

# SUMS OF STATIONARY RANDOM VARIABLES<sup>1</sup>

ENDERS A. ROBINSON

A sequence  $x(t)$  ( $-\infty < t < \infty$ ,  $t$  an integer) of elements in Hilbert space is called stationary if the inner product  $(x(t+s), x(t))$  does not depend upon  $t$ . If the Hilbert space is  $L^2$  space with probability measure, then  $x(t)$  is a random variable and the sequence  $x(t)$  ( $-\infty < t < \infty$ ) is called a second-order stationary random process. Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be the closed linear manifold spanned by all the elements of the stationary process. Then Kolmogorov [1] has shown that the equation  $x(t)U = x(t+1)$ ,  $-\infty < t < \infty$ , uniquely determines the unitary operator  $U$  with domain and range  $\mathbf{X}$ . Using the von Neumann [2] spectral representation of  $U$ , we obtain the spectral representation of the random process

$$x(t) = \int_{-.5}^{.5} e^{2\pi i u t} dx(0)E(u), \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

The von Neumann [3] ergodic theorem, in the framework of Khintchine [4], is applicable, and shows that the average  $\sum_1^n x(t)/n$  converges in the mean to the random variable  $x(0)[E(0+) - E(0-)]$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . In this paper we consider sums instead of averages; that is, we consider  $\sum_1^n x(t)$ , and establish the following theorem.

**THEOREM.** *Let the random variables  $x(t)$  ( $-\infty < t < \infty$ ,  $t$  an integer) be a second-order stationary random process with spectral distribution function  $F(u)$ . For variance  $\{\sum_1^n x(t)\}$  to be bounded for all positive integers  $n$ , each of the following two conditions is necessary and sufficient:*

$$(1) \quad \int_{-.5}^{.5} \sin^{-2} \pi u dF(u) < \infty.$$

(2) *There is a second-order stationary random process*

$$y(t) \quad (-\infty < t < \infty) \text{ satisfying } y(t) - y(t+1) = x(t).$$

**PROOF.** (NECESSARY CONDITIONS). We are given that variance  $\{\sum_1^n x(t)\} < B$  for all positive integers  $n$ . Without loss of generality we assume that the  $x(t)$  are centered so that their mean values are zero. Then

---

Presented to the Society, February 28, 1959; received by the editors April 6, 1959.

<sup>1</sup> This paper was sponsored by the United States Army under Contract No. DA-11-022-ORD-2059 at the Mathematics Research Center, United States Army, Madison, Wisconsin.

$$\text{variance} \left\{ \sum_1^n x(t) \right\} = \left( \sum_1^n x(t), \sum_1^n x(t) \right).$$

From the spectral representation we have

$$\sum_1^n x(t) = \int_{-.5}^{.5} e^{2\pi i u} \frac{1 - e^{2\pi i u n}}{1 - e^{2\pi i u}} dx(0) E(u),$$

so

$$\text{variance} \left\{ \sum_1^n x(t) \right\} = \int_{-.5}^{.5} \frac{|1 - e^{2\pi i u n}|^2}{|1 - e^{2\pi i u}|^2} dF(u)$$

where  $F(u) = \|x(0)E(u)\|^2$ ,  $-.5 \leq u \leq .5$ , is the spectral distribution function. Hence we have

$$B > \text{variance} \left\{ \sum_1^n x(t) \right\} = \left\{ \int_{-.5}^{0-} + \int_{0+}^{.5} \right\} \frac{\sin^2 \pi u n}{\sin^2 \pi u} dF(u) \\ + n^2 [F(0+) - F(0-)]$$

which shows that  $F(0+) - F(0-)$  must vanish. Moreover, we have

$$B > \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ \int_{-.5}^{0-} + \int_{0+}^{.5} \right\} \frac{\sin^2 \pi u n}{\sin^2 \pi u} dF(u) \\ = \left\{ \int_{-.5}^{0-} + \int_{0+}^{.5} \right\} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2\pi u n \right) \right] \sin^{-2} \pi u dF(u).$$

Clearly the limit of the expression in brackets, as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , is  $1/2$ , so  $\int_{-.5}^{.5} \sin^{-2} \pi u dF(u)$  is finite. Q.E.D. (1).

The distribution function  $F(u)$  defines a Lebesgue-Stieltjes measure on the real line segment  $-.5 \leq u \leq .5$ . Let  $\mathcal{W}$  denote the  $L^2$  space of complex-valued measurable functions  $\Phi(u)$  defined on  $-.5 \leq u \leq .5$  for this measure. Define a correspondence between an element  $x$  of  $\mathcal{X}$  and an element  $\Phi(u)$  of  $\mathcal{W}$  by

$$x = \int_{-.5}^{.5} \Phi(u) dx(0) E(u) \leftrightarrow \Phi(u).$$

Then Stone [5] and Kolmogorov [1] have shown that this correspondence establishes an isomorphism between  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  that preserves inner products. The function  $e^{2\pi i u t} / (1 - e^{2\pi i u})$  belongs to  $\mathcal{W}$  since

$$\int_{-.5}^{.5} \left| \frac{e^{2\pi i u t}}{1 - e^{2\pi i u}} \right|^2 dF(u) = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-.5}^{.5} \sin^{-2} \pi u du < \infty.$$

If we define the element  $y(t)$  of  $\mathbf{X}$  by the correspondence  $y(t) \leftrightarrow e^{2\pi i u t} / (1 - e^{2\pi i u})$  we see that

$$y(t) - y(t+1) \leftrightarrow \frac{e^{2\pi i u t} - e^{2\pi i u (t+1)}}{1 - e^{2\pi i u}} = e^{2\pi i u t}.$$

But by the spectral representation, we know that  $x(t) \leftrightarrow e^{2\pi i u t}$ , and hence we have  $y(t) - y(t+1) = x(t)$  for all integers  $t$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (y(t+s), y(t)) &= \int_{-.5}^{.5} \frac{e^{2\pi i u (t+s)} e^{-2\pi i u t}}{|1 - e^{2\pi i u}|^2} dF(u) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_{-.5}^{.5} e^{2\pi i u s} \sin^{-2} \pi u dF(u) \end{aligned}$$

depends only on  $s$ , we see that  $y(t)$  is a stationary random process. Q.E.D. (2).

PROOF. (SUFFICIENT CONDITIONS). Let condition (1) of the theorem be given. Since

$$\text{variance} \left\{ \sum_1^n x(t) \right\} = \int_{-.5}^{.5} \frac{\sin^2 \pi u n}{\sin^2 \pi u} dF(u) \leq \int_{-.5}^{.5} \sin^{-2} \pi u dF(u)$$

we see that the variance is bounded. Q.E.D. (1).

Let condition (2) of the theorem be given. Then  $\|y(t)\|$  is a finite constant. Because  $\sum_1^n x(t) = y(1) - y(n+1)$  we have  $\|\sum_1^n x(t)\| \leq \|y(1)\| + \|y(n+1)\|$ , and so  $\text{variance} \left\{ \sum_1^n x(t) \right\} = \|\sum_1^n x(t)\|^2$  is bounded. Q.E.D. (2).

#### REFERENCES

1. A. N. Kolmogorov, *Stationary sequences in Hilbert space*, Bull. Moscow State Univ. Ser. Math. vol. 2 no. 6 (1941) 40 pp.
2. J. von Neumann, *Eigenwerttheorie Hermitescher Functionaloperatoren*, Math. Ann. vol. 102 (1929) pp. 49-131.
3. ———, *Proof of the quasi-ergodic hypothesis*, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. vol. 18 (1932) pp. 70-82.
4. A. Ja. Khintchine, *Korrelationstheorie der stationären stochastischen Prozesse*, Math. Ann. vol. 109 (1934) pp. 604-615.
5. M. H. Stone, *Linear transformations in Hilbert space*, Amer. Math. Soc. Colloquium Publications, vol. 15, 1932.

MATHEMATICS RESEARCH CENTER, UNITED STATES ARMY,  
MADISON, WISCONSIN