

# MSG800/MVE170 Basic Stochastic Processes

## Written exam Monday 11 January 2021 2–6 PM

TEACHER: Patrik Albin 031 7723512 palbin@chalmers.se .

AIDS: All aids are permitted. (See the Canvas course “Ordinarie tentamen Modul: 0107, MVE170” with instructions for this reexam for clarifications.)

GRADES: 12 points for grades 3 and G, 18 points for grade 4, 21 points for grade VG and 24 points for grade 5, respectively.

MOTIVATIONS: All answers/solutions must be motivated. GOOD LUCK!

**Task 1.** Let  $\{X(k)\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a discrete time WSS random process. Is it true in general that  $Y(k) = \sin((X(k))^2)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , is also a WSS process? **(5 points)**

**Task 2.** Consider a time discrete  $\mathbb{Q}$ -valued ( $\mathbb{Q}$  being the rational numbers) Markov chain  $\{X_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ . Let  $Y_n = \sum_{k=0}^n h(n-k) X_k$  for  $n \geq 0$  for some function  $h: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ . Is it true in general that  $\{Y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is also a Markov chain? **(5 points)**

**Task 3.** Let  $(X, Y)$  be a continuous random variable with probability density function  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$ . Prove in two different ways that  $\mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)\mathbf{E}\{Y|X\}\} = \mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)Y\}$  for the indicator  $\mathbf{1}_A(X) = 1$  when  $X \in A$  and  $\mathbf{1}_A(X) = 0$  when  $X \notin A$  of a set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

**(5 points)**

**Task 4.** Let  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  be a Poisson process with rate  $\lambda > 0$  and  $B$  a Binomial(1, 1/2) random variable that is independent of  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ . For which functions  $f(t)$  (if any) is  $M(t) = f(t) (-7)^{B+N(t)}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , a martingale with respect to the filtration  $F_s = \sigma(M(r) : r \in [0, s])$ ,  $s \geq 0$ ? **(5 points)**

**Task 5.** A continuous time Markov chain  $\{X(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  has state space  $\{-1, 1\}$ , generator  $G = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and starting distribution  $\mu^{(0)} = \pi$  the stationary distribution. Calculate the characteristic function for the random variable  $(X(s), X(s+t))$  for  $s, t \geq 0$ .

**(5 points)**

**Task 6.** Let  $\{X(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  denote the total number of customers in a M(1)/M(1)/1 queueing system (with  $\lambda = \mu = s = 1$  and  $K = \infty$ ). Find the probability distribution of the time  $T = \min\{t \geq 0 : X(t) = 2\}$  when  $X(0) = 0$ . **(5 points)**

## MSG800/MVE170 Solutions to exam 11 January 2021

**Task 1.** Let  $X(k) = N_k$  for  $k$  even and  $X(k) = e_k$  for  $k$  odd where  $\{N_k\}$  and  $\{e_k\}$  are independent random variables with  $N_k \sim N(0, 1)$ -distributed and  $e_k$  a random sign (1 or  $-1$  with probability  $1/2$  each). Then  $\{X(k)\}$  is discrete time white noise and thus WSS. However  $\mathbf{E}\{\sin(X(k)^2)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin(x^2) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx \approx 0.351578$  for  $k$  even while  $\mathbf{E}\{\sin(X(k)^2)\} = \sin(1) \approx 0.841471$  for  $k$  odd so that  $\{\sin(X(k)^2)\}$  is not WSS.

**Task 2.** As  $h \neq 0$ , to know the history of the  $Y$ -process  $Y_n, \dots, Y_0$  is same thing as know the history of the  $X$ -process  $X_n, \dots, X_0$ . But  $\mathbf{P}\{Y_{n+1} = j | Y_n, \dots, Y_0\} = \mathbf{P}\{h(0)X_{n+1} + \sum_{k=0}^n h(n+1-k)X_k = j | X_n, \dots, X_0\}$  which is not the same as  $\mathbf{P}\{h(0)X_{n+1} + \sum_{k=0}^n h(n+1-k)X_k = j | Y_n\}$  as all  $X_n, \dots, X_0$  affect the event  $\{h(0)X_{n+1} + \sum_{k=0}^n h(n+1-k)X_k = j\}$ . So the answer is no!

**Task 3.** First proof using properties 4 and 7 on page 220 in Hsu:  $\mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)\mathbf{E}\{Y|X\}\} = \mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)Y|X\}\} = \mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)Y\}$ .

Second elementary proof:  $\mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)\mathbf{E}\{Y|X\}\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_A(x)\mathbf{E}\{Y|X=x\}f_X(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_A(x)\left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} yf_{Y|X}(y|x)dy\right)f_X(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{1}_A(x)yf_{X,Y}(x,y)dxdy = \mathbf{E}\{\mathbf{1}_A(X)Y\}$ .

**Task 4.**  $\mathbf{E}\{M(t)|F_s\} = f(t)(-7)^{B+N(s)}\mathbf{E}\{(-7)^{N(t)-N(s)}\} = f(t)(-7)^{B+N(s)}e^{-8\lambda(t-s)}$  for  $0 \leq s \leq t$  giving  $f(t) = Ce^{8\lambda t}$  for some constant  $C \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Task 5.** As  $\mu^{(s)} = \pi = (\frac{1}{2} \ \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $(P_t)_{i,i} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + e^{-2t})$  and  $(P_t)_{i,j} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-2t})$  for  $i \neq j$  [cf. G&S Exercise 6.9.1], we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Psi_{X(s), X(s+t)}(\omega_1, \omega_2) \\ &= \mathbf{E}\{e^{j(\omega_1 X(s) + \omega_2 X(s+t))}\} \\ &= \pi_1((P_t)_{11}e^{j(\omega_1 + \omega_2)} + (P_t)_{1,-1}e^{j(\omega_1 - \omega_2)}) + \pi_{-1}((P_t)_{-1,1}e^{j(\omega_2 - \omega_1)} + (P_t)_{-1,-1}e^{-j(\omega_1 + \omega_2)}) \\ &= \dots = \cos(\omega_1)\cos(\omega_2) - e^{-2t}\sin(\omega_1)\sin(\omega_2). \end{aligned}$$

**Task 6.** Writing  $T_{1 \rightarrow 2}$  for the time it takes to move from state 1 to state 2 and using that  $\Psi_{\text{exp}(\lambda)}(\omega) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - j\omega}$  we have

$$\Psi_T(\omega) = \frac{1}{1 - j\omega} \Psi_{1 \rightarrow 2}(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi_{1 \rightarrow 2}(\omega) = \frac{2}{2 - j\omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} \Psi_T(\omega) + \frac{1}{2} \Psi_0(\omega) \right)$$

giving

$$\Psi_T(\omega) = \frac{1}{1 - 3j\omega - \omega^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}) - j\omega} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}) - j\omega}$$

which by taking inverse CHF yields PDF  $f_T(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} e^{-(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2})t} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} e^{-(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2})t}$  for  $t \geq 0$ .