

EEL 5544 Noise in Linear Systems Lecture 35

PROPERTIES OF AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTIONS

- Given a 2nd-order RP $X(t)$, its autocorrelation functions satisfies:

$$(1) R_X(t, t) \geq 0 \quad (\text{positive power})$$

$$(2) R_X(t_1, t_2) = R_X(t_2, t_1) \quad (\text{symmetric})$$

$$(3) |R_X(t_1, t_2)| \leq \sqrt{R_X(t_1, t_1)R_X(t_2, t_2)}$$

$$(4) R_X \text{ is } \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

DEFN

A function $f(t_1, t_2)$ defined on \mathbf{T} is nonnegative definite if for any $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, any t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n in \mathbf{T} , and any complex constants $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_k^* f(t_i, t_k) \geq 0$$

(both real and non-negative).

- Note 1: Property (4) is harder to prove than (1)-(3). In this class, we will usually only test property (4) by testing an equivalent condition in the frequency domain.
- Note 2: property (4) implies properties (1)-(3).
- Note 3: autocovariance functions also satisfy properties (1)-(4):
Pf: consider $Y(t) = X(t) - \mu_X(t)$
Then $R_Y(t_1, t_2) = C_X(t_1, t_2)$
- Note 4: Any symmetric, nonnegative definite function $C(t_1, t_2)$ is an autocovariance function of some 2nd-order RP

- Note 5: Gaussian RPs are completely specified by $\mu_X(t)$ and $\text{Cov}\{X(t_1), X(t_2)\}$, so only need to know mean and autocovariance functions

Examples

STATIONARY RANDOM PROCESSES

DEFN A RP $X(t)$ is *strict-sense stationary* (stationary or strictly stationary) if

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X,n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) \\ = F_{X,n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; t_1+t_0, t_2+t_0, \\ \dots, t_n+t_0) \end{aligned}$$

for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, each choice of t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n in \mathbf{T} and all $t_0 \in \mathbf{T}$.

- abbreviate *strict-sense stationary* by *SSS*
- also called *shift-invariant*
- Note: the definition requires that \mathbf{T} be closed under addition (i.e., if $a, b \in \mathbf{T}$ then $a+b \in \mathbf{T}$.)
(This is true for many sets of interest: \mathbf{R} , $[0, \infty)$, \mathbf{Z} , \mathbf{Z}^+)

Examples

CONSEQUENCES OF STATIONARITY

- Consider $X(t)$ for fixed $t = t_0$
- Then $X(t_0)$ is a RV
- The mean $\mu_X(t_0) = E[X(t_0)]$ depends only on $f_{X,1}(x; t_0)$
- By defn of SSS, $f_{X,1}(x; t_0) = f_{X,1}(x; t_0 + \tau)$ for any $\tau \in \mathbb{T}$
 - $\Rightarrow f_{X,1}(x; t_0)$ does not depend on t_0
 - $\Rightarrow \mu_X(t_0)$ does not depend on t_0
 - $\Rightarrow \mu_x(t) = \mu_X$ (a constant)
- If $X(t)$ is SSS, $f_{X,2}(x_1, x_2; t + \tau, t) = f_{X,2}(x_1, x_2; t_0 + \tau, t_0)$ (i.e., does not depend on t , but may depend on τ)
 - $\Rightarrow R_X(t + \tau, t)$ does not depend on t , but may depend on τ
 - For convenience, we write $R_X(\tau)$ in this case
- For the covariance function of a SSS RP,

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_X(t + \tau, t) &= R_X(t + \tau, t) - \mu_X(t + \tau)\mu_X(t) \\
 &= R_X(\tau) - \mu_X^2 \\
 &= C_X(\tau)
 \end{aligned}$$

Summary

$$\mu_X(t) = \mu_X \tag{S1}$$

$$R_X(t + \tau, t) = R_X(\tau) \tag{S2}$$

$$C_X(t + \tau, t) = C_X(\tau) \tag{S3}$$

We can use these properties to define weaker types of stationarity:

DEFN A 2nd-order RP $X(t)$ is _____
if (S1) and (S2) hold for all t and τ .

DEFN A 2nd-order RP $X(t)$ is _____ if (S3)
_____ holds for all t and τ .

Notes

1. For $X(t)$ WSS, $C_x(t+\tau, t) = R_X(\tau) - \mu_X^2$, so $X(t)$ is also CSS _____
2. Does CSS \Rightarrow WSS?

Example**PROPERTIES OF AUTOCORRELATION FUNCTION FOR WIDE-SENSE RPs**

For real WSS RPs, the three properties of the autocorrelation function simplify to:

I. $R_X(0) = E[X^2(t)] \geq 0$ (_____)

II.

$$\begin{aligned} R_X(\tau) &= E[X(t+\tau)X(t)] = E[X(t)X(t+\tau)] \\ &= E[X(t_1-\tau)X(t_1)], \text{ where } t_1 = t + \tau \\ &= R_X(-\tau) \text{ (_____)} \end{aligned}$$

III. $|R_X(\tau)| \leq R_X(0)$ (_____)

Proof: From previous class,

$$\begin{aligned} |R_X(t_1, t_2)| &\leq \frac{R_X(t_1, t_1) + R_X(t_2, t_2)}{2} \\ &= \frac{R_X(0) + R_X(0)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Example