+1}{3} = 0
$$
  
\n
$$
E(Y) = \frac{0+1+0}{3} = 1/3
$$
  
\n
$$
E(XY) = \frac{(-1)(0)+(0)(1)+(1)(0)}{3} = 0
$$

- *X* and *Y* are uncorrelated because  $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$
- *X* and *Y* are orthogonal because  $E(XY) = 0$
- The two RVs are dependent because the realization of *Y* depends on the realization of *X*.

## **Conditional Density Functions**

- Let *X* and *Y* be jointly distributed RVs;
- Define the conditional distribution function  $F_Y(y|x_1 \lt X \leq x_2)$  as the conditional probability of the event  ${Y \leq y}$  given that the event  ${x_1 < X \leq x_2}$  occurred, i.e.,

$$
F_Y(y|x_1 < X \le x_2) = P(Y \le y|x_1 < X \le x_2);
$$

• Define the conditional density function  $f_Y(y|X=x)$  as

$$
f_Y(y|X=x) = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} f_Y(y|x < X \le x + \Delta x);
$$

We have

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

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## **Multivariate statistics**

Given an *n*-element RV *X* and an *m*-element RV *Y* (assuming that both *X* and *Y* are column vectors), their correlation is defined as

$$
R_{XY} = E(XY^T)
$$
  
= 
$$
\begin{bmatrix} E(X_1Y_1) & \cdots & E(X_1Y_m) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ E(X_nY_1) & \cdots & E(X_nY_m) \end{bmatrix}
$$

Their covariance is defined as

$$
C_{XY} = E[(X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))^T]
$$

$$
= E(XY^T) - E(X)E(Y)^T
$$

The autocorrelation of the *n*-element RV *X* is defined as

$$
R_X = E[XX^T]
$$
  
= 
$$
\begin{bmatrix} E(X_1^2) & \cdots & E(X_1X_n) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ E(X_nX_1) & \cdots & E(X_n^2) \end{bmatrix}
$$

We have  $R_X = R_X^T$ , i.e., an autocorrelation matrix is always symmetric. Besides, an autocorrelation matrix is always positive semidefinite.

$$
z^T R_X z = z^T E[XX^T] z = E[z^T X X^T z] = E[(z^T X)^2] \ge 0
$$

The autocovariance of *n*-element RV *X* is defined as

$$
C_X = E[(X - E(X))(X - E(X)^T)]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \begin{bmatrix} E[(X - E(X))(X - E(X)^T)] & \cdots & E[(X_1 - E(X_1))(X_n - E(X_n))] \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ E[(X_n - E(X_n))(X_1 - E(X_1))] & \cdots & E[(X_n - E(X_n))^2] \\ \sigma_1^2 & \cdots & \sigma_{1n}^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{n1} & \cdots & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}
$$

An auto covariance matrix is always symmetric and positive semidefinite.

$$
z^{T}C_{X}z = z^{T}E[(X - \bar{X})(X - \bar{X})^{T}]z = E[(z^{T}(X - \bar{X}))^{2}] \ge 0
$$

## **Linear transformation of Gaussian RV**

An *n*-element RV *X* is Gaussian (normal) if

$$
\mathsf{pdf}(X) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\det(C_X)|^{1/2}} \exp\left[ -\frac{1}{2} (x - E(X))^T C_X^{-1} (x - E(X)) \right]
$$

- $\bullet$  Consider a Gaussian RV X that undergoes a linear transformation  $Y =$  $g(X) = AX + b$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- $\circ$  If  $A$  is invertible, we have

$$
f_Y(y) = |h'(y)| f_X[h(y)]
$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\det(A C_X A^T)|^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (y - E(Y))^T (AC_X A^T)^{-1} (y - E(Y)) \right],$   
i.e.,  $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(AE(X) + b, AC_X A^T)$ . The normality is preserved in linear  
transformations of random vectors (just as in scalar case).

## **Matrix derivative**

Usually, for vector derivative, the vector is defined as a column vector. For  $f(x): \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ , the Jacobian of  $f(x)$  is an  $n \times 1$  vector and the Hessian of  $f(x)$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix.

$$
\nabla_x f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}, \nabla_x^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial x^T} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}
$$

## **Matrix derivative**

Vector by vector derivative,  $f(x): \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$   $(m > 1)$ , where  $f = [f_1, \ldots, f_m]^T$ ,  $x = [x_1, \ldots, x_n]^T$ , the Jacobian matrix,

$$
\nabla_x f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}
$$

## **Matrix derivative**

Scalar by matrix derivative,  $f(X): \mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \to \mathbb{R}$ , where  $n, m > 1$  and

$$
X = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nm} \end{array} \right]
$$

we have

$$
\nabla_x f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{11}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{1m}} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{21}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{2m}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{n1}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{nm}} \end{bmatrix}
$$

#### **Properties of the determinant**

- $\bullet$  det  $(I_n) = 1$  where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.
- $\det(A^T) = \det(A),$  $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{1+4}$  $\frac{1}{\det(A)} = \det(A)^{-1}$
- For square matrices A and B of equal size,  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B)$ .
- $\det(cA) = c^n \det(A)$  for an  $n \times n$  matrix A.
# **Linear transformation of Gaussian RV**

$$
f_Y(y) = |h'(y)| f_X[h(y)]
$$
  
\n
$$
= |det(A^{-1})| f_X[h(y)]
$$
  
\n
$$
= |det(A^{-1})| \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |det(C_X)|^{1/2}}.
$$
  
\n
$$
exp \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \left[A^{-1}(y-b) - E(X)\right]^T C_X^{-1}[*]\right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= |det(A^{-1})| \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |det(C_X)|^{1/2}}.
$$
  
\n
$$
exp \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \left[A^{-1}y - A^{-1}b - \bar{x}\right]^T C_X^{-1}[*]\right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |det(A)| |det(C_X)|^{1/2}}.
$$
  
\n
$$
exp \left\{-\frac{1}{2} \left[A^{-1}y - A^{-1}b - A^{-1}\bar{y} + A^{-1}b\right]^T C_X^{-1}[*]\right\}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |det(A)|^{1/2} |det(C_X)|^{1/2} |det(A^T)|^{1/2}} exp \left[-\frac{1}{2}(y - \bar{y})^T (A^{-1})^T C_X^{-1} A^{-1} (y - \bar{y})\right]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |det(A) |A|^{1/2} |det(C_X)|^{1/2}} exp \left[-\frac{1}{2}(y - \bar{y})^T (A C_X A^T)^{-1} (y - \bar{y})\right]
$$

#### **Linear transformation of Gaussian RV: Understanding the covariance**



Points after linear transformation. The blue denotes the original points conforming to normal distribution,  
\n
$$
C_X = \text{diag}(0.3^2, 0.3^2), \text{ the green points } A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3.1623 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, b = 0, \text{ the red}
$$
\n
$$
A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3.1623 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, b = [-1, -1]^T, \text{ the yellow } A = \begin{bmatrix} -1.5648 & -0.7425 \\ -2.1711 & 0.5352 \end{bmatrix}, b = [2, 2]^T
$$

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# **Ellipsoid**

 $\bullet$  If  $v$  is a point and  $A$  is a real, symmetric, positive-definite matrix, then the set of points **x** that satisfy the equation

$$
(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v})^T A(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}) = 1
$$

is an ellipsoid centered at *v*.

- $\bullet$  The eigenvectors of  $A$  are the principal axes of the ellipsoid, and the eigenvalues of  $A$  are the reciprocals of the squares of the semi-axes:  $\,a^{-2},b^{-2}\,$  and  $c^{-2}$ .
- An invertible linear transformation applied to a sphere produces an ellipsoid.
- If the linear transformation is represented by a symmetric  $3 \times 3$  matrix, then the eigenvectors of the matrix are orthogonal and represent the directions of the axes of the ellipsoid

# **Eigen decomposition of the covariance matrix**

An eigenvector is a vector whose direction remains unchanged when a linear transformation is applied to it. It can be expressed as

$$
Av = \lambda v
$$

 $\bullet$  For a covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , assume the SVD decomposition is,

$$
\Sigma = U \Lambda U^{-1}
$$

then we have  $\Sigma U = U\lambda$ , meaning that *U* and  $\Lambda$  represents the eigenvectors and eigenvalues of  $\Sigma$ , respectively.

The eigenvectors are unit vectors representing the direction of the largest variance of the data, while the eigenvalues represent the magnitude of this variance in the corresponding directions.

# **Principle component analysis**



- In case where data lies on or near a low d--dimensional linear subspace, axes of this subspace are an effective representation of the data.
- Identifying the axes is known as Principal Components Analysis, and can be obtained by using classic matrix computation tools (Eigen or Singular Value Decomposition).

# **PCA algorithm**

Given data  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_m\}$ , compute the covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ ,

$$
\Sigma = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^T
$$

where 
$$
\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_i
$$
.

- PCA basis vectors = the eigenvectors of  $\Sigma$
- Larger eigenvalue ⇒ more important eigenvectors

### **PCA: eigenvalue & eigenvector**

For symmetric matrices, eigenvectors for distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal,

$$
\Sigma v_{\{1,2\}} = \lambda_{\{1,2\}} v_{\{1,2\}}, \text{ and } \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2 \Rightarrow v_1^T v_2 = 0.
$$

- All eigenvalues of a real symmetric matrix are real.
- All eigenvalues of a positive semidefinite matrix are nonnegative.

Let  $z = v_1^T \Sigma v_2$ , as  $z$  is a scalar, we have  $z^T = z$ , i.e.,

$$
v_2^T \Sigma^T v_1 = v_1^T \Sigma v_2
$$

As  $\Sigma$  is symmetric, we then have

$$
v_2^T \Sigma v_1 = v_2^T \lambda_1 v_1 = v_1^T \lambda_2 v_2^T
$$

that is

$$
\lambda_1 v_1^T v_2 = \lambda_2 v_1^T v_2
$$

as  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ , we have

$$
v_1^T v_2 = 0.
$$

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# **PCA algorithm**

Eigenvalue decomposition:

$$
\Sigma = U \Lambda U^{-1}
$$

- Columns of  $U$  are eigenvectors of  $\Sigma$
- Diagonal elements of  $\Lambda$  are eigenvalues of  $\Sigma$

$$
\Lambda = \mathrm{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_m), \lambda_i \geq \lambda_{i+1}.
$$

Select

$$
U_k = [u_1, \ldots, u_k], \Lambda_k = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_k),
$$

Let

$$
\mathbf{z}_i = U_k^T \mathbf{x}_i
$$

PCA learns the above linear transformation and construct the dataset  $Z = {\mathbf{z}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{z}_m}$ .

with  $cov(Z, Z) = \Lambda_k$ . (dimensionality reduction) Random Variables and Stochastic Processes 2-45

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- [Several Kinds of Stochastic Processes](#page-59-0)

A stochastic process, also called a random process, is a very simple generalization of the concept of a RV. A stochastic process  $X(t)$  is a RV *X* that changes with time.

- continuous random process: the RV at each time is continuous and time is continuous (the temperature at each moment of the day)
- $\bullet$  discrete random process: the RV at each time is discrete and time is continuous (the number of people in a given building at each moment of the day)
- continuous random sequence: the RV at each time is continuous and time is discrete (the high temperature each day)
- discrete random sequence: the RV at each time is discrete and time is discrete (the number of people in a given building each day)

#### **Distribution and density**

Since a stochastic process is a RV that changes with time, it has a distribution and density function that are functions of time.

- The PDF of  $X(t)$  is  $F_X(x,t) = P(X(t) \le x)$  (If  $X(t)$  is a random vector, then the inequality above is an element-by-element inequality, i.e.,  $F_X(x,t) = P[X_1(t) \le x_1, \cdots, X_n(t) \le x_n]$
- The pdf of  $X(t)$  is  $f_X(x,t) = \frac{dF_X(x,t)}{dx}$  (If  $X(t)$  is a random vector, then the derivative is taken once with respect to each element of *x*, i.e.,  $f_X(x,t) = \frac{\partial^n F_X(x,t)}{\partial x_1 \cdots \partial x_n}$  $\frac{\partial F_X(x,t)}{\partial x_1 \cdots \partial x_n}$

#### **Mean and covariance (over** *x***)**

The mean and covariance of  $X(t)$  are also functions of time:

- Mean:  $\bar{x}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x, t) dx$  (changes with time)
- Covariance:  $C_X(t) = E\{[X(t) \bar{x}(t)][X(t) \bar{x}(t)]^T\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [x \bar{x}(t)]^T dt$  $\bar{x}(t)$ ][ $x - \bar{x}(t)$ ]<sup>T</sup>  $f(x, t)dx$  (changes with time)

#### **Stochastic process at two different times**

Different random variables:  $X(t_1)$  and  $X(t_2)$ 

• joint distribution (second-order distribution) function:

$$
F(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2) = P(X(t_1) \le x_1, X(t_2) \le x_2)
$$

• joint density (second-order density) function:

$$
f(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2) = \frac{\partial^2 F(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}
$$

If  $X(t)$  is an *n*-element random vector, then the inequality that defines  $F(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2)$  actually consists of  $2n$  inequalities, and the derivative that defines  $f(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2)$  actually consists of  $2n$  derivatives.

#### **Autocorrelation and Autocovariance**

 $\bullet$  Autocorrelation of the stochastic process  $X(t)$ : the correlation between the two RVs  $X(t_1)$  and  $X(t_2)$ 

$$
R_X(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)X^T(t_2)]
$$

Autocovariance of a stochastic process:

$$
C_X(t_1, t_2) = E\{[X(t_1) - \bar{x}(t_1)][X(t_2) - \bar{x}(t_2)]^T\}
$$

# **Stationary stochastic process**

 $\bullet$  Strict-sense stationary: the stochastic process  $\{X(t)\}\;$  is said to be strictly stationary, strongly stationary or strict-sense stationary if

$$
F_X(x(t_1+\tau),\ldots,x(t_n+\tau))=F_X(x(t_1),\ldots,x(t_n))
$$

$$
\text{ for all }\tau,t_1,\ldots,t_n\in\mathbb{R}\text{ and for all }n\in\mathbb{N}
$$

e.g., flipping a coin ten times.

Wide-sense stationary: the mean of the stochastic process is constant with respect to time, and the autocorrelation is a function of the time difference  $t_2 - t_1$  (not a function of the absolute times):

$$
E[X(t)] = \bar{x}, \quad E[X(t_1)X^T(t_2)] = R_X(t_2 - t_1)
$$

• Stationary implies wide-sense stationary; wide-sense stationary does not implies stationary Random Variables and Stochastic Processes 2-52

# **Examples of stationary and non stationary stochastic process**

- The high temperature each day. Not stationary.
- Electrical noise. If the statistics of the noise are the same every day, then the electrical noise is a stationary process. For practical purposes, if the statistics of a random process do not change over the time interval of interest, then we consider the process to be stationary.
- tomorrow's closing price of the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Nonstationary stochastic process.
- More examples?

#### **Properties of wide-sense stationary stochastic process**

- $R_X(0) = E[X(t)X^T(t)]$
- $R_X(-\tau) = R_X^T(\tau)$
- For scalar stochastic processes, we have  $|R_X(\tau)| \le R_X(0)$

#### **Time average and autocorrelation**

Suppose that the process has a realization  $x(t)$ . For continuous-time random processes, we define:

Time average (sample average):

$$
A[X(t)] = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^{T} x(t)dt
$$

Time autocorrelation:

$$
R[X(t), \tau] = A[X(t)X^T(t+\tau)]
$$

# **Ergodic process**

An ergodic process is a stationary random process for which

 $A[X(t)] = E(X)$  $R[X(t), \tau] = R_X(\tau)$ 

In the real world, we are often limited to only a few realizations of a stochastic process. We can compute the time average, time autocorrelation, and other time-based statistics of the realization. If the random process is ergodic, then we can use those time averages to estimate the statistics of the stochastic process.

## **Example: Waves coming up on a beach**

- If you look from side-to-side, you get an idea of the distribution of heights at different spots at any one time
- If you measure at one spot, you get an idea of the distribution of heights at one spot over time.
- assume the process is ergodic, you would look up and down at a specific spot of the beach and infer the time series behavior of waves
- You will fail if the waves are not ergodic over the relevant time scale (we can assume a time scale for the ergodicity to be valid)

# **Example**

1.5

Suppose *X* is a random variable, and  $Y(t) = X \cos t$  is a stochastic process.

- 1. Find the expected value of  $Y(t)$ .
- 2. Find  $A[Y(t)]$ , the time average of  $Y(t)$ .
- 3. Under what condition is  $E[Y(t)] = A[Y(t)]$ ?



(a) Plot of  $y(t)$  when  $EX = 0$ 



(b) Plot of  $y(t)$  when  $EX = 1$ 

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#### **Two stochastic processes**

• The cross correlation of  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$ :

$$
R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)Y^T(t_2)]
$$

- $\bullet$  Two random processes  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$  are said to be uncorrelated if  $R_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)]E[Y(t_2)]^T$  for all  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .
- The cross covariance of  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$  is defined as

$$
C_{XY}(t_1, t_2) = E\{[X(t_1) - \bar{X}(t_1)][Y(t_2) - \bar{Y}(t_2)]^T\}
$$

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# **Markov model**

- In probability theory, a Markov model is a stochastic model used to model randomly changing systems
- In it is assumed that future states depend only on the current state, not on the events that occurred before it (that is, it assumes the Markov property)



#### Markov models

#### **Markov Chain**

For a discrete random sequence, the outcome of the *n*-th trial is the random variable  $X_n$ ,  $X_0$  is the initial position of the process. The discrete random sequence is called a **Markov Chain**, if we have

$$
P\{X_{n+1} = i_{n+1} | X_0 = i_0, X_1 = i_1, \dots, X_n = i_n\}
$$
  
= 
$$
P\{X_{n+1} = i_{n+1} | X_n = i_n\}
$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $i_0, \ldots, i_n, i_{n+1} \in S$  (*S* is the state set).

**Markov property**: the memoryless property of a stochastic process.

### **Illustration**





#### **Example: Where shall we go for lunch?**



From 
$$
T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}
$$

#### **Example: Where shall we go for lunch?**

Predict the preference for the restaurant:

$$
x_0 = [1 \ 0 \ 0], X_n = ?
$$

Steady state of preference for the restaurant?

$$
q = \lim_{n \to \infty} X_n
$$

What will happen if we change the transition matrix *T*?

$$
x_1 = x_0 \cdot T,
$$

each element indicates the corresponding probability

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# **Ergodic Markov Chain**

- A Markov chain is called an ergodic chain if it is possible to go from every state to every state (not necessarily in one move).
- $\bullet$  A transition matrix is regular where there is power of  $T$  that contains all positive no zeros entries.
- Any transition matrix that has no zeros determines a regular Markov chain. It is possible for a regular Markov chain to have a transition matrix that has zeros.
- Every regular chain is ergodic.
- Is it stationary? (the Markov chain stationary with stationary distribution  $\pi$  if  $\pi = \pi \cdot T$ ) If a Markov chain is regular, then it will have a unique stationary matrix and successive state matrices will always approach this stationary matrix

# **Hidden Markov Model**

- Hidden Markov Model (HMM) is a statistical Markov model in which the system being modeled is assumed to be a Markov process-call it *X*-with unobservable ("hidden") states.
- HMM assumes that there is another process *Y* whose behavior "depends" on *X*
- $\bullet$  HMM stipulates that, for each time instance  $n_0$ , the conditional probability distribution of  $Y_{n_0}$  given the history  $\{X_n=x_n\}_{n=n_0}$  must <code>NOT</code> depend on  ${x_n}_{n \le n_0}$
- The goal is to learn about *X* by observing *Y*

#### **Definition and application**

- Definition: Let *X<sup>n</sup>* and *Y<sup>n</sup>* be discrete-time stochastic processes and  $n \geq 1$ . The pair  $(X_n, Y_n)$  is a hidden markov model if
	- $X_n$  is a Markov process and is not directly observable ("hidden");
	- $P(Y_n \in A \mid X_1 = x_1, \ldots, X_n = x_n) = P(Y_n \in A \mid X_n = x_n)$ , for every  $n \geq 1, x_1, \ldots, x_n$ , and an arbitrary (measurable) set A.
- The states of the process  $X_n$  are called hidden states, and  $\mathbf{P}\left(Y_n\in\mathbb{C}\right)$  $A \mid X_n = x_n$ ) is called emission probability or output probability.
- Application: reinforcement learning and temporal pattern recognition such as speech, handwriting, gesture recognition, and bioinformatics.

### **Example: a hypothetical dishonest casino**

- The casino uses a fair die most of the time,
- Occasionally the casino secretly switches to a loaded die, and later the casino switches back to the fair die.
- A probabilistic process determines the switching back-and-forth from loaded die to fair die and back again after each toss of the die, with the switch from fair-to-loaded occurring with probability 0.05 and from loaded-to-fair with probability 0.1.
- Assume that the loaded die will come up "six" with probability 0.5 and the remaining five numbers with probability 0.1 each.

#### **Example: a hypothetical dishonest casino**

The transition matrix is

$$
A = \left[ \begin{array}{rrr} & F & L \\ F & 0.95 & 0.05 \\ L & 0.1 & 0.9 \end{array} \right]
$$

and the emission probability matrix is

$$
B = \left[ \begin{array}{cccccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ F & \frac{1}{6} \\ L & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right]
$$

If you can see only the sequence of rolls (the sequence of observations or signals) you do not know which rolls used a loaded die and which used a fair die, because the casino hides the state.

# **Question # 1 – Evaluation**



#### **GIVEN**

A sequence of rolls by the casino player

**1245526462146146136136661664661636616366163616515615115146123562344** Prob =  $1.3 \times 10^{-35}$ 

#### **QUESTION**

How likely is this sequence, given our model of how the casino works?

This is the **EVALUATION** problem in HMMs

# **Question # 2 – Decoding**



#### **GIVEN**

A sequence of rolls by the casino player



#### **QUESTION**

What portion of the sequence was generated with the fair die, and what portion with the loaded die?

This is the **DECODING** question in HMMs
# **Question # 3 – Learning**



#### **GIVEN**

A sequence of rolls by the casino player



#### **QUESTION**

How "loaded" is the loaded die? How "fair" is the fair die? How often does the casino player change from fair to loaded, and back?

This is the **LEARNING** question in HMMs

# **Random Walk**

- A random walk is a stochastic or random process, that describes a path that consists of a succession of random steps on some mathematical space such as the integers.
- Examples
	- $\bullet$  The random walk on the integer number line,  $\mathbb Z$ , which starts at 0 and at each step moves  $+1$  or -1 with equal probability
	- the path traced by a molecule as it travels in a liquid or a gas
	- the search path of a foraging animal
	- the price of a fluctuating stock
	- the financial status of a gambler
- The term random walk was first introduced by Karl Pearson in 1905

# **Random Walk**

- The term random walk most often refers to a special category of Markov chains or Markov processes
- Random walks can also take place on a variety of spaces
	- graphs
	- on the integers or the real line
	- in the plane or higher-dimensional vector spaces
	- on curved surfaces or higher-dimensional Riemannian manifolds
	- on finite groups, or Lie

#### **1-dimensional Random Walk**

- $\bullet$  Take independent random variables  $Z_1, Z_2, \ldots$ , where each variable is either 1 or -1, with a probability of *p* and  $1-p$ , respectively. Set  $S_0 = 0$ and  $S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n Z_j$ . The series  $\{S_n\}$  is called the simple random walk on  $\mathbb Z$ .
- $\bullet$  If  $p = 0.5$ , we have

$$
E(S_n) = \sum_{j=1}^n E(Z_j) = 0
$$
  

$$
E(S_n^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(Z_i^2) + 2 \sum_{1 \le i < j \le n} E(Z_i Z_j) = n.
$$

A one-dimensional random walk can also be looked at as a **Markov chain**, whose state space is given by the integers  $i = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots$ the transition probablity

$$
P_{i,i+1} = p = 1 - P_{i,i-1}.
$$

## **Wiener Process**

A standard (one-dimensional) Wiener process (depicts Brownian motion) is a stochastic process  $\{W_t\}_{t\geq 0_+}$  indexed by nonnegative real numbers  $t$ with the following properties:

 $W_0 = 0$ 

- *W* has independent increments, i.e., for every *t >* 0*,* the future increments  $W_{t+u} - W_t, u \geq 0$ , are independent of the past values  $W_s, s \leq t$ .
- *W* has Gaussian increments: *W<sup>t</sup>*+*<sup>u</sup>* − *W<sup>t</sup>* is normally distributed with mean 0 and variance *u*,  $W_{t+u} - W_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, u)$ .
- *W* has continuous paths: *W<sup>t</sup>* is continuous in *t*.

#### **Wiener Process as a Limit of Random Walks**

- One of the many reasons that Brownian motion is important in probability theory is that it is, in a certain sense, a limit of rescaled simple random walks.
- Let *ξ*1*, ξ*2*, . . .* be i.i.d. random variables with mean 0 and variance 1. For each *n*, define a continuous time stochastic process

$$
W_n(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{1 \le k \le \lfloor nt \rfloor} \xi_k, \qquad t \in [0, 1]
$$

- **Increments of**  $W_n$  **are independent because that**  $\xi_k$  **are independent.**
- For large *n*,  $W_n(t) W_n(s)$  is close to  $\mathcal{N}(0, t s)$  by the central limit theorem.

#### **Markov property of Wiener process**

- For all  $t_1 < t_2 \cdots < t_n$ , given  $W(t_1), \ldots, W(t_{n-1})$ , the conditional probability density function of  $P(W(t_n)|W(t_1), \ldots, W(t_{n-1}))$  is the same as  $P(W(t_n)|W(t_{n-1}))$ .
- $\bullet$  For all  $t_1 > t_2 \cdots > t_n$ , given  $W(t_1), \ldots, W(t_{n-1})$ , we have

$$
P(W(t_n)|W(t_1),\ldots,W(t_{n-1}))=P(W(t_n)|W(t_{n-1})).
$$

● For all  $t_1 < t_2$  · · · <  $t_n$ , given  $W(t_1), \ldots, W(t_{i-1}), W(t_{i+1}), W(t_n)$ , then we have

$$
P(W(t_i)|W(t_1),\ldots,W(t_{i-1}),W(t_{i+1}),W(t_n)) =
$$
  

$$
P(W(t_i)|W(t_{i-1}),W(t_{i+1})).
$$

## **Application of Wiener Process**

- The Wiener process plays an important role in both pure and applied mathematics.
- In pure mathematics, the Wiener process gave rise to the study of continuous time martingales, it plays a vital role in stochastic calculus, diffusion processes and even potential theory.
- In applied mathematics, the Wiener process is used to represent the integral of a white noise Gaussian process
- It is useful as a model of noise in electronics engineering (see **Brownian noise**), instrument errors in filtering theory
- It is used to describe unknown forces in control theory

#### **Poisson Processes**

Let *N*(*t*) be a stochastic process. It is called a homogeneous Poisson counting process with rate *λ >* 0 if

• 
$$
P{N(0) = 0} = 1
$$

$$
\bullet \forall n \in N, 0 < t_0 < t_1 < \ldots < t_n
$$
: The increments  $N(t_0), N(t_1) - N(t_0), \ldots, N(t_n) - N(t_{n-1})$  are independent

$$
\bullet \ \forall 0 < s < t : N(t) - N(s) \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda(t - s))
$$

It is clear that

$$
P(N(t) = n) = P(N(t) - N(0) = n|N(0) = 0) = P(N(t) - N(0) = n)
$$
  
= 
$$
\frac{(\lambda t)^n e^{-\lambda t}}{n!}
$$
  

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda t)^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda t} = e^{-\lambda t} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda t)^n}{n!} = 1, \forall t
$$

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# **Thinking**

Markov Property: For all *k* ∈ N and events {(*Xr*)*r*≤*<sup>t</sup>* ∈ *A*}and  $\{(X_{t+s})_{s>0} \in B\}$ , we have: if  $P(X_t = k, (X_r)_{r \le t} \in A) > 0$ , then

 $P((X_{t+s})_{s\geq 0} \in B | X_t = k, (X_r)_{r \leq t} \in A) = P((X_{t+s})_{s\geq 0} \in B | X_t = k)$ 

• Poisson process can be used for activity forecasting. "A Poisson Process Model for Activity Forecasting"

# **Examples**

- $\bullet$  the number of telephone calls at an office logged up to time  $t$
- the number of vehicles which pass a roadside speed camera within a specified hour
- $\bullet$  the number of students in Teaching Building 6 at time  $t$

 $0 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot$ 

## **Example**

The number of failures *N*(*t*), which occur in a computer network over the time interval  $[0, t)$ , can be described by a homogeneous Poisson process  $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ . On an average, there is a failure after every 4 hours, i.e. the intensity of the process is equal to  $\lambda=0.25[h^{-1}]$ . Derive the probability of at most 1 failure in [0*,* 8). Hints:  $E[N(t)] = \lambda t, N(0) = 0.$ 

# **White noise**

- In signal processing, white noise is a random signal having equal intensity at different frequencies, giving it a constant power spectral density.
- In discrete time, white noise is a discrete signal whose samples are regarded as a sequence of serially uncorrelated random variables with zero mean and finite variance.
- In particular, if each sample has a normal distribution with zero mean, the signal is said to be **Gaussian white noise**.

#### **Power spectral density (Power spectrum)**

- The power spectral density (PSD) refers to the measure of signal's power content versus frequency
- Parseval's theorem: Summation or integration of the spectral components yields the total power (for a physical process) or variance (in a statistical process), identical to what would be obtained by calculating the time average of  $x^2(t)$ , i.e.,

$$
P = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^{T} x^2(t)dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_x(\omega) d\omega
$$

#### **PSD for continuous time random process**

 $\bullet$  The power spectrum  $S_X(\omega)$  of a wide-sense stationary stochastic process *X*(*t*) is defined as the Fourier transform of the autocorrelation.

$$
S_X(\omega)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_X(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau}d\tau
$$

The autocorrelation is the inverse Fourier transform of the power spectrum

$$
R_X(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_X(\omega) e^{j\omega \tau} d\omega
$$

The power of a wide-sense stationary stochastic process (ergodic):

$$
P_X=\lim_{T\rightarrow\infty}\frac{1}{2T}\int_{-T}^T x^2(t)dt=E[X^2(t)]=\frac{1}{2\pi}\int_{-\infty}^\infty S_X(\omega)d\omega
$$

#### **Cross power spectral density**

The cross power spectral density (CPSD) or cross spectral density (CSD) of two wide-sense stationary stochastic processes  $X(t)$  and  $Y(t)$ is Fourier transform of the cross correlation:

$$
S_{XY}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{XY}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau
$$

$$
R_{XY}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{XY}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega
$$

# **Power spectral density for discrete-time random processes**

The power spectral density of a discrete-time random process:

$$
S_X(\omega) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} R_X(k)e^{-j\omega k}, \omega \in [-\pi, \pi]
$$

$$
R_X(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} S_X(\omega)e^{j\omega k} d\omega
$$

#### **Discrete-time white noise**

A discrete-time stochastic process *X*(*k*) is called white noise if

$$
R_X(k) = \begin{cases} \sigma^2 & \text{if } k = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq 0 \end{cases}
$$

$$
= \sigma^2 \delta_k
$$

where  $\delta_k$  is the Kronecker delta function, defined as

$$
\delta_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq 0 \end{cases}
$$

#### **Interpretation of discrete-time white noise**

- If  $X(k)$  is a discrete-time white noise process, then the RV  $X(n)$  is uncorrelated with  $X(m)$  unless  $n = m$ .
- The power spectral density of a discrete-time white noise process is equal at all frequencies:

$$
S_X(\omega) = R_X(0), \forall \omega \in [-\pi, \pi]
$$

## **Continuous-time white noise**

For a continuous-time random process, white noise has equal power at all frequencies (like white light):

 $S_X(ω) = R_{X,0}$ , ∀*ω* 

For continuous-time white noise, we have

$$
R_X(\tau) = R_{X,0}\delta(\tau)
$$

where  $\delta(\tau)$  is the continuous-time impulse function.

- Continuous-time white noise is not something that occurs in the real world because it has infinite power
- Many continuous-time processes approximate white noise and are useful in mathematical analysis of signals and systems

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# **Continuous-time white noise**

- An infinite-bandwidth white noise signal is a purely theoretical construction.
- The bandwidth of white noise is limited in practice by the mechanism of noise generation, by the transmission medium and by finite observation capabilities.
- Thus, a random signal is considered "white noise" if it is observed to have a flat spectrum over the range of frequencies that is relevant to the context.

# **Example**

Suppose that a zero-mean stationary stochastic process has the autocorrelation function

$$
R_X(\tau) = \sigma^2 e^{-\beta|\tau|}, \beta \in \mathbb{R}_+
$$

Calculate the power spectrum as well as the power of the stochastic process.

#### **Example**

The power spectrum

$$
S_X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sigma^2 e^{-\beta |\tau| e^{-j\omega \tau}} d\tau
$$
  
= 
$$
\int_{-\infty}^{0} \sigma^2 e^{(\beta - j\omega)\tau} d\tau + \int_{0}^{\infty} \sigma^2 e^{-(\beta + j\omega)\tau} d\tau
$$
  
= 
$$
\frac{\sigma^2}{\beta - j\omega} + \frac{\sigma^2}{\beta + j\omega}
$$
  
= 
$$
\frac{2\sigma^2 \beta}{\omega^2 + \beta^2}
$$

The variance (also power) of the stochastic process is computed as

$$
E[X^{2}(t)] = R_{X}(0)
$$
  
=  $P_{X} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{X}(\omega) d\omega$   
=  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{2\sigma^{2}\beta}{\omega^{2} + \beta^{2}} d\omega$   
=  $\frac{\sigma^{2}}{\pi} \arctan \frac{\omega}{\beta} \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty}$   
=  $\sigma^{2}$