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Monte Carlo (MC) approximation of variance:

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

$$X \in \mathcal{L}^2(P; \mathbb{R}) \quad (\mathbb{E}[|X|^2] < \infty)$$

If we know  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  then

$$\tilde{X}_n = (X_n - \mathbb{E}[X])^2$$

$X_n$  are iid copies of  $X$

$$\text{Var}(X) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \tilde{X}_n$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (X_n - \mathbb{E}[X])^2$$

If we don't know  $\mathbb{E}[X]$ :  
we can do

$$\text{Var}(X) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( X_n - \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N X_j}_{\substack{\text{SS} \\ \mathbb{E}[X]}} \right)^2 = Z$$

is biased, i.e.

$$\mathbb{E}[Z] \neq \text{Var}(X)$$

There is an unbiased version:

$$Y = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( X_n - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N X_j \right)^2$$

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = \text{Var}(X)$$

Proof

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{n=1}^N \left(X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right)^2\right]$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{E}\left[\left(X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right)^2\right] \quad (\Rightarrow)$$

Note:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right] = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left(X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right)^2\right] =$$
$$\text{Var}\left(X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right)$$

$$(\Rightarrow) \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}\left(X_n - \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N}\right)$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}\left(-\frac{X_1}{N} - \frac{X_2}{N} \dots + \frac{(N-1)}{N} X_n\right.$$
$$\left. - \dots - \frac{X_N}{N}\right)$$

$X_i, i=1, \dots, N$  are independent  $\Rightarrow$  uncorrelated

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}\left(-\frac{1}{N} X_1\right) + \text{Var}\left(-\frac{1}{N} X_2\right) + \dots$$

$$+ \text{Var}\left(\frac{N-1}{N} X_n\right) + \dots + \text{Var}\left(-\frac{1}{N} X_N\right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \left[ \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}(X_1) + \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}(X_2) + \dots \right.$$
$$\left. + \frac{(N-1)^2}{N^2} \text{Var}(X_n) + \dots + \frac{1}{N^2} \text{Var}(X_N) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Var}(X_1) \left[ \frac{1}{N^2} \cdot (N-1) + \frac{(N-1)^2}{N^2} \right] = N \cdot \text{Var}(X_1) \cdot \frac{(N-1) \cdot N}{N^2} = \\
 &= (N-1) \cdot \text{Var}(X_1) \quad \blacksquare
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark: One can show the error estimate

$$\left\| \frac{1}{(N-1)} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( X_n - \sum_{j=1}^N X_j \right)^2 - \text{Var}(X_1) \right\|_{L^2} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \cdot \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^4]}$$

$X \in L^4(\mathbb{P}; \mathbb{R})$

→ same estimate holds for the biased estimator

**Stochastic processes:** Fix probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , time set  $T \subseteq \mathbb{R}$   
 (usually one takes  $T = [0, \infty)$ ,  $(-\infty, \infty)$ ) let  $(S, \mathcal{S})$  be a measurable space if  $\mathcal{S}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $S$ , usually one takes  
 $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d))$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}^{d \times m}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^{d \times m}))$   
 $X: T \times \Omega \rightarrow S$  an  $S$ -valued stochastic process

If  $\forall t \in \mathbb{T}$ :

$\Omega \ni \omega \mapsto X(t, \omega) \in S$  is an  $\mathcal{F}(S)$ -measurable.

**Remark:** A stochastic process  $X$  is

(i) a 2 parameter f-n

$$(t, \omega) \mapsto X(t, \omega)$$

(ii) a one parameter family  $(X_t, t \in \mathbb{T})$  of random variables

(iii) a family  $(X(\cdot, \omega), \omega \in \Omega)$  of f-n's

$$X(\cdot, \omega): \mathbb{T} \rightarrow S, t \mapsto X(t, \omega)$$

If the state space is a metric space  $X$  has cont. sample paths if  $\forall \omega \in \Omega$

$\mathbb{T} \ni t \mapsto X(t, \omega) \in S$  is a cont. f-n.

$\rightarrow$  Similarly, left, right continuity.

**Equality types:** We say that  $X$  and  $Y$  are

(i) modifications of each other if  $\forall t \in \mathbb{T} : \exists A_t \in \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $P(A_t) = 1$

$$A_t \subseteq \{X_t = Y_t\} = \{\omega \in \Omega : X_t = Y_t\}$$

does not have to be measurable, i.e.  $\in \mathcal{F}$ .

(ii) indistinguishable if  $\exists A \in \mathcal{F}$ :

$$P(A) = 1$$

$$A \subseteq \bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{X_t = Y_t\}$$

Obviously, (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)  
The reverse is not always true.  $\rightarrow$  sheet 4.

If (i)  $\nRightarrow$  left or right continuity of  $X$  and  $\forall \Rightarrow$  (ii).

**Filtration:** A filtration  $\mathbb{F} = (\mathbb{F}_t)_{t \in \mathbb{T}}$  is a family of sub- $\sigma$ -algebras of  $\mathcal{F}$  such that:

$$\mathbb{F}_{t_1} = \sigma(\mathbb{F}_{t_1}) \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{t_2} = \sigma(\mathbb{F}_{t_2}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}$$
$$\forall t_1 \leq t_2$$
$$t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{T}$$

$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P, \mathbb{F})$  - filtered probability space.

Remark: Every stochastic process  $X$  induces filtration via

$$\mathbb{F}_t^X = \sigma(X_s, s \leq t, s \in \mathbb{T})$$

$\mathbb{F}^X = (\mathbb{F}_t^X)_{t \in \mathbb{T}}$  is called the filtration generated by  $X$ .

$X$  is then  $\mathbb{F}^X$ -adapted.

[  $X$  is  $\mathbb{F}$  adapted :  $X_t$  is  $\mathcal{F}_t / \mathcal{P}$  measurable ]

# Important stochastic process: Standard Brownian motion (BM)

Def-n:  $W: [0, \infty) \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a stochastic process on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}, \mathbb{F})$ . We call it a standard BM if

- (i)  $W$  is  $\mathbb{F}$ -adapted.
- (ii)  $W$  has continuous sample paths
- (iii)  $W_0 = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  (also  $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.)
- (iv)  $W_{t_2} - W_{t_1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (t_2 - t_1) \cdot \mathbb{I}_{\mathbb{R}^m})$

(stationary increments)  
 $\forall t_1 \leq t_2$

- (v)  $\sigma(W_{t_2} - W_{t_1})$  and  $\mathbb{F}_{t_1}$  are independent  
 $\forall 0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \infty$
- (independent increments)

Remark: One can define BM without filtration (one removes (i), replaces (v) by

$W_{t_n} - W_{t_{n-1}}, W_{t_{n-1}} - W_{t_{n-2}}, \dots, W_{t_1} - W_{t_0}$  are independent)

Goal: define stochastic integral w.r.t. BM  $W$

$$\int_0^T X_s dW_s$$

Integrand  $X$  has to be predictable + regular (in a certain sense).

Predictability: If  $X$  is discrete  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots)$   
 $X_{n+1}$  is  $\mathbb{F}_n$ -measurable.

In case of cont. time set,  $\mathbb{F} = (\mathbb{F}_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$

We define

$$\text{Pred}(\mathbb{F}) = \mathcal{G} \left( [s, t] \times A : \begin{array}{l} A \in \mathbb{F}_s \\ 0 \leq s < t \leq T \end{array} \right)$$

$\cup \{ \{0\} \times B : B \in \mathbb{F}_0 \}$  predictable  
 $\mathcal{G}$ -algebra

$X$  is  $\mathbb{F}$  predictable if

$X$  is  $\text{Pred}(\mathbb{F}) / \mathcal{B}$  measurable.

Remarks:

- (i) Predictability  $\Rightarrow$  Adaptivity
- (ii) Adapted & left continuous  $\Rightarrow$  predictability

$$\left[ \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} X_{t-\varepsilon} = X_t \right]$$

(iii)  $\text{Pred}(\mathbb{F}) =$

$\mathcal{G} \{ X : [0, T] \times \omega \rightarrow S, X \text{ is } \mathbb{F}\text{-adapted and left continuous} \}$

Regularity:  $\left[ \int X_s dW_s \right]$

$$W_s \in \mathbb{R}^m, \forall s$$

$$X_s \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}, \forall s$$

$$\int X_s dW_s \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$$

$X$  is  $d \times m$  matrix valued.]

We recall the Hilbert-Schmidt norm (or Frobenius norm) for a matrix

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$$

$$\|A\|_{\text{HS}} = \left( = \|A\|_{\mathbb{R}^{d \times m}} \right) = \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=1}^m |A_{ij}|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Next time: Stochastic integral  $\int \cdot dW$