Temporal Characteristics of Random Processes

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Based on
Probability, Random Variables and Random Signal Principles,
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Outline

Ranadom Variable Definition

Definition

a real random variable
a real **function** over a sample space $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, \ldots, s_n\}$

a real random variable : capital letter X
a particular value : a lowercase letter x

a sample space $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, \ldots, s_n\}$
an element of S : s

Ranadom Variable Example

Example

$$X(s_1) = x_1 \qquad s_1 \longrightarrow x_1$$
$$X(s_2) = x_2 \qquad s_2 \longrightarrow x_2$$
$$\cdots \qquad \cdots$$
$$X(s_n) = x_n \qquad s_n \longrightarrow x_n$$

$S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, \ldots, s_n\}$ a sample space

X a random variable

Random Process
N Gaussian random variables

Definition

a function of both outcome s and time t
assign a time function to every outcome s

$$x(t, s)$$

the family of such time functions is called a random process

$$X(t, s)$$

Ensemble of time functions
N Gaussian random variables

Definition

$X(t, s)$ represents a family or ensemble of time functions

$x(t, s)$ represents a sample function, an ensemble member,
a realization of the process

a random process $X(t, s)$ represents a single time function
when t is a variable and s is fixed at an outcome

Random Process Example

Example

$X(t, s_1) = x_1(t)$ $\quad s_1 \longrightarrow x_1(t)$

$X(t, s_2) = x_2(t)$ $\quad s_2 \longrightarrow x_2(t)$

$\cdots$ $\quad \cdots$

$X(t, s_n) = x_n(t)$ $\quad s_n \longrightarrow x_n(t)$

$S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, \ldots, s_n\}$ a sample space

$X(t)$ a random process

Short-form notation
N Gaussian random variables

Definition

the short-form notation $x(t)$ to represent
a specific waveform of a random process $X(t)$

$$x(t) = x(t, s)$$

$$X(t) = X(t, s)$$

Random variables with time

N Gaussian random variables

Definition

a random process $X(t, s)$ represents a single time function
when t is a variable and s is fixed at an outcome

a random process $X(t, s)$ represents a single random variable
when both t and s are fixed at a time and an outcome, respectively

$$X_i = X(t_i, s) = X(t_i) \qquad \textit{random variable}$$

$$X(t, s) = X(t) \qquad \textit{random process}$$

An alphabet
N Gaussian random variables

Definition

the **alphabet** of $X(t)$ is the set of its possible values

classify random processes according to

- the values of t for which the process is defined
- the alphabet of the random variable $X = X(t)$ at time t

Classification of Random Processes (1)

N Gaussian random variables

- a continuous **alphabet** continuous **time** random process
- a discrete **alphabet** continuous **time** random process
- a continuous **alphabet** discrete **time** random process
- a discrete **alphabet** discrete **time** random process

Classification of Random Processes(2)

N Gaussian random variables

- a continuous **alphabet** continuous **time** random process
  - $X(t)$ has a continuous alphabet and t has continuous values
- a discrete **alphabet** continuous **time** random process
  - $X(t)$ has a discrete alphabet and t has continuous values
- a continuous **alphabet** discrete **time** random process
  - $X(t)$ has a continuous alphabet and t has discrete values
- a discrete **alphabet** discrete **time** random process
  - $X(t)$ has a discrete alphabet and t has discrete values

Deterministic and Non-deterministic Processes
N Gaussian random variables

a sample function

- A process is **non-deterministic** if future values of any sample function cannot be predicted exactly from observed past values
- A process is **deterministic** if future values of any sample function can be predicted from observed past values

Deterministic Random Process Example

N Gaussian random variables

$$X(t) = A\cos(\omega_0 + \Theta)$$

A, Θ, or ω_0(or all) can be random variables. Any one sample function corresponds to the above equation with particular values of these random variables. Therefore the knowledge of the sample function prior to any time instance fully allows the prediction of the sample function's future values because all the necessary information is known