

# Stationary Random Processes

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Based on  
Probability, Random Variables and Random Signal Principles,  
P.Z. Peebles,Jr. and B. Shi

# Outline

- 1 Stationary Random Processes
  - N-th Order Stationary Processes
  - Strict and Wide Sense Stationary Processes
  - Cyclostationary Process

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# First Order Stationary

 $f_X(x; t)$ 

if  $X(t)$  is to be a **first-order stationary**

$$f_X(x_1; t_1) = f_X(x_1; t_1 + \Delta)$$

must be true for any time  $t_1$  and any real number  $\Delta$

the **first order density function**

does not change with a shift in time origin

# Consequences of stationarity

 $f_X(x; t)$ 

- $f_X(x, t_1)$  is independent of  $t_1$   
the **first order density function**  
does not change with a shift in time origin

- the **process mean** value is a **constant**

$$m_X(t) = \bar{X} = \text{constant}$$

## the process mean value

$$m_X(t) = \bar{X} = \text{constant}$$

$$m_X(t_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x; t_1) dx$$

$$m_X(t_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x; t_2) dx$$

let  $t_2 = t_1 + \Delta$

$$m_X(t_1) = m_X(t_1 + \Delta)$$

## Second-Order Stationary Process

$$f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2)$$

if  $X(t)$  is to be a **second-order stationary**

$$f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2) = f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1 + \Delta, t_2 + \Delta)$$

must be true for any time  $t_1, t_2$  and any real number  $\Delta$

the **second order density function**

does not change with a shift in time origin



## Second-Order Stationary Process

$$f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2)$$

- $f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2)$  is independent of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$   
the **second order density function**  
does not change with a shift in time origin

- the **autocorrelation function**

$$R_{XX}(t, t + \tau) = E[X(t)X(t + \tau)] = R_{XX}(\tau)$$

# $N^{\text{th}}$ -order Stationary Processes

$$f_X(x_1, \dots, x_N; t_1, \dots, t_N)$$

if  $X(t)$  is to be a  $N^{\text{th}}$ -order stationary

$$f_X(x_1, \dots, x_N; t_1, \dots, t_N) = f_X(x_1, \dots, x_N; t_1 + \Delta, \dots, t_N + \Delta)$$

must be true for any time  $t_1, \dots, t_N$

and any real number  $\Delta$

the  $N^{\text{th}}$  order density function

does not change with a shift in time origin

# Stationary Process

## joint probability distribution

a **stationary process** is a stochastic process whose unconditional **joint probability distribution** does not change when shifted in time.

Consequently, parameters such as **mean** and **variance** also do not change over time.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)

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# Stationary Process - nomenclature

## nomenclature

- stationary process
- strictly stationary process
- strongly stationary process
- strict sense stationary (SSS) process

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)

# Strict Sense Stationary Process

for all natural number  $N$

if  $X(t)$  is to be a **strict sense stationary (SSS)** process

$$f_X(x_1, \dots, x_N; t_1, \dots, t_N) = f_X(x_1, \dots, x_N; t_1 + \Delta, \dots, t_N + \Delta)$$

must be true for any time  $t_1, \dots, t_N$

and any real number  $\Delta$

and for all natural number  $N$

- **white noise** is the simplest example of a **strictly stationary process**.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)

# Wide Sense Stationary Process

## 1st and 2nd moments

**Wide Sense Stationary (WSS)** random processes

only require that

**1st moment** (i.e. the **mean**) and **autocovariance**  
do not vary with respect to time and that  
the **2nd moment** is finite for all times.

- $E[X(t_1)] = E[X(t_2)] = \bar{X} = \text{constant}$  for all  $t_1$  and  $t_2$
- $C_{XX}(t_1, t_2) = C_{XX}(t_1 - t_2, 0) \triangleq C_{XX}(\tau)$  for all  $t_1$  and  $t_2$
- $E[|X(t)|^2] < \infty$  for all  $t$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)

# Wide Sense Stationary Process - nomenclature

## nomenclature

- weak sense stationary (WSS) process
- wide sense stationary (WSS) process

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)



## WSS - auto-covariance &amp; auto-correlation

mean, auto-covariance, auto-correlation

$$m_X(t) = \bar{X} = \text{constant}$$

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

$$= E[\{X(t_1) - \bar{X}\} \{X(t_2) - \bar{X}\}]$$

$$= E[X(t_1)X(t_2)] - \bar{X}^2$$

$$\triangleq C_{XX}(\tau)$$

$$\triangleq R_{XX}(\tau) - \bar{X}^2$$

$$R_{XX}(t_1, t_2) \triangleq R_{XX}(\tau)$$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_process)

# Wide Sense Stationary Process

$$m_X(t), R_{XX}(\tau)$$

WSS random processes only require that  
**1st moment** (i.e. the **mean**) and **autocorrelation**  
do not vary with respect to time

$$E[X(t)] = m_X(t) = \bar{X} = \text{constant}$$

$$E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] = R_{XX}(\tau)$$

# Wide Sense Stationary Process

$m_X(t), R_{XX}(\tau)$

- the 2nd order stationarity is sufficient for wide sense stationarity
- if  $f_X(x_1; t_1)$  is independent of  $t_1$  then  $E[X(t)] = \text{constant}$
- if  $f_X(x_1, x_2; t_1, t_2)$  is independent of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  then  $E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] = R_{XX}(\tau)$

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# Cyclostationary process (1)

- A **cyclostationary process** is a signal having *statistical properties* that vary cyclically with time. A cyclostationary process can be viewed as multiple interleaved stationary processes.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary_process)

## Cyclostationary process (2)

- For example, the *maximum daily temperature* in New York City can be modeled as a **cyclostationary process**:
  - the *maximum temperature on July 21* is statistically different from the *temperature on December 20*;
  - however, it is a reasonable approximation that the *temperature on December 20 of different years* has identical statistics.
  - Thus, we can view the random process composed of *daily maximum temperatures* as 365 interleaved stationary processes, each of which takes on a *new value once per year*.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary_process)

# Cyclostationary process (3)

- **wide-sense cyclostationary** signals
  - **cyclostationarity** in second-order statistics (e.g., the autocorrelation function).
- The exact definition differs depending on whether the signal is treated as
  - a stochastic process
  - a deterministic time series.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary_process)

## Cyclostationary process (4)

A **stochastic process**  $x(t)$  of **mean**  $E[x(t)]$   
and **autocorrelation function**:

$$R_x(t, \tau) = E\{x(t + \tau)x^*(t)\},$$

where the star denotes complex conjugation,  
is said to be **wide-sense cyclostationary** with period  $T_0$   
if both  $E[x(t)]$  and  $R_x(t, \tau)$  are **cyclic** in  $t$  with period  $T_0$ , i.e.:

$$E[x(t)] = E[x(t + T_0)] \text{ for all } t$$

$$R_x(t, \tau) = R_x(t + T_0; \tau) \text{ for all } t, \tau.$$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary\\_process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclostationary_process)



## Cyclostationary process (5)

The **autocorrelation function** is thus periodic in  $t$  and can be expanded in Fourier series:

$$R_x(t, \tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} R_x^{n/T_0}(\tau) e^{j2\pi \frac{n}{T_0} t}$$

where  $R_x^{n/T_0}(\tau)$  is called **cyclic autocorrelation function** and equal to:

$$R_x^{n/T_0}(\tau) = \frac{1}{T_0} \int_{-T_0/2}^{T_0/2} R_x(t, \tau) e^{-j2\pi \frac{n}{T_0} t} dt.$$

The frequencies  $n/T_0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , are called **cyclic frequencies**.  
Wide-sense stationary processes are a special case of cyclostationary processes with only  $R_x^0(\tau) \neq 0$