

Problem 1.

(a) For $n=1$, $P_{1,1}(-1) = P_{1,1}(1) = \frac{1}{2}$; $E X_{1,1} = 0$; $E X_{1,1}^2 = 1$; $\text{Var } X_{1,1} = 1$

The same answer for $n \geq 2$:

$$E X_{n,k} = 0; E X_{n,k}^2 = 1; \text{Var } X_{n,k} = 1 \text{ for all } k=1, 2, \dots, n$$

(b) Clearly $E S_n = 0$; $\text{Var } S_n = n$, so $E \frac{S_n}{n} = 0$. From WLLN $\frac{S_n}{n} \xrightarrow{P} 0$.

(c)

$$\begin{aligned} E e^{it R_n} &= E e^{it \sqrt{\text{Var } S_n}} = \prod_{k=1}^n e^{it \frac{X_{n,k}}{\sqrt{n}}} = \left(\frac{e^{it} + e^{-it}}{2\sqrt{n}} + 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^n \\ &= \left(\frac{\cos t}{n} + 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^n = \left(1 - \frac{1 - \cos t}{n} \right)^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E e^{it R_n} = e^{-\lambda(1-\cos t)}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Next, recall that the characteristic function of $\text{Poi}(\lambda)$ is

$$\varphi_\lambda(t) = e^{-\lambda(1-e^{it})}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

and thus

$$e^{-2\lambda(1-\cos t)} = \varphi_\lambda(t) \varphi_\lambda(-t) \tag{1}$$

This gives

$$e^{-\lambda(1-\cos t)} = \varphi_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}(t) \varphi_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}(-t)$$

For any 2 RVs ξ, η we have $\varphi_{\xi+\eta}(s) = \varphi_\xi(s) \varphi_\eta(-s)$. (2)

Thus, by (1), (2) $R_n \xrightarrow{d} X_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}' - X_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}''$, where $X_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}', X_{\frac{\lambda}{2}}''$ are independent

$\text{Poi}\left(\frac{\lambda}{2}\right)$ random variables.

Problem 2

$$E X_t = E \left[\xi (-1)^{N(t)} \right] = E \xi E (-1)^{N(t)} = 0.$$

Suppose that $s < t$, then

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_s X_t] &= E \underbrace{\xi^2}_{\text{"}} E [(-1)^{N(s) + N(t)}] = E (-1)^{N(s) - N(t)} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k P(N(s) - N(t) = k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{\lambda(t-s)^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda(t-s)} \\ &= e^{-2\lambda(t-s)}. \end{aligned}$$

Likewise if $t < s$, $E X_s X_t = e^{-2\lambda(s-t)}$, so altogether

$$E X_s X_t = e^{-2\lambda|s-t|}.$$

Problem 3

The sequence $(Z_k)_k$ forms a Markov chain. Indeed, by definition for any realization $Z_1 = 1, Z_2 = n_2, \dots, Z_k = n_k$ we have

we have $n_1 = 1 < n_2 < \dots < n_k$

$$X_1 \leq X_{n_2} \leq X_{n_3} \leq \dots \leq X_{n_k}.$$

Next

$$\begin{aligned} &P(Z_k = n_{k-1} + m \mid Z_1^{k-1} = n_1^{k-1}) \\ &= \frac{P(Z_1^{k-1} = n_1^{k-1}; X_{n_{k-1}+m} \geq X_{n_{k-1}}; X_{n_{k-1}+m-1} < X_{n_{k-1}}, \dots, X_{n_{k-1}+1} < X_{n_{k-1}})}{P(Z_1^{k-1} = n_1^{k-1})} \\ &= P(Z_k = n_{k-1} + m \mid Z_{k-1} = n_{k-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Further, the event $Z_k = n_{k-1} + m$ conditional on $Z_{k-1} = n_{k-1}$

is given by $X_{n_{k-1}+m} \geq X_{n_{k-1}}; X_{n_{k-1}+1}^{n_{k-1}+m-1} < X_{n_{k-1}}$

For any value $X_{n_{k-1}} = x$, $P(X_{n_{k-1}+1}^{n_{k-1}+m-1} < x) = (F(x))^{m-1}$ by independence,

and $P(X_{n_{k-1}+m} \geq x) = 1 - F(x)$. (3)

Then the transition probability out

$$P(Z_k = n_{k-1} + m \mid Z_{k-1} = n_{k-1}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dF(x) (F(x))^{m-1} (1 - F(x))$$

$$= \frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} = \frac{1}{m(m+1)}, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots$$

This PMF does not depend on k . Further, clearly

$$P(Z_k < k) = 0,$$

the first k elements in the k^{th} row of the matrix of transitions = 0.

We conclude that the matrix has the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} & \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} & \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem 4. We assume, as many students correctly did, that X and Y are jointly Gaussian.

(a) Since $\max(a, b) = \frac{1}{2}(a+b+|a-b|)$ for any two numbers a, b ,

$$E \max(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2} E |X-Y|$$

$Z := X - Y$ is a Gaussian RV with mean 0 and variance $E(Z^2) = 2 - 2\rho$

$$\text{Thus } E \max(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2} E |Z|$$

For an $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ RV U

$$E|U| = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-u^2/2\sigma^2} u du = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2\sigma^2} dt = \frac{2\sigma}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$\text{Finally, } E \max(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2} E|Z| = \sqrt{\frac{2(1-p)}{2\pi}} = \sqrt{\frac{1-p}{\pi}}$$

(b) Since $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^2(1-p^2)}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2 - 2pxy + y^2}{2(1-p^2)}\right)$, we obtain

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(1-p^2)}} e^{-\frac{x^2 - 2pxy + y^2}{2(1-p^2)} + \frac{y^2}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(1-p^2)}} e^{-\frac{(x-py)^2}{2(1-p^2)}}$$

This is a Gaussian pdf with mean py

Since this is true for any realization $Y=y$, we finally obtain

$$E[X|Y] = py; \quad \text{Var}(X|Y) = 1-p^2.$$

Another solution of (b) :

Notice that $X-pY$ and Y are uncorrelated :

$$E[(X-pY)Y] = EXY - pEY^2 = p - p \cdot 1 = 0$$

Since they are Gaussian, they are also independent.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= E[X-pY] = E[(X-pY)|Y] = E[X|Y] - pE[Y|Y] = \\ &= E[X|Y] - py. \end{aligned}$$

For the variance $\text{Var}(X|Y)$ compute

$$\text{Var}(X|Y) = E[X^2|Y] - (E[X|Y])^2$$

$$E[(X-pY)^2|Y] = E[(X-pY)^2] = 1 - 2p^2 + p^2 = (1-p^2) \quad , \quad Y \cdot (py)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 1-p^2 &= E[(X-pY)^2|Y] = E[X^2|Y] - 2p \underbrace{E[XY|Y]}_{= E[X^2|Y] - p^2 Y^2} + p^2 E[Y^2|Y] \\ &= E[X^2|Y] - 2p^2 Y^2 + p^2 Y^2 = E[X^2|Y] - p^2 Y^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore E[X^2|Y] = 1 - p^2 + p^2 Y^2$$

$$\text{Var}(X|Y) = 1 - p^2 + p^2 Y^2 - p^2 Y^2 = \boxed{1 - p^2}$$

(c) It is possible to solve this question by computing $f_{XZ}(x, z)$ where $Z = X + Y$ is a Gaussian $\mathcal{N}(0, 2+2\rho)$ random variable. We can also use the approach in (b), finding a pair of jointly Gaussian RVs that yield the answer.

The RVs X, Z are jointly Gaussian

$$E[X] = 0; E[Z] = 0; E[X^2] = 1; E[Z^2] = E[X^2 + 2XY + Y^2] = 2 + 2\rho$$

$$E[XY] = 1 + \rho.$$

Let $Z' = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{2(1+\rho)}}$, then $E[Z'^2] = 1$ and $E[XZ'] = \sqrt{\frac{1+\rho}{2}}$.

Now part (b) applies to RVs X and Z' , implying

$$E(X|Z') = \sqrt{\frac{1+\rho}{2}} Z'$$

$$\text{Let } Z' = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{2(1+\rho)}} \Leftrightarrow X + Y = Z$$

$$\text{We obtain } E(X|X+Y=z) = \sqrt{\frac{1+\rho}{2}} \frac{z}{\sqrt{2(1+\rho)}} = \boxed{\frac{z}{2}}$$

Similarly, we can use the result of Part (b) to compute the variance. The role of (X, Y) in part (b) is played by (X, Z') , and we obtain

$$\text{Var}(X|X+Y=z) = 1 - \left(\sqrt{\frac{1+\rho}{2}}\right)^2 = \frac{1-\rho}{2}$$

(d) **First solution :** Direct calculation using

$$E[X+Y|X>0, Y>0] = \frac{1}{P(X>0, Y>0)} \iint_0^\infty (x+y) f_{XY}(x,y) dx dy \quad \textcircled{A}$$

where the joint PDF f_{XY} is given in Part (b).

For the ease of calculation we need to separate the variables x, y .

In Lec.22 we showed that any Gaussian vector can be transformed to a vector of uncorrelated Gaussian RVs by a unitary transformation. Let

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$\Lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1 & p \\ p & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Lambda^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & p \\ p & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+p & 1-p \\ 1+p & -1+p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2(1+p) & 0 \\ 0 & 2(1-p) \end{bmatrix}$$

Denote the new variables by Z_1, Z_2 :

$$Z_1 = X + Y, \quad Z_2 = X - Y$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \{X > 0, Y > 0\} &\iff \{Z_1 + Z_2 > 0; Z_1 - Z_2 > 0\} \\ &\iff \{Z_1 > 0; |Z_2| < Z_1\} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > 0, Y > 0) &= P(Z_1 > 0, |Z_2| < Z_1) = \int_0^\infty \int_{-Z_1}^{Z_1} f_{Z_1, Z_2}(z_1, z_2) dz_1 dz_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{4-p^2}} \int_0^\infty \int_{-Z_1}^{Z_1} e^{-\frac{z_1^2}{4(1+p)} - \frac{z_2^2}{4(1-p)}} dz_2 dz_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{4-p^2}} \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{3\pi}{4}} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{r^2 \cos^2 \theta}{4(1+p)} - \frac{r^2 \sin^2 \theta}{4(1-p)}} r dr d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Change of variables.

$$= \frac{\sqrt{1-p^2}}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \frac{d\theta}{1-p\cos\theta} = \frac{1+p}{4}$$

Now using (A) above, we compute

$$E(X+Y|X>0, Y>0) = E(Z_1 + Z_2 | Z_1 > 0, |Z_2| < Z_1)$$

$$= \frac{4}{1+p} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{|z_1|}^{\infty} \frac{z_1}{4\pi\sqrt{1-p^2}} e^{-\frac{z_1^2}{4(1+p)} - \frac{z_2^2}{4(1-p)}} dz_2 dz_1 = 2\sqrt{2/\pi}.$$

Second solution. Let $A = \{X>0, Y>0\}$

$$P(A) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{By symmetry or by direct calculation})$$

$$f_{X|A}(x) = \frac{1}{P(A)} f_X(x) = 2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}, \quad 0 \leq x < \infty$$

$$E[X|A] = \int_0^\infty x f_{X|A}(x) dx = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} = E[Y|A] \text{ by symmetry}$$

$$\text{Then } E[X+Y|A] = 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}$$

by linearity of expectation.

Problem 5

(a) We define a natural filtration $\mathcal{F}_n := \sigma(Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$

$$E[X_n | \mathcal{F}_n] = -\frac{3}{4} X_{n-1} + \frac{c}{4} X_{n-1} = X_{n-1} \text{ if } c=3.$$

(b) The random walk that makes 3 steps to the right w. prob. $\frac{1}{4}$ and one step to the left with prob. $\frac{3}{4}$ does not converge a.s.

First note that $E Z = 0$; $E Z^2 = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{9}{4} = 3$.

Then $EX_n = 5$, $\text{Var } X_n = 3n$.

Using CLT,

$$\frac{X_n - 5}{\sqrt{3n}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

Now suppose that there is an RV Y s.t. $X_n \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} Y$. If so,

then $\frac{X_n}{\sqrt{3n}} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$, which would imply that $\frac{X_n}{\sqrt{3n}} \xrightarrow{d} 0$.

This yields a contradiction.

(c) The random walk described in the problem forms an irreducible Markov chain on \mathbb{Z} that starts at $X_0 = 5$.

The chain can return to 5 after $4n$ steps, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ since to compensate one step \rightarrow we need 3 steps \leftarrow . Thus

$$P_{5,5}^{(4n)} = \binom{4n}{n} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{3n}$$

$$\sum_n P_{5,5}^{(4n)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{4n}{n} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{3n} = \infty \quad \begin{cases} \text{Just barely;} \\ \left(\frac{4n}{n}\right) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{3n} > \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}n}} \\ \text{and the inequality is close.} \end{cases}$$

and thus the states are recurrent.

We showed in class that if state 0 is recurrent (it is)

and it can reach 5 with prob. $f_{0 \rightarrow 5} > 0$ (it can),

then $f_{5 \rightarrow 0} := P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{X_n = 0\} \mid X_0 = 5\right) = 1$ (Gallager, Lemma 6.2.4)

Thus $f_{5,0} = 1$, so the claim in the question is true.

Another solution:

Set up a gambler's ruin problem with starting capital 0 and the barriers $a=5$ and some $b > 5$.

Our random walk forms a martingale and

$$\tau_1 = \min\{n: X_n = -a \text{ or } X_n = b\}$$

is a finite stopping time, so the Optional Stopping Theorem applies.

Using the example in Lec.26 (p.7), the probability of hitting $-a$ before b is

$$\frac{b}{a+b}$$

Now let $b \rightarrow \infty$ to conclude that the probability of reaching $-a$ becomes = 1.