Random Processes

Definitions:

A random process is a family of random variables indexed by a parameter $t \in T$, where T is called the index set.

Experiment outcome is λ_i , which is a whole function $X(t, \lambda_i) = x_i(t)$. this real-valued function is called a *sample function*. The set of all sample functions is an *ensamble*.



Statistics of Random Processes

I. Distributions and Densities

Random process X(t). For a particular value of t, say t_1 , we have a random variable $X(t_1) = X_1$. The distribution function of this random variable is defined by

 $F_X(x_1;t_1) = P\{X(t_1) \le x_1\}$, and is called the *first-order* distribution of X(t).

The corresponding *first-order* density function is $f_X(x_1;t_1) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} F_X(x_1;t_1)$.

For t_1 and t_2 , we get two random variables $X(t_1) = X_1$ and $X(t_2) = X_2$. Their joint distribution is called the *second-order* distribution:

 $F_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2) = P\{X(t_1) \le x_1, X(t_2) \le x_2\}$, with corresponding second-order density function

$$f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} F_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2).$$

The nth-order distribution and density functions are given by

$$F_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) = P\{X(t_1) \le x_1, X(t_2) \le x_2, \dots, X(t_n) \le x_n\}, \text{ and }$$

$$f_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) = \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2 \dots \partial x_n} F_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n).$$

II. Statistical Averages (ensamble averages)

The *mean* of X(t) is defined by $E[X(t)] = \overline{X}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x;t) dx$.

The *autocorrelation* of X(t) is defined by

$$R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) = E[X(t_1)X(t_2)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_1 x_2 f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2) dx_1 dx_2.$$

The *autocovariances* of X(t) is defined by

$$C_{XX}(t_1, t_2) \,=\, E\big\{ \big[X(t_1) - \overline{X}(t_1) \big] \big[X(t_2) - \overline{X}(t_2) \big] \big\} \,=\, R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) - \overline{X}(t_1) \overline{X}(t_2)$$

The *nth joint moment* of X(t) is defined by

$$E[X(t_1)X(t_2)...X(t_n)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ... \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_1 x_2 ... x_n f_X(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n; t_1, t_2, ..., t_n) dx_1 dx_2 ... dx_n$$

III. Stationarity

Strict-Sense Stationarity

A random process X(t) is called *strict-sense stationary (SSS)* if the statistics are invariant w.r.t. any time shift, i.e. $f_X(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n; t_1, t_2, ..., t_n) = f_X(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n; t_1 + c, t_2 + c, ..., t_n + c)$

It follows $f_X(x_1;t_1) = f_X(x_1;t_1+c)$ for any c, hence first-order density of a SSS X(t) is independent of time $t: f_X(x_1;t) = f_X(x_1)$. Similarly, $f_X(x_1, x_2;t_1, t_2) = f_X(x_1, x_2;t_1+c, t_2+c)$.

By setting $c = -t_1$, we get $f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2) = f_X(x_1, x_2; t_2 - t_1)$. Thus, if X(t) is SSS, the joint density of the random variables X(t) and $X(t + \tau)$ is independent of t and depends only on the time difference τ .

Wide -Sense Stationary

A random process X(t) is said to be *wide-sense stationary (WSS)* if its mean is constant (independent of time) $E[X(t)] = \overline{X}$, and its autocorrelation depends only on the time difference τ . $E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] = R_{XX}(\tau)$

As a result, the auto covariance of a WSS process also depends only on the time difference τ :

$$C_{XX}(\tau) \; = \; R_{XX}(\tau) - \overline{X}^2 \, . \label{eq:constraint}$$

Setting $\tau = 0$ in $E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] = R_{XX}(\tau)$ results in $E[X^2(t)] = R_{XX}(0)$. The average power of a WSS process is independent of time *t*, and equals $R_{XX}(0)$.

An SSS process is WSS, but a WSS process is not necessarily SSS.

Two processes X(t) and Y(t) are jointly wide-sense stationary (jointly WSS) if each is WSS and their crosscorrelation depends only on the time difference τ :

 $R_{XY}(t, t + \tau) = E[X(t)Y(t + \tau)] = R_{XY}(\tau)$ Also the cross-covariance of jointly WSS X(t) and Y(t) depends only on the time difference τ :

 $C_{XY}(\tau) \; = \; R_{XY}(\tau) - \overline{X} \, \overline{Y} \, .$

IV. Time Averages and Ergodicity

The *time-averaged mean* of a sample function x(t) of a random process X(t) is defined as

$$\langle x(t) \rangle = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} x(t) dt$$
, where the symbol $\langle . \rangle$ denotes *time-averaging*

Similarly, the *time-averaged autocorrelation* of the sample function *x*(*t*) is

$$\langle x(t)x(t+\tau)\rangle = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2} x(t)x(t+\tau)dt$$

Both $\langle x(t) \rangle$ and $\langle x(t)x(t + \tau) \rangle$ are random variables since they depend on which sample function resulted from experiment. then if X(t) is stationary:

$$E[\langle x(t)\rangle] = \lim_{T \to \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} E[x(t)] dt = \overline{X}.$$

The expected value of the time-averaged mean is equal to ensamble mean.

Also
$$E[\langle x(t)x(t+\tau)\rangle] = \lim_{T\to\infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} E[x(t)x(t+\tau)]dt = R_{XX}(\tau)$$
,

the expected value of the time-averaged autocorrelation is equal to the ensamble autocorrelation.

A random process X(t) is *ergodic* if time-averages are the same for all sample functions, and are equal to the corresponding ensamble averages.

In an ergodic process, all its statistics can be obtained from a single sample function.

A stationary process X(t) is called *ergodic in the mean* if $\langle x(t) \rangle = \overline{X}$,

and *ergodic in the autocorrelation* if $\langle x(t)x(t+\tau) \rangle = R_{XX}(\tau)$.

Correlations and Power Spectral Densities

Assume all random processes WSS:

I. Autocorrelation $R_{XX}(\tau)$:

 $R_{XX}(\tau) \; = \; E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] \, . \label{eq:relation}$

Properties of $R_{XX}(\tau)$: $R_{XX}(-\tau) = R_{XX}(\tau), |R_{XX}(\tau)| \le R_{XX}(0), R_{XX}(0) = E[X^2(t)].$

II. Cross-Correlation $R_{XY}(\tau)$: $R_{XY}(\tau) = E[X(t)Y(t+\tau)]$. Properties of $R_{XY}(\tau)$: $R_{XY}(-\tau) = R_{XY}(\tau), |R_{XY}(\tau)| \le \sqrt{R_{XX}(0)R_{YY}(0)}, |R_{XY}(\tau)| \le \frac{1}{2}[R_{XX}(0) + R_{YY}(0)].$ III. Autocovariance $C_{XX}(\tau)$: $C_{XX}(\tau) = R_{XX}(\tau) - \overline{X}^2$ IV. Cross-Covariance $C_{XY}(\tau)$: $C_{XY}(\tau) = R_{XY}(\tau) - \overline{X}\overline{Y}$. Two processes are *(mutually) orthogonal* if $R_{XY}(\tau) = 0$, and *uncorrelated* if $C_{XY}(\tau) = 0$. V. Power Spectrum Density $S_{XX}(\omega)$: The **power spectral density** $S_{XX}(\omega)$ is the Fourier transform of $R_{XX}(\tau) S_{XX}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{XX}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau$. Thus $R_{XX}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{XX}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega.$ **Properties:** real, $S_{XX}(\omega) \ge 0$, even fn. $S_{XX}(-\omega) = S_{XX}(\omega)$, (Parseval's type relation) $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega = R_{XX}(0) = E[X^2(t)].$ VI. Cross Spectral Densities $S_{XY}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{XY}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau, \ S_{YX}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{YX}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau.$ Therefore: $R_{XY}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{XY}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega, R_{YX}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{YX}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega.$ Since $R_{YY}(\tau) = R_{YY}(-\tau)$, then $S_{YY}(\omega) = S_{YY}(-\omega) = S_{YX}^*(\omega)$.

Random Processes in Linear Systems

I. System Response:

LTI system with impulse response h(t), and output $Y(t) = L[X(t)] = h(t) * X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta)X(t-\zeta)d\zeta$.

II. Mean and Autocorrelation of Output: $E[Y(t)] = \overline{Y}(t) = E\left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta)X(t-\zeta)d\zeta\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta)E[(X(t-\zeta)]d\zeta] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta)\overline{X}(t-\zeta)d\zeta = h(t) * \overline{X}(t).$

$$R_{YY}(t_1, t_2) = E[Y(t_1)Y(t_2)] = E\left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}h(\zeta)h(\mu)X(t_1 - \zeta)X(t_2 - \mu)(d\zeta)d\mu\right] =$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) h(\mu) E[X(t_1 - \zeta)X(t_2 - \mu)] d\zeta d\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) h(\mu) R_{XX}(t_1 - \zeta, t_2 - \mu) d\zeta d\mu$$

If input is WSS then $E[Y(t)] = \overline{Y} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) \overline{X} d\zeta = \overline{X} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) d\zeta = \overline{X} H(0)$, the mean of the output is a cons.

$$R_{YY}(t_1, t_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) h(\mu) R_{XX}(t_2 - t_1 + \zeta - \mu) d\zeta d\mu, R_{YY}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) h(\mu) R_{XX}(\tau + \zeta - \mu) d\zeta d\mu$$
 (YWSS)

III. Power Spectral Density of Output:

$$S_{YY}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{YY}(\tau) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\zeta) h(\mu) R_{XX}(\tau+\zeta-\mu) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\tau d\zeta d\mu = |H(\omega)|^2 S_{XX}(\omega),$$

$$R_{YY}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{YY}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |H(\omega)|^2 S_{XX}(\omega) e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega.$$
 Average power of output is:
$$E[Y^2(t)] = R_{YY}(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |H(\omega)|^2 S_{XX}(\omega) d\omega$$

Special Classes of Random Processes

I. Gaussian Random Process:

II. White Noise:

A random process X(t) is *white noise* if $S_{XX}(\omega) = \frac{\eta}{2}$. Its autocorrelation is $R_{XX}(\tau) = \frac{\eta}{2}\delta(\tau)$.

III. Band-Limited White Noise:

A random process X(t) is band-limited white noise if $S_{XX}(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{\eta}{2}, & |\omega| \le \omega_B \\ 0, & |\omega| > \omega_B \end{cases}$.

Then
$$R_{XX}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\omega_B}^{\omega_B} \frac{\eta}{2} e^{j\omega\tau} d\omega = \frac{\eta \omega_B}{2\pi} \frac{\sin \omega_B \tau}{\omega_B \tau}$$

IV. Narrowband Random Process:

Let X(t) be WSS process with zero mean. Let its power spectral density $S_{XX}(\omega)$ be nonzero only in a narrow frequency band of width 2*W* which is very small compared to a center frequency ω_c , then we have a *narrowband random process*. When white or broadband noise is passed through a narrowband linear filter, narrowband noise results. When a sample function of the output is viewed on oscilloscope, the observed waveform appears as a sinusoid of random amplitude and phase. Narrowband noise is conveniently represented by $X(t) = V(t) \cos[\omega_c t + \phi(t)]$, where V(t) and $\phi(t)$ are the *envelop function* and *phase function*, respectively. From trigonometric identity of the cosine of a sum we get the *quadrature representation* of process:

$$X(t) = V(t)\cos\phi(t)\cos\omega_{c}t - V(t)\sin\phi(t)\sin\omega_{c}t = X_{c}(t)\cos\omega_{c}t - X_{s}(t)\sin\omega_{c}t$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} X_{c}(t) &= V(t)\cos\phi(t), & in-phase \ component \\ X_{s}(t) &= V(t)\sin\phi(t), \quad quadrature \ component \\ V(t) &= \sqrt{X_{c}^{2}(t) + X_{s}^{2}(t)} \\ \phi(t) &= \operatorname{atan} \frac{X_{s}(t)}{X_{c}(t)} \end{aligned}$$

To detect the quadrature component $X_c(t)$, and the in-phase component $X_s(t)$ from X(t) we use:



Properties of $X_c(t)$ and $X_s(t)$:

1- Same power spectrum:

$$S_{X_c}(\omega) = S_{X_s}(\omega) = \begin{cases} S_{XX}(\omega - \omega_c) + S_{XX}(\omega + \omega_c), |\omega| \le W \\ 0, \quad else \end{cases}$$

2- Same mean and variance as X(t):

$$\overline{X}_c = \overline{X}_s = \overline{X} = 0$$
, and $\sigma_{X_c}^2 = \sigma_{X_s}^2 = \sigma_X^2$

- 3- $X_c(t)$ and $X_s(t)$ are uncorrelated: $E[X_c(t)X_s(t)] = 0$
- 4- If input process is gaussian, then so are the in-phase and quadrature components.
- 5- If X(t) is gaussian, then for a fixed t, V(t) is a random variable with Rayleigh distribution, and $\phi(t)$ is a random variable uniformly distributed over $[0, 2\pi]$.