

# Introduction

- Provide a brief review of topics that will help us:
  - Statistically characterize network traffic flow
  - Model and estimate performance parameters
- Set stage for discussion of traffic management, routing and compression later in the course
- **NOT** a condensed class in probability theory

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# Probability - Axiomatic Definition

## Common Axioms:

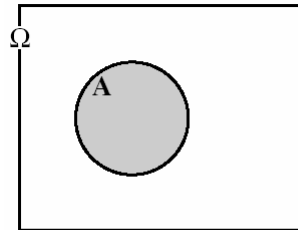
1.  $0 \leq \Pr[A] \leq 1$  for each even  $A$
2.  $\Pr[\Omega] = 1$
3.  $\Pr[A \cup B] = \Pr[A] + \Pr[B]$  if  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive

## Important Laws:

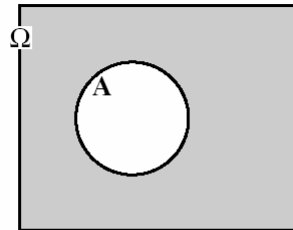
1.  $\Pr[\bar{A}] = 1 - \Pr[A]$
2.  $\Pr[A \cap B] = 0$  if  $A$  and  $B$  are mutually exclusive
3.  $\Pr[A \cup B] = \Pr[A] + \Pr[B] - \Pr[A \cap B]$
4.  $\Pr[A \cup B \cup C] = \Pr[A] + \Pr[B] + \Pr[C] - \Pr[A \cap B] - \Pr[A \cap C] - \Pr[B \cap C] + \Pr[A \cap B \cap C]$

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# Venn Diagrams



(a) A

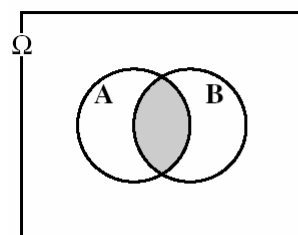


(b) NOT A  
 $\bar{A}$

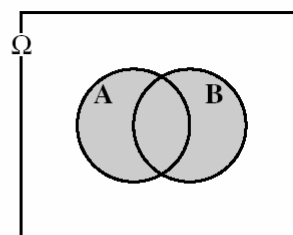
Complementation

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# Venn Diagrams



(c) A AND B  
 $A \cap B$

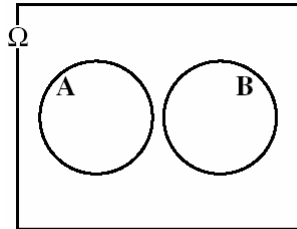


(d) A OR B  
 $A \cup B$

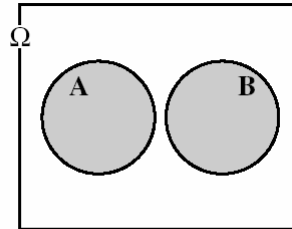
Intersection

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## Venn Diagrams



(e) A AND B  
 $A \cap B$



(f) A OR B  
 $A \cup B$

Mutual Exclusivity

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## Probability Definitions

Relative Frequency Definition:

$$\Pr[A] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n_A}{n}$$

where  $n$  is the number of trials, and  $n_A$  the number of times event  $A$  occurred

Classical Definition:

$$\Pr[A] = \frac{N_A}{N}$$

where  $N$  is the number of equally likely outcomes and  $N_A$  is the number of outcomes in which event  $A$  occurs

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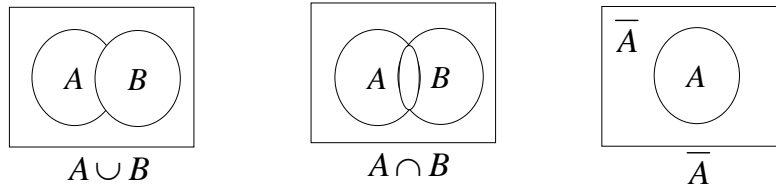
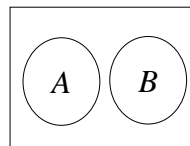


Fig.1.1

- If  $A \cap B = \phi$ , the empty set, then  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be mutually exclusive (M.E).
- A partition of  $\Omega$  is a collection of mutually exclusive subsets of  $\Omega$  such that their union is  $\Omega$ .

$$A_i \cap A_j = \phi, \text{ and } \bigcup_{i=1} A_i = \Omega. \quad (1-5)$$



$A \cap B = \phi$

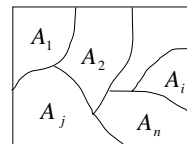


Fig. 1.2

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## Conditional Probability

- The conditional probability of an event  $A$ , given that event  $B$  has occurred is:

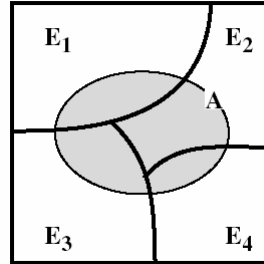
$$\Pr[A | B] = \frac{\Pr[AB]}{\Pr[B]}$$

- Where  $\Pr[AB]$  encompasses all possible outcomes that satisfy the conditions
- if  $A$  and  $B$  are independent events then  $\Pr[AB] = \Pr[A]\Pr[B]$

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## Total Probability

- Given a set of mutually exclusive events  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  covering all possible outcomes, and
- Given an arbitrary event  $A$ , then:

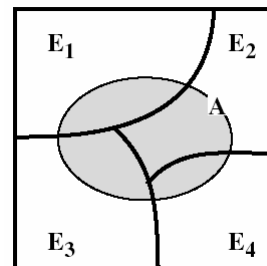


$$\Pr[A] = \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[A | E_i] \Pr[E_i]$$

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## Bayes's Theorem

- "Posterior odds" - the probability that an event really occurred, given evidence in favor of it:



$$\Pr[E_i | A] = \frac{\Pr[A | E_i] \Pr[E_i]}{\Pr[A]} = \frac{\Pr[A | E_i] \Pr[E_i]}{\sum_{i=1}^n \Pr[A | E_i] \Pr[E_i]}$$

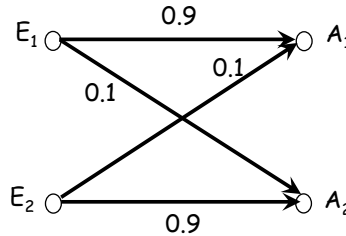
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## Example: binary symmetric Channel

- $P(A_1) = P(A_1|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A_1|B_2)P(B_2) = 0.58$

- $P(A_2) = P(A_2|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A_2|B_2)P(B_2) = 0.42$

- $P(B_1|A_1) = \{P(A_1|B_1)P(B_1)\} / P(A_1) = 0.931$



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## Bayes's Theorem Example - "The Juror's Fallacy"

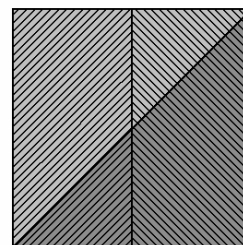
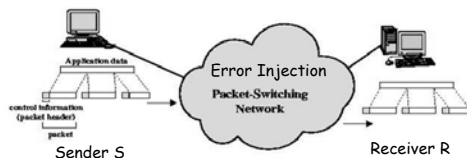
- Hit & run accident involving a taxi
- 85% of taxis are yellow, 15% are blue
- Eyewitness reported that the taxi involved in the accident was blue
- Data shows that eyewitnesses are correct on car color 80% of the time
- What is the probability that the cab was blue?

$$\Pr[\text{Blue}|\text{WB}] = \frac{\Pr[\text{WB}|\text{Blue}] \Pr[\text{Blue}]}{\Pr[\text{WB}|\text{Blue}] \Pr[\text{Blue}] + \Pr[\text{WB}|\text{Yellow}] \Pr[\text{Yellow}]}$$

$$= \frac{(0.8)(0.15)}{(0.8)(0.15) + (0.2)(0.85)} = 0.41$$

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# Bayes's Theorem Example



- Network injects errors (flips bits)
- Assume  $\Pr[S1] = \Pr[S0] = p = 0.5$
- Assume  $\Pr[R1] = \Pr[R0] = (1-p) = 0.5$
- Given error injection, such that  $\Pr[R0 | S1] = p_a$  and  $\Pr[R1 | S0] = p_b$ , then :

= S0; 0 sent      = R0; 0 received  
 = S1; 1 sent      = R1; 1 received

$$\Pr[S1 | R0] = \frac{\Pr[R0 | S1] \Pr[S1]}{\Pr[R0 | S1] \Pr[S1] + \Pr[R0 | S0] \Pr[S0]} = \frac{p_a p}{p_a p + (1-p_b)(1-p)}$$

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Although simple enough, Bayes' theorem has an interesting interpretation:  $P(A)$  represents the a-priori probability of the event  $A$ . Suppose  $B$  has occurred, and assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are not independent. How can this new information be used to update our knowledge about  $A$ ? Bayes' rule take into account the new information (" $B$  has occurred") and gives out the a-posteriori probability of  $A$  given  $B$ .

We can also view the event  $B$  as new knowledge obtained from a fresh experiment. We know something about  $A$  as  $P(A)$ . The new information is available in terms of  $B$ . The new information should be used to improve our knowledge/understanding of  $A$ . Bayes' theorem gives the exact mechanism for incorporating such new information.

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## Random Variables

- Association of real numbers with events, e.g. assigning a value to each outcome of an experiment
- A random variable  $X$  is a function that assigns a real number to every outcome in a sample space, and satisfies the following conditions:
  1. the set  $\{X \leq x\}$  is an event for every  $x$
  2.  $\Pr[X = \infty] = \Pr[X = -\infty] = 0$
- A random variable can be continuous or discrete

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## Random Variables

- Continuous random variables can be described by either a distribution function or a density function
- Discrete random variables are described by a probability function  $P_x(k)$
- Random variable characteristics:
  - Mean value
  - Second moment
  - Variance
  - Standard deviation

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# Bernoulli Trials

- A single trial can be classified as a "success" or a "failure"

- P(success)=p
- P(failure)=1-p=q

- Small set of trials; N
- Small set of outcomes (A); K
- For a N series of trials, we have

$$P_o(K) = \underbrace{P(A)P(A)\cdots P(A)}_K \underbrace{P(\bar{A})P(\bar{A})\cdots P(\bar{A})}_{N-K} = p^k q^{n-k}.$$

$$P(K) = \binom{N}{K} p^k q^{N-k} \text{ (binomial Distribution)}$$

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# Probability Functions

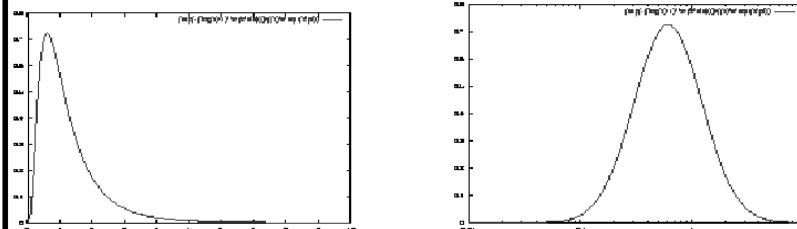
## Log Normal dists

- A random variable X is lognormally distributed if log(X) is normally distributed:

$$f(x) = \frac{e^{-(\log(x-\mu)/m)^2/(2\sigma^2)}}{(x-\mu)\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

- where  $\mu$  is the shape parameter,  $\sigma$  is the location parameter and m is the scale parameter.

✦ distributions look like normal in the log plot



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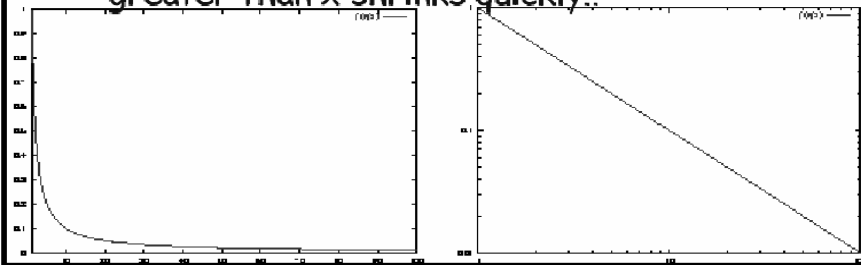
# Probability Functions

## Power Laws

- Experiments that have trials whose distributions have the general form:

$$P[X > x] \approx c x^{-a} \quad x \rightarrow \infty, a, c > 0$$

- As  $x$  increases, the probability that  $X$  is greater than  $x$  shrinks quickly!!



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# Probability Functions

## Power Laws

- Pareto: the simplest power law distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{ab^a}{x^{a+1}}, \quad x \geq b, \quad a > 0, \quad b > 0$$

⇒ cumulative distribution function (cdf)

$$P[X \leq x] = 1 - \frac{b^a}{x^a}$$

⇒ complementary cumulative distribution function (ccdf)

$$P[X > x] = \frac{b^a}{x^a}$$



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# Probability Functions

## Properties of the Pareto

•  $a$  determines the mean and variance

•  $b$  determines minimum value  $x$  can take

$$E[x] = \begin{cases} \infty & a \leq 1 \\ \frac{ab}{(1-a)} & a > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{var}[x] = \begin{cases} \infty & a \leq 2 \\ \frac{ab^2}{(a-1)^2(a-2)} & a > 2 \end{cases}$$

Note:  $1 < a < 2 \Rightarrow$  finite mean, *infinite variance!*

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# Probability Functions

## Pareto

- Pareto studied the distribution of incomes.
  - ✦ Few people have a lot of money, many are poor.
- Pareto distributions are concerned with how many events are larger than  $x$ : this number is an inverse power of  $x$ .

$$P[X > x] = \frac{b^a}{x^a}$$

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# Probability Functions

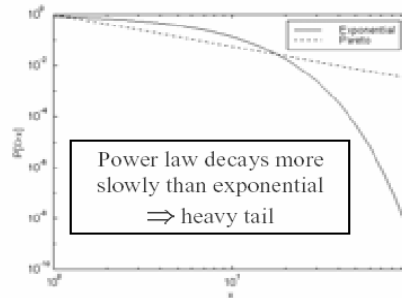
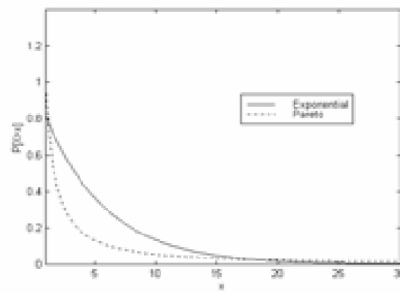
## "Signature" of a Power Law

- Consider a log-log plot of  $P[X > x]$  vs.  $x$

$$P[X > x] = \frac{b^a}{x^a}$$

$$\log(P[X > x]) = \log\left(\frac{b^a}{x^a}\right) = -a \log(x) + a \log(b)$$

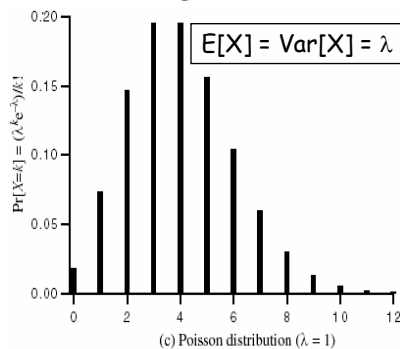
- Straight line with slope  $-a$



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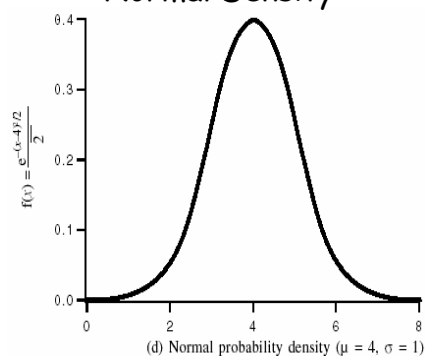
# Probability Distributions

## Poisson Distribution



$$\Pr[X=k] = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

## Normal Density



$$f(x) = \frac{e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

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### Functions of Random Variables: discrete-type

Suppose  $X$  is a discrete-type r.v with

$$P(X = x_i) = p_i, \quad x = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, \dots \quad (5-39)$$

and  $Y = g(X)$ . Clearly  $Y$  is also of discrete-type, and when  $x = x_i$ ,  $y_i = g(x_i)$ , and for those  $y_i$

$$P(Y = y_i) = P(X = x_i) = p_i, \quad y = y_1, y_2, \dots, y_i, \dots \quad (5-40)$$

**Example 5.8:** Suppose  $X \sim P(\lambda)$ , so that

$$P(X = k) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (5-41)$$

Define  $Y = X^2 + 1$ . Find the p.m.f of  $Y$ .

**Solution:**  $X$  takes the values  $0, 1, 2, \dots, k, \dots$  so that  $Y$  only takes the value  $1, 3, \dots, k^2 + 1, \dots$  and

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$$P(Y = k^2 + 1) = P(X = k)$$

so that for  $j = k^2 + 1$

$$P(Y = j) = P(X = \sqrt{j-1}) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{\sqrt{j-1}}}{(\sqrt{j-1})!}, \quad j = 1, 3, \dots, k^2 + 1, \dots \quad (5-42)$$

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## Functions of a Random Variable

### Continues Case:

Let  $X$  be a r.v defined on the model and suppose  $g(x)$  is a function of the variable  $x$ . Define

$$Y = g(X). \quad (5-1)$$

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Example 5.1:  $Y = aX + b$  (5-4)

Solution: Suppose  $a > 0$ .

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y(\xi) \leq y) = P(aX(\xi) + b \leq y) = P\left(X(\xi) \leq \frac{y-b}{a}\right) = F_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right). \quad (5-5)$$

and

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right). \quad (5-6)$$

On the other hand if  $a < 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y(\xi) \leq y) = P(aX(\xi) + b \leq y) = P\left(X(\xi) > \frac{y-b}{a}\right) \\ &= 1 - F_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (5-7)$$

and hence

$$f_Y(y) = -\frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right). \text{ Then, } f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) \quad (5-8)$$

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Note: As a general approach, given  $Y = g(X)$ , first sketch the graph  $y = g(x)$ , and determine the range space of  $y$ . Suppose  $a < y < b$  is the range space of  $y = g(x)$ . Then clearly for  $y < a$ ,  $F_Y(y) = 0$ , and for  $y > b$ ,  $F_Y(y) = 1$ , so that  $F_Y(y)$  can be nonzero only in  $a < y < b$ . Next, determine whether there are discontinuities in the range space of  $y$ . If so evaluate  $P(Y(\xi) = y_i)$  at these discontinuities. In the continuous region of  $y$ , use the basic approach

$$F_Y(y) = P(g(X(\xi)) \leq y)$$

and determine appropriate events in terms of the r.v  $X$  for every  $y$ . Finally, we must have  $F_Y(y)$  for  $-\infty \leq y \leq +\infty$ , and obtain

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{dF_Y(y)}{dy} \quad \text{in } -a < y < b.$$

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However, if  $Y = g(X)$  is a continuous function, it is easy to establish a direct procedure to obtain  $f_Y(y)$ . A continuous function  $g(x)$  with  $g'(x)$  nonzero at all but a finite number of points, has only a finite number of maxima and minima, and it eventually becomes monotonic as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ . Consider a specific  $y$  on the  $y$ -axis, and a positive increment  $\Delta y$  as shown in Fig. 5.4

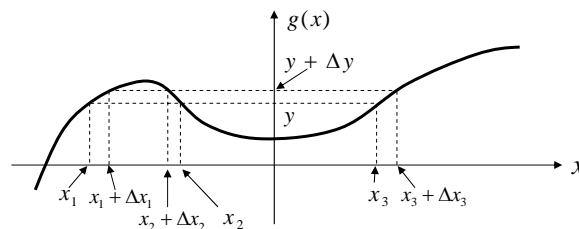


Fig. 5.4

$f_Y(y)$  for  $Y = g(X)$ , where  $g(\cdot)$  is of continuous type.

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For small  $\Delta y, \Delta x_i$ , making use of the approximation in (5-26), we get

$$f_Y(y)\Delta y = f_X(x_1)\Delta x_1 + f_X(x_2)(-\Delta x_2) + f_X(x_3)\Delta x_3. \quad (5-28)$$

In this case,  $\Delta x_1 > 0$ ,  $\Delta x_2 < 0$  and  $\Delta x_3 > 0$ , so that (5-28) can be rewritten as

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_i f_X(x_i) \frac{|\Delta x_i|}{\Delta y} = \sum_i \frac{1}{|\Delta y / \Delta x_i|} f_X(x_i) \quad (5-29)$$

and as  $\Delta y \rightarrow 0$ , (5-29) can be expressed as

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_i \frac{1}{|dy/dx|_{x_i}} f_X(x_i) = \sum_i \frac{1}{|g'(x_i)|} f_X(x_i). \quad (5-30)$$

The summation index  $i$  in (5-30) depends on  $y$ , and for every  $y$  the equation  $y = g(x_i)$  must be solved to obtain the total number of solutions at every  $y$ , and the actual solutions  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  all in terms of  $y$ .

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For example, if  $Y = X^2$ , then for all  $y > 0$ ,  $x_1 = -\sqrt{y}$  and  $x_2 = +\sqrt{y}$  represent the two solutions for each  $y$ . Notice that the solutions  $x_i$  are all in terms of  $y$  so that the right side of (5-30) is only a function of  $y$ . Referring back to the example  $Y = X^2$  (Example 5.2) here for each  $y > 0$ , there are two solutions given by  $x_1 = -\sqrt{y}$  and  $x_2 = +\sqrt{y}$ . ( $f_Y(y) = 0$  for  $y < 0$ ).

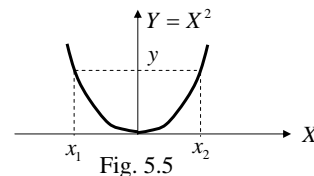
Moreover

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x \quad \text{so that} \quad \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=x_i} = 2\sqrt{y}$$

and using (5-30) we get

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} (f_X(\sqrt{y}) + f_X(-\sqrt{y})), & y > 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (5-31)$$

which agrees with (5-14).



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## 8. One Function of Two Random Variables

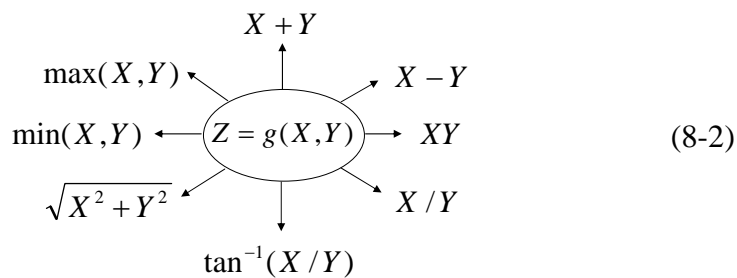
Given two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  and a function  $g(x,y)$ , we form a new random variable  $Z$  as

$$Z = g(X, Y). \quad (8-1)$$

Given the joint p.d.f  $f_{XY}(x, y)$ , how does one obtain  $f_Z(z)$ , the p.d.f of  $Z$ ? Problems of this type are of interest from a practical standpoint. For example, a receiver output signal usually consists of the desired signal buried in noise, and the above formulation in that case reduces to  $Z = X + Y$ .

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It is important to know the statistics of the incoming signal for proper receiver design. In this context, we shall analyze problems of the following type:



Referring back to (8-1), to start with

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= P(Z(\xi) \leq z) = P(g(X, Y) \leq z) = P[(X, Y) \in D_z] \\ &= \int \int_{x,y \in D_z} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy, \end{aligned} \quad (8-3)$$

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where  $D_z$  in the  $XY$  plane represents the region such that  $g(x, y) \leq z$  is satisfied. Note that  $D_z$  need not be simply connected (Fig. 8.1). From (8-3), to determine  $F_Z(z)$  it is enough to find the region  $D_z$  for every  $z$ , and then evaluate the integral there.

We shall illustrate this method through various examples.

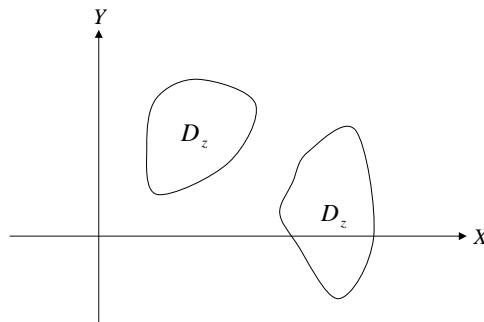


Fig. 8.1

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Example 8.1:  $Z = X + Y$ . Find  $f_Z(z)$ .

Solution:

$$F_Z(z) = P(X + Y \leq z) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^{z-y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy, \quad (8-4)$$

since the region  $D_z$  of the  $xy$  plane where  $x + y \leq z$  is the shaded area in Fig. 8.2 to the left of the line  $x + y = z$ .

Integrating over the horizontal strip along the  $x$ -axis first (inner integral) followed by sliding that strip along the  $y$ -axis from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$  (outer integral) we cover the entire shaded area.

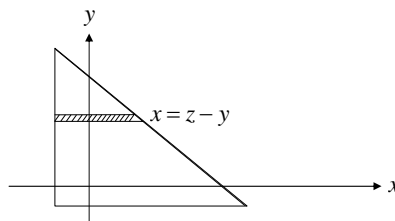


Fig. 8.2

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We can find  $f_z(z)$  by differentiating  $F_z(z)$  directly. In this context, it is useful to recall the differentiation rule in (7-15) - (7-16) due to Leibnitz. Suppose

$$H(z) = \int_{a(z)}^{b(z)} h(x, z) dx. \quad (8-5)$$

Then

$$\frac{dH(z)}{dz} = \frac{db(z)}{dz} h(b(z), z) - \frac{da(z)}{dz} h(a(z), z) + \int_{a(z)}^{b(z)} \frac{\partial h(x, z)}{\partial z} dx. \quad (8-6)$$

Using (8-6) in (8-4) we get

$$\begin{aligned} f_z(z) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_{-\infty}^{z-y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx \right) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left( 1 \cdot f_{XY}(z-y, y) - 0 + \frac{\partial f_{XY}(x, y)}{\partial z} \right) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_{XY}(z-y, y) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (8-7)$$

Alternatively, the integration in (8-4) can be carried out first along the  $y$ -axis followed by the  $x$ -axis as in Fig. 8.3.

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In that case

$$F_z(z) = \int_{x=-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{y=-\infty}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy, \quad (8-8)$$

and differentiation of (8-8)

gives

$$\begin{aligned} f_z(z) &= \frac{dF_z(z)}{dz} = \int_{x=-\infty}^{+\infty} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_{y=-\infty}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy \right) dx \\ &= \int_{x=-\infty}^{+\infty} f_{XY}(x, z-x) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (8-9)$$

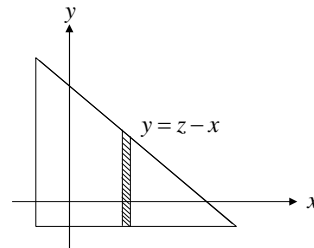


Fig. 8.3

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x) f_Y(y) \quad (8-10)$$

and inserting (8-10) into (8-8) and (8-9), we get

$$f_z(z) = \int_{y=-\infty}^{+\infty} f_X(z-y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_{x=-\infty}^{+\infty} f_X(x) f_Y(z-x) dx. \quad (8-11)$$

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The above integral is the standard convolution of the functions  $f_X(z)$  and  $f_Y(z)$  expressed two different ways. We thus reach the following conclusion: If two r.v.s are independent, then the density of their sum equals the convolution of their density functions.

As a special case, suppose that  $f_X(x) = 0$  for  $x < 0$  and  $f_Y(y) = 0$  for  $y < 0$ , then we can make use of Fig. 8.4 to determine the new limits for  $D_z$ .

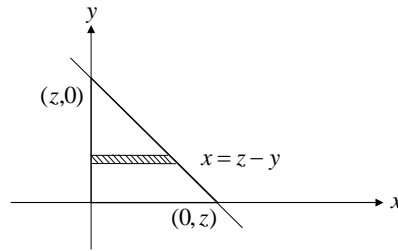


Fig. 8.4

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In that case

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{y=0}^z \int_{x=0}^{z-y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$$

or

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{y=0}^z \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_{x=0}^{z-y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx \right) dy = \begin{cases} \int_0^z f_{XY}(z-y, y) dy, & z > 0, \\ 0, & z \leq 0. \end{cases} \quad (8-12)$$

On the other hand, by considering vertical strips first in Fig. 8.4, we get

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{x=0}^z \int_{y=0}^{z-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx$$

or

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{x=0}^z f_{XY}(x, z-x) dx = \begin{cases} \int_{y=0}^z f_X(x) f_Y(z-x) dx, & z > 0, \\ 0, & z \leq 0, \end{cases} \quad (8-13)$$

if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables.

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Example 8.2: Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent exponential r.vs with common parameter  $\lambda$ , and let  $Z = X + Y$ .

Determine  $f_Z(z)$ .

Solution: We have  $f_X(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} U(x)$ ,  $f_Y(y) = \lambda e^{-\lambda y} U(y)$ , (8-14)

and we can make use of (13) to obtain the p.d.f of  $Z = X + Y$ .

$$f_Z(z) = \int_0^z \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda x} e^{-\lambda(z-x)} dx = \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda z} \int_0^z dx = z \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda z} U(z). \quad (8-15)$$

As the next example shows, care should be taken in using the convolution formula for r.vs with finite range.

Example 8.3:  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent uniform r.vs in the common interval  $(0,1)$ . Determine  $f_Z(z)$ , where  $Z = X + Y$ .

Solution: Clearly,  $Z = X + Y \Rightarrow 0 < z < 2$  here, and as Fig. 8.5 shows there are two cases of  $z$  for which the shaded areas are quite different in shape and they should be considered separately.

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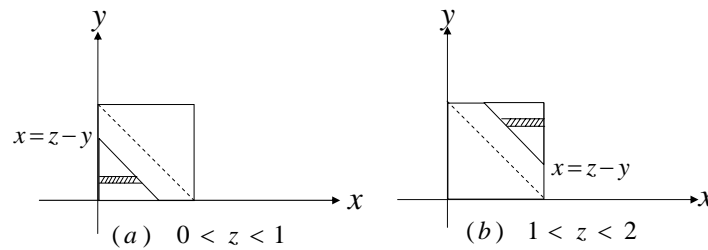


Fig. 8.5

For  $0 \leq z < 1$ ,

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{y=0}^z \int_{x=0}^{z-y} 1 \, dx dy = \int_{y=0}^z (z-y) dy = \frac{z^2}{2}, \quad 0 \leq z < 1. \quad (8-16)$$

For  $1 \leq z < 2$ , notice that it is easy to deal with the unshaded region. In that case

$$\begin{aligned} F_Z(z) &= 1 - P(Z > z) = 1 - \int_{y=z-1}^1 \int_{x=z-y}^1 1 \, dx dy \\ &= 1 - \int_{y=z-1}^1 (1-z+y) dy = 1 - \frac{(2-z)^2}{2}, \quad 1 \leq z < 2. \end{aligned} \quad (8-17)$$

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Using (8-16) - (8-17), we obtain

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{dF_Z(z)}{dz} = \begin{cases} z & 0 \leq z < 1, \\ 2-z, & 1 \leq z < 2. \end{cases} \quad (8-18)$$

By direct convolution of  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$ , we obtain the same result as above. In fact, for  $0 \leq z < 1$  (Fig. 8.6(a))

$$f_Z(z) = \int f_X(z-x)f_Y(x)dx = \int_0^z 1 dx = z. \quad (8-19)$$

and for  $1 \leq z < 2$  (Fig. 8.6(b))

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{z-1}^1 1 dx = 2-z. \quad (8-20)$$

Fig 8.6 (c) shows  $f_Z(z)$  which agrees with the convolution of two rectangular waveforms as well.

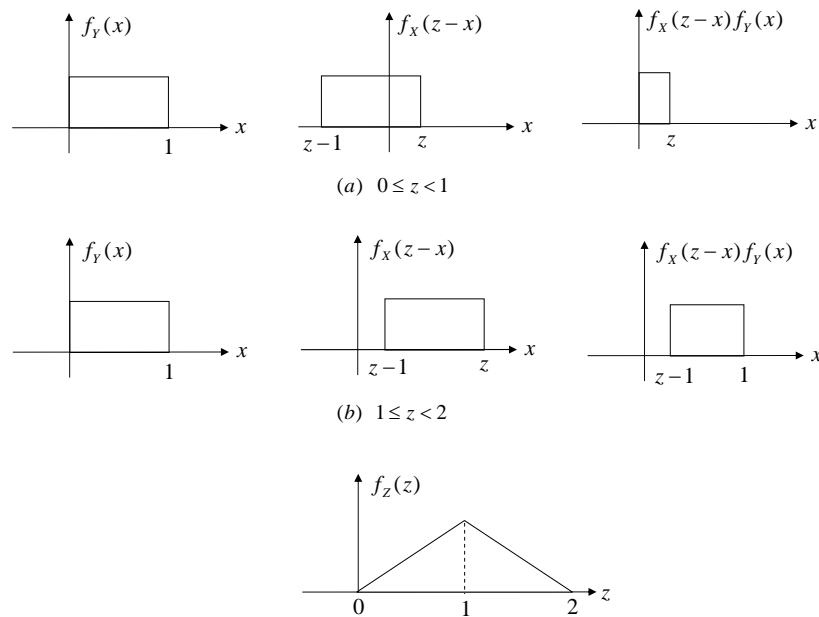


Fig. 8.6 (c)

## Mean, Variance, Moments and Characteristic Functions

For a r.v  $X$ , its p.d.f  $f_X(x)$  represents complete information about it, and for any Borel set  $B$  on the  $x$ -axis

$$P(X(\xi) \in B) = \int_B f_X(x) dx. \quad (6-1)$$

Note that  $f_X(x)$  represents very detailed information, and quite often it is desirable to characterize the r.v in terms of its average behavior. In this context, we will introduce two parameters - mean and variance - that are universally used to represent the overall properties of the r.v and its p.d.f.

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**Mean** or the **Expected Value** of a r.v  $X$  is defined as

$$\eta_X = \bar{X} = E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f_X(x) dx. \quad (6-2)$$

If  $X$  is a discrete-type r.v, then using (3-25) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_X = \bar{X} = E(X) &= \int x \sum_i p_i \delta(x - x_i) dx = \sum_i x_i p_i \underbrace{\int \delta(x - x_i) dx}_1 \\ &= \sum_i x_i p_i = \sum_i x_i P(X = x_i). \end{aligned} \quad (6-3)$$

Mean represents the average (mean) value of the r.v in a very large number of trials. For example if  $X \sim U(a, b)$ , then using (3-31),

$$E(X) = \int_a^b \frac{x}{b-a} dx = \frac{1}{b-a} \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_a^b = \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2(b-a)} = \frac{a+b}{2} \quad (6-4)$$

is the midpoint of the interval  $(a, b)$ .

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## Moments

$$m_n = \overline{X^n} = E(X^n), \quad n \geq 1$$

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$$\mu_n = E[(X - \mu)^n] \quad (6-25)$$

are known as the central moments of  $X$ . Clearly, the mean  $\mu = m_1$ , and the variance  $\sigma^2 = \mu_2$ . It is easy to relate  $m_n$  and  $\mu_n$ . Infact

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_n &= E[(X - \mu)^n] = E\left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} X^k (-\mu)^{n-k}\right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} E(X^k) (-\mu)^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} m_k (-\mu)^{n-k}. \end{aligned} \quad (6-26)$$

In general, the quantities

$$E[(X - a)^n] \quad (6-27)$$

are known as the generalized moments of  $X$  about  $a$ , and

$$E[|X|^n] \quad (6-28)$$

are known as the absolute moments of  $X$ .

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$$\Phi_X(\omega) \triangleq E(e^{jX\omega}) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{jx\omega} f_X(x) dx. \quad (6-31)$$

Thus  $\Phi_X(0) = 1$ , and  $|\Phi_X(\omega)| \leq 1$  for all  $\omega$ .

For discrete r.v.s the characteristic function reduces to

$$\Phi_X(\omega) = \sum_k e^{jk\omega} P(X = k). \quad (6-32)$$

Thus for example, if  $X \sim P(\lambda)$ , then its characteristic function is given by

$$\Phi_X(\omega) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{jk\omega} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda e^{j\omega})^k}{k!} = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda e^{j\omega}} = e^{\lambda(e^{j\omega}-1)}. \quad (6-33)$$

Similarly, if  $X$  is a binomial r.v., its characteristic function is given by

$$\Phi_X(\omega) = \sum_{k=0}^n e^{jk\omega} \binom{n}{k} p^k q^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (pe^{j\omega})^k q^{n-k} = (pe^{j\omega} + q)^n. \quad (6-34)$$

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To illustrate the usefulness of the characteristic function of a r.v. in computing its moments, first it is necessary to derive the relationship between them. Towards this, from (6-31)

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_X(\omega) &= E(e^{jX\omega}) = E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(j\omega X)^k}{k!}\right] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} j^k \frac{E(X^k)}{k!} \omega^k \\ &= 1 + jE(X)\omega + j^2 \frac{E(X^2)}{2!} \omega^2 + \dots + j^k \frac{E(X^k)}{k!} \omega^k + \dots. \end{aligned} \quad (6-35)$$

Taking the first derivative of (6-35) with respect to  $\omega$ , and letting it to be equal to zero, we get

$$\left. \frac{\partial \Phi_X(\omega)}{\partial \omega} \right|_{\omega=0} = jE(X) \quad \text{or} \quad E(X) = \frac{1}{j} \left. \frac{\partial \Phi_X(\omega)}{\partial \omega} \right|_{\omega=0}. \quad (6-36)$$

Similarly, the second derivative of (6-35) gives

$$E(X^2) = \frac{1}{j^2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 \Phi_X(\omega)}{\partial \omega^2} \right|_{\omega=0}, \quad (6-37)$$

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## Probability Distributions - Relevance to Networks 2

- Service times of queues ( $t_{\text{trans}}$ ) in packet switching routers can be effectively modeled as exponential
- Arrival pattern of packets at a router is often Poisson in nature
  - and, arrival interval is exponential
- Central Limit Theorem: the distribution of a very large number of independent RVs is approximately normal, independent of individual distributions

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## Multiple Random Variables

- Independence:
  - $F(x,y) = F(x)F(y)$ , and  $f(x,y) = f(x)f(y)$
- Covariance:
  - $\text{Cov}(X,Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$
- Correlation coefficient
  - $r(X,Y) = \text{Cov}(X,Y) / \sigma_x \sigma_y$ 
    - positively correlated:  $r(X,Y) > 0$
    - negatively correlated:  $r(X,Y) < 0$
    - uncorrelated:  $r(X,Y) = \text{Cov}(X,Y) = 0$

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# Stochastic (Random) Processes

- Family of Random Variables
  - $\{x(t), t \in T\}$ , indexed by parameter  $t$  over index set  $T$
  - index set is typically taken as time dimension
  - continuous- or discrete-time,  $t$
  - continuous- or discrete-value,  $x(t)$

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## 14. Stochastic Processes

### Introduction

Let  $\xi$  denote the random outcome of an experiment. To every such outcome suppose a waveform  $X(t, \xi)$  is assigned.

The collection of such waveforms form a stochastic process. The set of  $\{\xi_k\}$  and the time index  $t$  can be continuous or discrete (countably infinite or finite) as well.

For fixed  $\xi_i \in S$  (the set of all experimental outcomes),  $X(t, \xi)$  is a specific time function.

For fixed  $t$ ,

$$X_1 = X(t_1, \xi_1)$$

is a random variable. The ensemble of all such realizations  $X(t, \xi)$  over time represents the stochastic

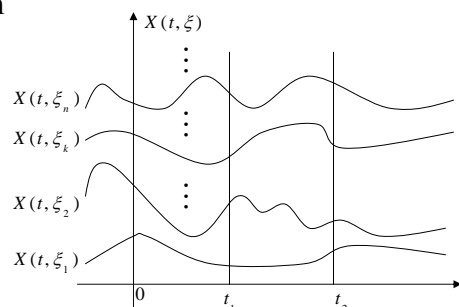


Fig. 14.1

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process  $X(t)$ . (see Fig 14.1). For example

$$X(t) = a \cos(\omega_0 t + \varphi),$$

where  $\varphi$  is a uniformly distributed random variable in  $(0, 2\pi)$ , represents a stochastic process. Stochastic processes are everywhere: Brownian motion, stock market fluctuations, various queuing systems all represent stochastic phenomena.

If  $X(t)$  is a stochastic process, then for fixed  $t$ ,  $X(t)$  represents a random variable. Its distribution function is given by

$$F_x(x, t) = P\{X(t) \leq x\} \quad (14-1)$$

Notice that  $F_x(x, t)$  depends on  $t$ , since for a different  $t$ , we obtain a different random variable. Further

$$f_x(x, t) \triangleq \frac{dF_x(x, t)}{dx} \quad (14-2)$$

represents the first-order probability density function of the process  $X(t)$ .

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For  $t = t_1$  and  $t = t_2$ ,  $X(t)$  represents two different random variables  $X_1 = X(t_1)$  and  $X_2 = X(t_2)$  respectively. Their joint distribution is given by

$$F_x(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2) = P\{X(t_1) \leq x_1, X(t_2) \leq x_2\} \quad (14-3)$$

and

$$f_x(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2) \triangleq \frac{\partial^2 F_x(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \quad (14-4)$$

represents the second-order density function of the process  $X(t)$ .

Similarly  $f_x(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n)$  represents the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order density function of the process  $X(t)$ . Complete specification of the stochastic process  $X(t)$  requires the knowledge of  $f_x(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n)$  for all  $t_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and for all  $n$ . (an almost impossible task in reality).

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**Mean of a Stochastic Process:**

$$\mu(t) \triangleq E\{X(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f_x(x, t) dx \quad (14-5)$$

represents the mean value of a process  $X(t)$ . In general, the mean of a process can depend on the time index  $t$ .

**Autocorrelation** function of a process  $X(t)$  is defined as

$$R_{xx}(t_1, t_2) \triangleq E\{X(t_1)X^*(t_2)\} = \iint x_1 x_2^* f_x(x_1, x_2, t_1, t_2) dx_1 dx_2 \quad (14-6)$$

and it represents the interrelationship between the random variables  $X_1 = X(t_1)$  and  $X_2 = X(t_2)$  generated from the process  $X(t)$ .

**Properties:**

1.  $R_{xx}(t_1, t_2) = R_{xx}^*(t_2, t_1) = [E\{X(t_2)X^*(t_1)\}]^*$  (14-7)
2.  $R_{xx}(t, t) = E\{|X(t)|^2\} > 0$ . (Average instantaneous power)

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3.  $R_{xx}(t_1, t_2)$  represents a nonnegative definite function, i.e., for any set of constants  $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^n$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_i a_j^* R_{xx}(t_i, t_j) \geq 0. \quad (14-8)$$

Eq. (14-8) follows by noticing that  $E\{|Y|^2\} \geq 0$  for  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i X(t_i)$ . The function

$$C_{xx}(t_1, t_2) = R_{xx}(t_1, t_2) - \mu_x(t_1)\mu_x^*(t_2) \quad (14-9)$$

represents the **autocovariance** function of the process  $X(t)$ .

**Example 14.1**

Let

$$z = \int_{-T}^T X(t) dt.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E[|z|^2] &= \int_{-T}^T \int_{-T}^T E\{X(t_1)X^*(t_2)\} dt_1 dt_2 \\ &= \int_{-T}^T \int_{-T}^T R_{xx}(t_1, t_2) dt_1 dt_2 \end{aligned} \quad (14-10)$$

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### Example 14.2

$$X(t) = a \cos(\omega_0 t + \varphi), \quad \varphi \sim U(0, 2\pi). \quad (14-11)$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_x(t) &= E\{X(t)\} = aE\{\cos(\omega_0 t + \varphi)\} \\ &= a \cos \omega_0 t E\{\cos \varphi\} - a \sin \omega_0 t E\{\sin \varphi\} = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (14-12)$$

since  $E\{\cos \varphi\} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos \varphi d\varphi = 0 = E\{\sin \varphi\}$ .

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} R_{xx}(t_1, t_2) &= a^2 E\{\cos(\omega_0 t_1 + \varphi) \cos(\omega_0 t_2 + \varphi)\} \\ &= \frac{a^2}{2} E\{\cos \omega_0(t_1 - t_2) + \cos(\omega_0(t_1 + t_2) + 2\varphi)\} \\ &= \frac{a^2}{2} \cos \omega_0(t_1 - t_2). \end{aligned} \quad (14-13)$$

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## Brownian Motion Processes

- Stochastic process that describes Random Movement of particles
  - Let  $B(t)$  denote displacement in one dimension after time  $t$
  - Let  $B(t) - B(s)$  denote net movement over time interval  $(s, t)$
  - Then,  $B(t) - B(s)$  has normal distribution
- Brownian probability density function:

$$f_B(x, t) = \frac{e^{-x^2/2\sigma^2 t}}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi t}}$$

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