

# TIME SERIES I

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$s := v$  or  $v =: s \dots$  denoting expression  $v$  by symbol  $s$ .

*iff* stands for *if and only if*.

### Sets and mappings:

- $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C} \dots$  natural numbers, integers, real and complex numbers, respectively.
- $\mathbb{Z}_N := \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\} \dots$  residuals modulo  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- $\mathbb{R}^+ \dots$  the set of all non-negative real numbers.
- $\exp X \dots$  class of all subsets of the set  $X$ .
- $\text{card } M \dots$  cardinality of a set  $M$ .
- $(\cdot)^+ : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \dots$  mapping defined as  $(x)^+ = \max(0, x)$ .
- $(a, b), [a, b], (a, b], [a, b) \dots$  intervals on real line.
- $J(a, b) = \{x \mid \min(a, b) < x < \max(a, b)\}$
- $J[a, b] = \{x \mid \min(a, b) \leq x \leq \max(a, b)\}$ .
- $f(A) := \{y \in Y \mid y = f(x), x \in A \subseteq X\} \dots$  range (image) of set  $A$  under mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .
- $f^{-1}(B) := \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in B\} \subseteq X \dots$  inverse image of set  $B \subseteq Y$  under mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .
- $I_A \dots$  indicator function of set  $A \subseteq X$ :
 
$$I_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } x \in A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
- $A_n \uparrow \dots$  increasing or non-decreasing sequence of numbers or sets.
- $A_n \downarrow \dots$  decreasing or non-increasing sequence of numbers or sets.
- $\sum_{i=1}^n A_i := \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \dots$  union of a family of sets which are pairwise disjoint.
- $A^c := X - A \dots$  complement of set  $A \subseteq X$  in  $X$  where  $X$  is a priori known from the context.
- $\underline{A} := \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{j=n}^{\infty} A_j \dots$  inferior limit of a sequence of sets.

- $\overline{A} := \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=n}^{\infty} A_j$  ... superior limit of a sequence of sets.
- $A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$  iff  $\underline{A} = \overline{A}$ , clearly  
 $A_n \uparrow A$  implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  and  
 $A_n \downarrow A$  implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ .

**Vectors and matrices:**

- $\mathbf{x} := [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T$  ... vector of numbers (by default column vector if not stated otherwise).
- $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h} := [x_1 + h, \dots, x_n + h]^T$ ,  $h \in \mathbb{C}$
- $\mathbf{x}_t := [x_{t_1}, \dots, x_{t_k}]^T \in \mathbb{C}^k$  where  $\mathbf{t} = [t_1, \dots, t_k]^T \in \mathbb{N}^k$ ,  $t_i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .
- $\mathbf{x}(i) := [x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n]^T$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .
- $f(\mathbf{x}) := f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $d\mathbf{x} := dx_1 \dots dx_n$ .
- $\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}_{n \times 1}$  ... vector of  $n$  zero entries.
- $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A}_{m \times n} := [a_{ij}] = [A(i, j)]$  ... matrix of size  $m \times n$ .
- $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}) := \{\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\}$  ... range space of matrix operator  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}) := \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}\}$  ... null space (kernel) of matrix operator  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- $\mathbf{A}^T := [a_{ji}]$  ... matrix transpose.
- $\mathbf{A}^* := [\overline{a_{ji}}]$  ... matrix adjoint.
- $\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{I}_n := \mathbf{I}_{n \times n} = [\delta_{ij}]$  ... identity matrix of order  $n$ .
- $\det \mathbf{A}$  ... determinant of a square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- $\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}_{m \times n}$  ... zero matrix of size  $m \times n$ .
- $\text{diag}(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & x_2 & \dots & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x_n \end{bmatrix}$  ... diagonal matrix.
- $\mathbf{A}(i, :)$  :=  $[a_{i1}, \dots, a_{in}]$  ...  $i$ -th row of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  using MATLAB style.
- $\mathbf{A}(:, j)$  :=  $[a_{1j}, \dots, a_{mj}]^T$  ...  $j$ -th column of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  using MATLAB style.

- $\mathbf{A} := [r_1; \dots; r_m] = [s_1, \dots, s_n] \dots$  forming matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  row-by-row or columnwise using MATLAB style.
- $\mathbf{A} > 0$  (or  $\mathbf{A} \geq 0$ )  $\dots$  positively (semi)definite (non-negatively definite) matrix.
- $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle := \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \bar{y}_i = \mathbf{y}^* \mathbf{x} \dots$  scalar (inner) product of vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- $\|\mathbf{x}\| := \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2} = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle} \dots$  Euclidean norm of vector  $\mathbf{x}$ .

**Random variables and random vectors:**

- $X \dots$  random variable.
- $\mathbb{X} := [X_1, \dots, X_n]^T \dots$  (real) random vector, indexing conventions listed above for number vectors are adopted accordingly.
- $\mu := \mu_X := EX \dots$  expectation of random variable  $X$ .
- $\boldsymbol{\mu} := \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbb{X}} := E\mathbb{X} := [EX_1, \dots, EX_n]^T \dots$  expectation of random vector  $\mathbb{X}$ .
- $\sigma^2 := \sigma_X^2 := \text{var} X := E|X - EX|^2 = E|X|^2 - |EX|^2 \geq 0 \dots$  variance of random variable  $X$ .
- $\sigma_{XY} := \text{cov}(X, Y) := E(X - EX)(Y - EY) = EXY - (EX)(EY) \dots$  covariance of random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- $\Sigma_{\mathbb{X}} := \text{var} \mathbb{X} := [\text{cov}(X_i, X_j)] = E(\mathbb{X} - E\mathbb{X})(\mathbb{X} - E\mathbb{X})^T = E\mathbb{X}\mathbb{X}^T - (E\mathbb{X})(E\mathbb{X})^T \dots$  variance matrix of random vector  $\mathbb{X}$ .
- $\Sigma_{\mathbb{X}\mathbb{Y}} := \text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) := [\text{cov}(X_i, Y_j)] = E(\mathbb{X} - E\mathbb{X})(\mathbb{Y} - E\mathbb{Y})^T = E\mathbb{X}\mathbb{Y}^T - (E\mathbb{X})(E\mathbb{Y})^T \dots$  covariance matrix of  $\mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{Y}$ .

It holds:

- $\text{var} X = \text{cov}(X, X)$ .
- $\text{cov}(Y, X) = \text{cov}(X, Y)$ .
- $\text{cov}(\sum_r X_r, \sum_s Y_s) = \sum_r \sum_s \text{cov}(X_r, Y_s)$  and hence in particular:

- $\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}X + \text{cov}(X, Y) + \text{cov}(Y, X) + \text{var}Y = \text{var}X + 2\text{cov}(X, Y) + \text{var}Y$ .
- $\text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{X}) = \text{var}\mathbb{X}$ .
- $\text{cov}(\mathbb{Y}, \mathbb{X}) = \text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y})^T$  implies:
- $\text{var}\mathbb{X} = (\text{var}\mathbb{X})^T$  ... **variance matrix  $\mathbb{X}$  is symmetrical**.
- Given number vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ , and matrices  $B$  and  $D$  of compatible sizes then  

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{a} + B\mathbb{X}, \mathbf{c} + D\mathbb{Y}) = \text{cov}(B\mathbb{X}, D\mathbb{Y}) = B \text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) D^T$$

$$\Downarrow \mathbb{X} = \mathbb{Y}$$
- $\text{var}(\mathbf{a} + B\mathbb{X}) = \text{cov}(\mathbf{a} + B\mathbb{X}, \mathbf{a} + B\mathbb{X}) = \text{cov}(B\mathbb{X}, B\mathbb{X}) = B \text{var}(\mathbb{X}) B^T$ 

$$\Downarrow \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}, B = \mathbf{b}^T$$
- $0 \leq \text{var}(\mathbf{b}^T \mathbb{X}) = \mathbf{b}^T \text{var}\mathbb{X} \mathbf{b}$  implies:
- $\text{var}\mathbb{X} \geq 0$  ... **variance matrix is non-negatively positive** and consequently it has non-negative eigen values  $\lambda_i$  and its square root matrix  $\Sigma_{\mathbb{X}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  having eigen values  $\lambda_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$  may be constructed such that:
- $\Sigma_{\mathbb{X}} = \Sigma_{\mathbb{X}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \Sigma_{\mathbb{X}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .
- $\text{cov}(\sum_r \mathbb{X}_r, \sum_s \mathbb{Y}_s) = \sum_r \sum_s \text{cov}(\mathbb{X}_r, \mathbb{Y}_s)$  and hence in particular:
- $\text{var}(\mathbb{X} + \mathbb{Y}) = \text{var}\mathbb{X} + \text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) + \text{cov}(\mathbb{Y}, \mathbb{X}) + \text{var}\mathbb{Y} = \text{var}\mathbb{X} + 2\text{cov}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) + \text{var}\mathbb{Y}$ .

**Definition 2.1.** **Random (stochastic) process**  $X$  is a nonempty family ( $T \neq \emptyset$ ) of (real) random variables defined on the same probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ . We write  $X := \{X_t \mid t \in T\}$  or simply  $\{X_t\}$ .

Special cases:

$T \subseteq \mathbb{R} \dots$  **continuous-time process** or **random function**.

$T \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \dots$  **discrete-time process**, **random sequence** or **time series**.

*Remark 2.2.*

- Indexing set  $T$  is usually ordered and interpreted as continuous or discrete time interval. It may be also disordered, for example coordinates of points on the plane (meteorology) or in 3-D space (geophysics).
- As  $X_t : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a (measurable) mapping for each  $t \in T$ , the stochastic process may be viewed as a mapping  $X : \Omega \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as well.

**Definition 2.3.** For fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$  we get function  $x : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as an outcome of a random experiment:  $x(t) := X_t(\omega)$ . This function is called **sample-path (trajectory, realization, observation)** of  $X$ .

*Remark 2.4.* Figures 1.1–1.6 illustrate trajectories of various random processes (time series). Later on formulation *stochastic process* is related to the general case with any  $T$  in contrast with the formulation *time series* which assumes  $T = \mathbb{Z}$  or sometimes  $T = \mathbb{N}$ .

**Definition 2.5.** If  $X = \{X_t\}$  is a time series where  $X_t$ ,  $t \in T$ , are all **mutually independent and identically distributed** with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ , we shall write

$$\boxed{X \sim IID(\mu, \sigma^2)}$$

**Example 2.6** (Examples of time series).

- (1) Sinusoid with random amplitude and phase (Fig. 1.1).
- (2) Binary process of tossing a coin (cf. Fig. 1.4 as well).
- (3) Random walk.
- (4) Branching process.

**Definition 2.7** (Consistent system of distribution functions of  $X$ ).  
Let us denote  $\mathcal{T} := \{\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{t} = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n] \in T^n, t_i \neq t_j, \text{ for } i \neq j, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . For each  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{T}$  of any size  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $F_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{x})$  be the joint distribution function of the marginal random vector  $\mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{t}}$  being selected from the stochastic process  $X = \{X_t\}_{t \in T}$  at time instants  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$ . The system  $\{F_{\mathbf{t}}\}_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{T}}$  describes completely the stochastic behaviour of  $X$  and is called **consistent system of distribution functions of  $X$**  (cf. the next theorem).

**Theorem 2.8.** *The system  $\{F_{\mathbf{t}}\}_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{T}}$  of definition 2.7 is called consistent because the following two consistency conditions hold for each  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :*

- (i)  $F_{\mathbf{t}_{\mathbf{p}}}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{p}}) = F_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{x})$  for any permutation  $\mathbf{p}$  of indices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- (ii)  $\lim_{x_i \rightarrow \infty} F_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{x}) = F_{\mathbf{t}}(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \infty, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) =:$   
 $=: F_{\mathbf{t}_{(i)}}(\mathbf{x}_{(i)})$  for any  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

**Theorem 2.9** (Kolmogorov's theorem). *Given  $T$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  as of definition 2.7, let  $\mathcal{F} := \{F_{\mathbf{t}}\}_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{T}}$  be a consistent system of distribution functions. Then there exists a stochastic process  $\{X_t\}_{t \in T}$  defined on a suitable probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$  such that  $\mathcal{F}$  is its system of distribution functions.*

**Remark 2.10.** Conditions (i) and (ii) of theorem 2.8 can be replaced by equivalent conditions formulated in terms of characteristic functions  $\Phi_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{u}) = E(\exp(i \mathbf{u}^T \mathbb{X}_{\mathbf{t}})) = E(\exp(i \sum_{j=1}^n u_j X_{t_j}))$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , which are associated with the distribution functions  $F_{\mathbf{t}}$ :

- (i')  $\Phi_{\mathbf{t}_{\mathbf{p}}}(\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{p}}) = \Phi_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{u})$  for any permutation  $\mathbf{p}$  of indices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- (ii')  $\lim_{u_i \rightarrow 0} \Phi_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{u}) = \Phi_{\mathbf{t}}(u_1, \dots, u_{i-1}, 0, u_{i+1}, \dots, u_n) =:$   
 $=: \Phi_{\mathbf{t}_{(i)}}(\mathbf{u}_{(i)})$  for any  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

**Definition 2.11.** We call a stochastic process **normal** or **gaussian** if every distribution function  $F_t$  of its consistent system  $(t \in \mathcal{T})$  is a joint distribution function of normally distributed marginal random vector  $\mathbb{X}_t$ .

Now we are about to introduce **moment functions** as analogies to the expectation and variance matrix of a random vector, which may be considered as a special case of a stochastic process with finite index set  $T = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

**Definition 2.12.** Given stochastic processes  $X = \{X_t\}_{t \in T}$  and  $Y = \{Y_t\}_{t \in T}$ , both on the same probability space, we define 1-st and 2-nd moment functions as follows.

(1) **mean of  $X$ :**  $\mu_X : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\mu_X(t) := EX_t$  provided that the expectations exist for all  $t \in T$ .

(2) **autocovariance function of  $X$ :**  $\gamma_X : T \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\gamma_X(r, s) := \text{cov}(X_r, X_s)$  provided that the covariances exist for all  $r, s \in T$ .

(3) **variance of  $X$ :**  $\sigma_X^2 : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by  $\sigma_X^2(t) := \text{cov}(X_t, X_t) = \gamma_X(t, t)$  provided the variances exist for all  $t \in T$ .

(4) **autocorrelation function of  $X$ :**  $\rho_X : T \times T \rightarrow [-1, 1]$  by

$$\rho_X(r, s) := \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_X(r, s)}{\sqrt{\gamma_X(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_X(s, s)}} & \text{for } \sqrt{\gamma_X(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_X(s, s)} \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

provided that the correlations exist for all  $r, s \in T$ .

(5) **cross-covariance function of  $X$  and  $Y$ :**

$\gamma_{XY} : T \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\gamma_{XY}(r, s) := \text{cov}(X_r, Y_s)$  provided that the covariances exist for all  $r, s \in T$ .

(6) **cross-correlation function of  $X$  and  $Y$ :**

$\rho_{XY} : T \times T \rightarrow [-1, 1]$  by

$$\rho_{XY}(r, s) := \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_{XY}(r, s)}{\sqrt{\gamma_X(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_Y(s, s)}} & \text{for } \sqrt{\gamma_X(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_Y(s, s)} \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

provided that the correlations exist for all  $r, s \in T$ .



**Theorem 2.13.** Given stochastic process  $X := \{X_t | t \in T\}$  such that  $E|X_t|^2 < \infty$  for all  $t \in T$ , then  $\mu_X(\cdot)$ ,  $\gamma_x(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $\rho_X(\cdot, \cdot)$  exist as well. In such a case we say that  $X$  has **finite second moments**.

**Definition 2.14.** Time series  $X := \{X_t | t \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is called **strictly stationary** if each distribution function from its consistent system  $\{F_t\}_{t \in \mathcal{T}}$ , is shift-invariant (time-invariant):  $F_t(\cdot) \equiv F_{t+h}(\cdot)$  for each  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $h \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Definition 2.15.** Time series  $X := \{X_t | t \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is called **(weakly) stationary** if the following three conditions are fulfilled:

- (1)  $X$  has finite second moments.
- (2)  $\gamma_X(r, s) = \gamma_X(r+h, s+h)$  for each  $r, s, h \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (3)  $\mu_X(\cdot) \equiv \mu_X$  is a constant function.

If only the first two are valid then  $X$  is called **covariance stationary**.

Remark 2.16.

- (1) Clearly (2) implies with  $r = s$  that the variance function of a stationary time series is a constant function as well:  $\sigma_x^2(\cdot) \equiv \sigma_X^2$ .
- (2) If (3) holds, then  $\gamma_X(r, s) = EX_r X_s - (EX_r)(EX_s) = EX_r X_s - \mu_x^2$  implies that (2) is equivalent (and might be thus substituted) with the condition:  $EX_r X_s = EX_{r+h} X_{s+h}$  for each  $r, s, h \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We see altogether that all first and second moments are shift-invariant with weak stationarity. That is why weak stationarity is sometimes denoted as **2-nd order stationarity**.

Remark 2.17. Clearly condition (2) of definition 2.15 may be substituted by a modified condition

- (2')  $\gamma_x(r, s)$  depends only on the difference of arguments  $r - s$ .

That is why we can introduce autocovariance and autocorrelation

function of a stationary time series as a function of one argument only:

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_X(h) &:= \gamma_X(t+h, t) \\ \rho_X(h) &:= \rho_X(t+h, t) = \frac{\gamma_X(t+h, t)}{\sigma_X \sigma_X} = \frac{\gamma_X(h)}{\gamma_X(0)} \\ \sigma_X^2 &= \gamma_X(t, t) = \gamma_X(0)\end{aligned}\quad (2.1)$$

where  $t, h \in \mathbb{Z}$  are arbitrary.

**Theorem 2.18.** *Every strictly stationary time series with finite second moments is stationary.*

**Example 2.19.**

In general stationarity does not imply strict stationarity (counter-example)

**Theorem 2.20.** *Every stationary gaussian time series is strictly stationary.*

**Definition 2.21.** Time series  $X = \{X_t\}$  is called **white noise** with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ , if  $\mu_X(t) \equiv \mu$  and  $\gamma_X(r, s) = \begin{cases} \sigma^2 & \text{for } r = s \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

We write

$$\boxed{X \sim WN(\mu, \sigma^2).}$$

Stationary time series which is not white noise, is sometimes called **coloured noise**.

Remark 2.22. It is straightforward to verify the following implications:

$$X \sim IID(\mu, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow X \sim WN(\mu, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow X \text{ is stationary.}$$

Observe that neither of inverse implications holds in general (cf. example 2.19).

**Example 2.23.**

- (1) Let  $X_t(\omega) := A(\omega) \cos(\theta t) + B(\omega) \sin(\theta t)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$ ,  $\text{cov}(A, B) = 0$ ,  $\text{EA} = \text{EB} = 0$ ,  $\sigma_A^2 = \sigma_B^2 = 1$ . Then  $\{X_t\}$  is a stationary time series.
- (2) Let  $X_t := Z_t + \theta Z_{t-1}$ ,  $\{Z_t\} \sim WN(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\{X_t\}$  is a stationary time series.
- (3) Let  $X_t := \begin{cases} Y_t & \text{for even } t \\ Y_t + 1 & \text{for odd } t \end{cases}$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\{Y_t\}$  is a stationary time series. Then  $\{X_t\}$  is a time series which is covariance stationary but not stationary.
- (4) The random walk  $\{S_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$  from example 2.6(3) is neither stationary nor covariance stationary.

**Remark 2.24** (Multivariate Time Series).

One can introduce the concept of  **$m$ -dimensional time series** ( $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ) following the analogy with the univariate case ( $m = 1$ ):

$\mathbb{X} := \{\mathbb{X}_t | t \in T\}$  where  $\mathbb{X}_t = [X_{t,1}, \dots, X_{t,m}]^T$  are  $m$ -dimensional random vectors on the same probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ . We obtain univariate partial time series, vector mean function and matrix autocovariance/autocorrelation functions:

$X_i := \{X_{t,i} | t \in T\}$  ...  **$i$ -th partial time series.**

$\mu_{\mathbb{X}}(t) := [\mu_1(t), \dots, \mu_m(t)]^T$  where  $\mu_i(t) := \text{EX}_{t,i} = \mu_{X_i}(t)$ .

$\gamma_{\mathbb{X}}(r, s) := \Sigma_{\mathbb{X}}(r, s) := [\text{cov}(X_{r,i}, X_{s,j})]_{i,j} = [\gamma_{ij}(r, s)]_{i,j}$  where

$\gamma_{ij}(r, s) := \gamma_{X_i X_j}(r, s)$  is clearly just the cross-covariance function of partial time series  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ .

$\rho_{\mathbb{X}}(r, s) := [\rho(X_{r,i}, X_{s,j})]_{i,j} = [\rho_{ij}(r, s)]_{i,j}$  where

$\rho_{ij}(r, s) := \rho_{X_i X_j}(r, s)$  is cross-correlation function of partial time series  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ .

The  **$m$ -dimensional stationarity** is to be established quite in analogy to definition 2.15 (see also remarks 2.16 and 2.17) simply assuming finite second moments for all partial time series in (1) and substituting  $\gamma_{\mathbb{X}}$  for  $\gamma_X$  in (2) and  $\mu_{\mathbb{X}}$  for  $\mu_X$  in (3).

It is an easy exercise to prove the following statement:

$\mathbb{X}$  is stationary iff the following two conditions are fulfilled:

- (a) Each partial time series  $X_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ) is stationary.
- (b)  $\gamma_{\mathbb{X}}(r, s) = \gamma_{\mathbb{X}}(r + h, s + h)$  for each  $r, s, h \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Clearly the following relationships hold:

$$\rho_{\mathbb{X}}(r, s) = \left[ \frac{\gamma_{ij}(r, s)}{\sqrt{\gamma_i(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_j(s, s)}} \right] \quad \text{in the general case}$$

and

$$\rho_{\mathbb{X}}(h) = \left[ \frac{\gamma_{ij}(h)}{\sqrt{\gamma_i(0)}\sqrt{\gamma_j(0)}} \right] \quad \text{in the stationary case.}$$

where  $\gamma_i := \gamma_{ii}$  is autocovariance function of  $i$ -th partial time series.

**Definition 2.25.** A bivariate function  $f : T \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $T \neq \emptyset$ , is said to be **symmetric** or **non-negatively definite** if each square matrix  $[f(t_i, t_j)]_{i,j}$  of any size  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  has the respective property for any choice of  $\mathbf{t} := [t_1, \dots, t_n] \in T^n$ , i.e. all such matrices are symmetric or non-negatively definite.

A univariate function  $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **symmetric** or **non-negatively definite** if the bivariate function  $f : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(r, s) := g(r - s)$  is symmetric or non-negatively definite.

**Lemma 2.26.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions as of definition 2.25. Then  $f$  (or  $g$ ) is symmetric iff  $f(s, r) = f(r, s)$  holds for any  $r, s \in T$  (or  $g(-t) = g(t)$  holds for any  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).*

**Lemma 2.27.** *The sum of two symmetric (or non-negatively definite) functions, which are both bivariate or univariate and defined on the same domain, is a symmetric (or non-negatively definite) function as well.*

**Theorem 2.28** (Autocovariance and autocorrelation function properties).

Let  $X := \{X_t | t \in T\}$  be a stochastic process with the autocovariance function  $\gamma_X(\cdot, \cdot)$  [ autocorrelation function  $\rho_X(\cdot, \cdot)$  ]. Then the following holds:

- (1)  $\gamma_X(t, t) \geq 0$   
[  $\rho_X(t, t) = 1$  if  $\gamma_X(t, t) = \sigma_X^2(t) \neq 0$ , or  $= 0$  otherwise ]  
for all  $t \in T$ .
- (2)  $|\gamma_X(r, s)| \leq \sqrt{\gamma_X(r, r)}\sqrt{\gamma_X(s, s)}$  [  $|\rho_X(r, s)| \leq 1$  ] for all  $r, s \in T$ .
- (3)  $\gamma_X$  [  $\rho_X$  ] is a symmetric and non-negatively definite function.

**Corollary 2.29** (for stationary time series).

Let  $X := \{X_t | t \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  be a stationary time series with the autocovariance function  $\gamma_X(\cdot)$  [ autocorrelation function  $\rho_X(\cdot)$  ]. Then the following holds:

- (1')  $\gamma_X(0) \geq 0$   
[  $\rho_X(0) = 1$  if  $\gamma_X(0) = \sigma_X^2 \neq 0$ , or  $= 0$  otherwise ].
- (2')  $|\gamma_X(h)| \leq \gamma_X(0)$  [  $|\rho_X(h)| \leq 1$  ] for all  $h \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (3')  $\gamma_X$  [  $\rho_X$  ] is a symmetric and non-negatively definite function.

**Theorem 2.30.** Given a function  $\gamma(\cdot, \cdot) : T \times T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\gamma(\cdot) : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ) which is symmetric and non-negatively definite, then there exists a gaussian stochastic process (or stationary gaussian time series)  $X$  having autocovariance function  $\gamma_X = \gamma$ .

**Corollary 2.31.** Properties (1) and (2) (or (1') and (2')) are direct consequence of the property (3) (or (3')).

**Corollary 2.32.** Given two stochastic processes (stationary time series)  $X$  and  $Y$  with autocovariance functions  $\gamma_X$  and  $\gamma_Y$ , then there exists a stochastic process (stationary time series)  $Z$ , even gaussian, such that  $\gamma_Z = \gamma_X + \gamma_Y$ .

**Theorem 2.33.**

A function  $\rho(h) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } h = 0 \\ r & \text{for } h = \pm 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } |h| > 1 \end{cases}$  can be an autocorrelation function of a suitable stationary time series  $X$  iff  $|r| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . In such a case one possible choice is the time series  $X$  of example (2) in 2.23:

$$X_t := Z_t + \theta Z_{t-1}, \{Z_t\} \sim WN(0, \sigma^2), t \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ with } \theta = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4r^2}}{2r}.$$

**Definition 2.34** (Estimates of moment functions).

Let  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$  be  $n$  samples ( $x_t = X_t(\omega)$  for  $t = 1, \dots, n$ ) of a stationary time series with mean  $\mu$ , variance  $\sigma^2$ , autocovariance function  $\gamma(\cdot)$  and autocorrelation function  $\rho(\cdot)$ . Their estimates are computed as follows:

$$\hat{\mu} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \dots \text{estimate of } \mu;$$

$$\hat{\gamma}(h) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n-h} (x_{j+h} - \hat{\mu})(x_j - \hat{\mu}), 0 \leq h \leq n-1,$$

$$\hat{\gamma}(h) := \hat{\gamma}(-h), -(n-1) \leq h < 0 \text{ (by symmetry 2.29(3') and 2.26);}$$

... estimate of  $\gamma(h)$ ;

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 := \hat{\gamma}(0) \dots \text{estimate of the variance;}$$

$$\hat{\rho}(h) := \frac{\hat{\gamma}(h)}{\hat{\gamma}(0)}, -(n-1) \leq h \leq n-1 \text{ (see eq. (2.1))}$$

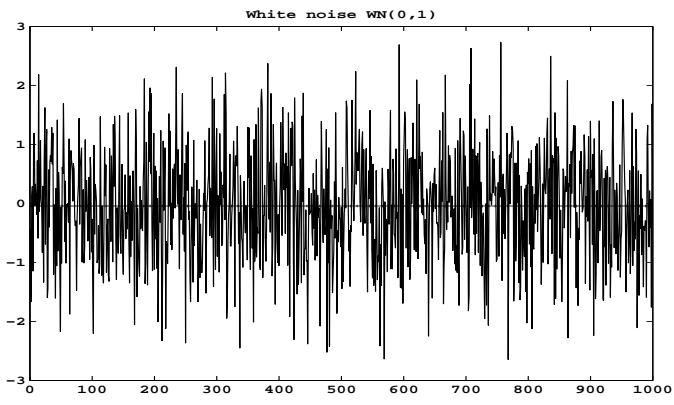
... estimate of the autocorrelation function in the case of  $\hat{\gamma}(0) \neq 0$ , otherwise  $\hat{\rho}(h) := 0$ .

**Theorem 2.35.** Let  $\mathbb{X} := [X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be the random subvector in  $X$  associated with sample vector  $\mathbf{x}$ . Then both the matrix

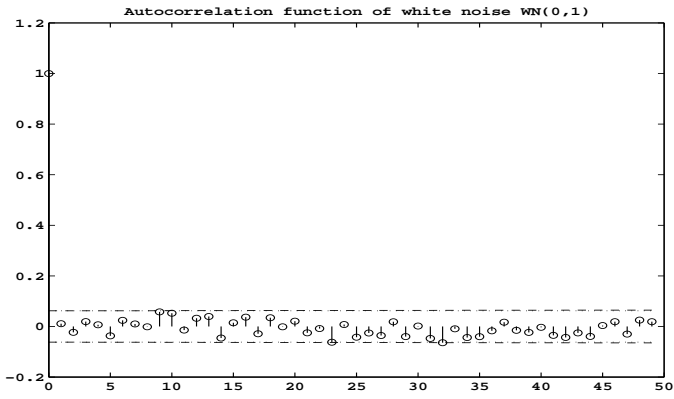
$$\hat{\Gamma}_n := [\hat{\gamma}(i-j)]_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\gamma}(0) & \hat{\gamma}(1) & \dots & \hat{\gamma}(n-1) \\ \hat{\gamma}(1) & \hat{\gamma}(0) & \dots & \hat{\gamma}(n-2) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \hat{\gamma}(n-1) & \hat{\gamma}(n-2) & \dots & \hat{\gamma}(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

which is an estimate of the variance matrix  $\text{var}\mathbb{X}$ , and the matrix

$\hat{R}_n := \frac{\hat{\Gamma}_n}{\hat{\gamma}(0)}$  which is an estimate of the correlation matrix  $\rho(\mathbb{X})$ , are symmetric and non-negatively definite.



Gaussian white noise  $WN(0, 1)$



Autocorrelation function of gaussian white noise  $WN(0, 1)$

Remark 2.36.

- (1) The estimate  $\hat{\gamma}(h)$  is not unbiased ( $E\hat{\gamma}(h) \neq \gamma(h)$ ) because we divide the sample sum by  $n$  and not by the number of

degrees of freedom  $n - 1 - h$ . Let us observe that theorem 2.35 does not hold for the unbiased estimate (matrix  $\hat{\Gamma}_n$  loses the natural property of non-negative positiveness). Anyway, the estimate  $\hat{\gamma}(h)$  is **asymptotically unbiased** in the sense that  $E\hat{\gamma}(h) \rightarrow \gamma(h)$  with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Moreover it is **consistent in the quadratic mean** in the sense that  $E|\hat{\gamma}(h) - \gamma(h)|^2 \rightarrow 0$  with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where the convergence is even faster than with the unbiased estimate.

- (2) The estimate is reliable only for  $n > 50$  and  $h < \frac{n}{4}$ .
- (3) From the algebraic point of view  $\hat{\gamma}(h)$  may be written in the form of a dot product  $\hat{\gamma}(h) = \frac{1}{n} \langle \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_h \rangle$  where  $\mathbf{x}_h := \underbrace{[0, \dots, 0]}_h, x_1 - \hat{\mu}, \dots, x_n - \hat{\mu}, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0]}_{n-1-h}$ . Thus  $\mathbf{x}_0$  repre-

sents the original sample vector (padded with  $n - 1$  zeros) and  $\mathbf{x}_h$  its copy shifted by  $h$ .

Clearly  $\|\mathbf{x}_0\|^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_h\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j - \hat{\mu}|^2$ . From the Schwarz inequality we have  $|\langle \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_h \rangle| \leq \|\mathbf{x}_0\|^2$  resulting in  $|\hat{\gamma}(h)| \leq \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{x}_0\|^2 = \frac{1}{n} \langle \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle = \hat{\gamma}(0)$ . Hence we see that the estimate of the autocorrelation function preserves its natural property  $|\hat{\rho}(h)| \leq 1$ .

- (4) In view of (3) the estimate  $\hat{\rho}(h)$  may be interpreted geometrically as a cosine of the angle between the original and shifted copy of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  which is a measure of their linear dependence (similarity): zero means ortogonality (full linear independence=no correlations between them),  $\pm 1$  means linear dependence (full correlation: one of them is obtained as scalar multiple of the latter).
- (5) Trend is indicated by correlations at great lags implying small decay of  $\gamma(h)$  with  $h \rightarrow \infty$ . Periodic component is reflected by oscillatory behaviour of  $\hat{\gamma}(h)$  with the basic period of that component, or mixture of them if there is more than one such periodic component.