ON OSCILLATION FUNCTION OF ONE CLASS OF STOCHASTIC PROCESSES

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0. Let $X=\{X(t),\ 0\leq t\leq 1\}$ be a stochastic process of second order, i.e. a process for which the inequality $\|X(t)\|<\infty$ holds for any t, where the norm of arbitrary random variable z is defined by $\|z\|=(z,z)^{1/2}=(E|z|^2)^{1/2}$. By the convergence of a sequence of random variables we mean the convergence in the norm, i.e. the convergence in quadratic mean. We say that the left (right) limit of X at t exists if there exists a random variable X(t-0) (X(t+0)), such that X(t-0)=1.i.m.X(u) (X(t+0)=1.i.m.X(u)). If at least one of the equalities X(t-0)=X(t)=X(t+0) do not hold, we say that X has the discontinuity of the kind at t. If at least one of limits X(t-0), x(t+0) do not exist, we say that X has the discontinuity of the second kind at t; if only X(t-0) (X(t+0)) does not exist, then we say that X has the left (right) discontinuity of the second kind at t.

In the following we shall suppose, without loss of generality, that, if for some t there exists only one of limits X(t-0), X(t+0), then it is equal to X(t), and if there exist the both limits X(t-0) and X(t+0), then the equality X(t-0) = X(t) is satisfied. We shall say that X is mean square continuous from the left (right) at t if the equality X(t-0) = X(t) (X(t) = X(t+0)) holds. The process X is mean square continuous from the left (right) at any t.

Let us define the function $\omega = \omega(t)$ by

(1)
$$\omega(t) = \sup_{(t_n),(t_n')\in\Gamma_t} \overline{\lim_{n\to\infty}} \|X(t_n) - X(t_n')\|, \qquad t\in[0;1],$$

where Γ_t denotes the set of all sequences which converge to t and whose members are from [0; 1]; the function ω we shall call the oscillation function of the process X. If the set $[0; 1] \cap [t-h; t+h]$ we denote by $i_{t,h}$, then it is easy to show that the following equality holds:

$$\omega(t) = \inf_{h>0} \sup_{u,v \in i_{t,h}} \|X(u) - X(v)\|, \qquad t \in [0;1].$$

In this paper we shall prove some properties of the function ω , and some statements about stochastic processes we shall prove by means of the function ω ; also, we shall that, in one special case, for any function ω of fixed properties there exists a stochastic process (not unique) whose oscillation function is just equal to given function ω .

1. It is evident that the equality $\omega(t) = 0$ holds if and only if X is mean square continuous at t. The following lemma contains the proposition which is well known for real function, [3].

Lemma 1. The function ω is an upper semi-continuous function.

PROOF. Let t be arbitrary point from [0;1] and $\omega(t)=s>0$. In order the function ω to be upper semi-continuous at t it is necessary and sufficient that for any $\varepsilon>0$ there $\delta>0$, such that the inequality $\omega(u)\leq s+\varepsilon$ holds for each $u\in i_{t,\delta}$. Let us suppose that this is not the case, that is that there is $\varepsilon_0>0$, such that for each $\delta>0$ there is at least one $u\in i_{t,\delta}$ for which the inequality $\omega(u)>s+\varepsilon_0$ is satisfied. This means that, on at least one side of t, there is a sequence (u_n) , converging to t, whose members have the property

$$\omega(u_n) > s + \varepsilon_0, \qquad n = 1, 2, \dots;$$

that implies, by reason of the definition (1), that for each n there are u_n' , u_n'' $(u_n', u_n'' \in i_{t,3|t-u_n|/2})$, such that

$$||X(u_n') - X(u_n'')|| > s + \varepsilon_0/2,$$

which gives as a consequence

$$\overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X(u_n') - X(u_n'')\| \ge s + \varepsilon_0/2,$$

which contradicts the assumption $\omega(t) = s$.

COROLLARY 1.1. The set $D_s = \{t: \omega(t) \geq s\}$ is closed for any $s \geq 0$, [3].

COROLLARY 1.2. The function ω is continuous at all points at which it is equal to zero.

LEMMA 2. If $X(t_0 - 0)$ exists, then $\omega(t_0 - 0)$ exists and $\omega(t_0 - 0) = 0$.

PROOF. Let (t_n) be an arbitrary increasing sequence converging to t_0 ; we are going to show that $\omega(t_n) \to 0$ when $n \to \infty$. For each $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $h_{\varepsilon} > 0$, such that the inequality

$$||X(u) - X(v)|| < \varepsilon$$

ia true for all $u, v \in (t_0 - h_{\varepsilon}; t_0)$; let us denote by k_{ε} the smallest natural number such that $t_{k_{\varepsilon}} \in (t_0 - h_{\varepsilon}; t_0)$. From (3) it follows that for arbitrary sequences $(t'_{k,n})$, $(t''_{k,n})$ from Γ_{t_k} it will be

$$\overline{\lim_{n\to\infty}} \|X(t'_{k,n}) - X(t''_{k,n})\| \le \varepsilon \text{ for each } k \ge k_{\varepsilon},$$

which is equivalent to the fact that $\omega(t_k) \to 0$ when $k \to \infty$. As the same conclusion holds for each sequence increasingly converging to t_0 , our lemma is proved.

Lemma 3. If the process X is mean square continuous from the left on everywhere dense set E, Leb (E)=1, then for each $\varepsilon>0$ there exists a set $C\subset [0;1]$, Leb $(C)\geq 1-\varepsilon$, such that X is mean square continuous on C.

PROOF. From the fact that the function ω is measurable [2], it follows that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a continuous function ω_c , such that [2]

Leb
$$(\{t: \omega(t) = \omega_c(t)\}) > 1 - \varepsilon;$$

put $C = \{t : \omega(t) = \omega_c(t)\}$. Since $\omega_c(t-0) = 0$ for all $t \in C \cap E$, and the function ω_c is continuous, it follows that $\omega_c(t) = 0$ for all $t \in C \cap E$. But, as the set $C \cap E$ is dence in C, this implies that the equality $\omega_c(t) = 0$ holds for each $t \in C$, which means that X is mean square continuous on C, as we wanted to prove.

Let us denote by Γ_t^+ the set of all sequences which decreasingly converge to t, and by $\omega^+ = \omega^+(t)$ the function defined by

(4)
$$\omega^{+}(t) = \sup_{(t_n),(t_n') \in \Gamma_t^{+}} \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X(t_n) - X(t_n')\|, \quad t \in [0;1).$$

It is easy to see that the equality $\omega^+(t) = 0$ holds if and only if X(t+0) exists, which immediately implies the inequality

(5)
$$\omega^+(t) \le \omega(t) \text{ for each } t \in [0; 1).$$

The function ω^+ we shall call the right oscillation function of X.

Theorem 1. Suppose that the process X is mean square continuous from the left everywhere except at some set D^- , which is at most countable. Then the following statements are true:

- I. The process X has at most countably many right discontinuities of the second kind.
 - II. The set $D_s^+ = \{t : \omega^+(t) \ge s\}$ is nowhere dense for any s > 0.

PROOF. I. This statement is equivalent to the statement that the set $D^+ = \{t: \omega^+(t) > 0\}$ is at most contable. Let us suppose that this is not true, i.e. that

(6)
$$\operatorname{card}(D^+) = \aleph_1.$$

This implies that there is s > 0, such that

(7)
$$\operatorname{card}(D_s^+) = \aleph_1;$$

for, if the contrary is the case, i.e. if card $(D_s^+) \leq \aleph_0$ for any s > 0, then the set $D^+ = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} D_{1/n}^+$ is also at most countable, contary to the hypothesis (6). Let

 $s=s_0$ be one of values for which (7) is true. Since, by reason of Corollary 1.1, the set D_{s0}^+ is closed (namely, we can show, by the procedure which is similar to that from Lemma 1, that the function ω^+ is upper semi-continuous), it has to contain one perfect subset P_{s_0} , such that $\operatorname{card}(P_{s_0})=\aleph_1$, [3]. From the assumption $\operatorname{card}(D^-)\leq\aleph_0$ it follows $\operatorname{card}(D^-\cap P_{s_0})\leq\aleph_0$, which means that there are at most countably many values t for which the inequalities $\overline{\omega^+(t-0)}\geq \underline{s_0}$ hold; this implies, for the set P_{s_0} is perfect and $\operatorname{card}(P_{s_0})=\aleph_1$, that $\operatorname{card}(\{t:\overline{\omega^+(t+0)}\geq s_0\})=\aleph_1$. But, that means that there are continuously many values t for which the inequalities $\overline{\omega^+(t-0)}\neq\overline{\omega^+(t+0)}$ hold, which is impossible, [3]. Hence, it must be $\operatorname{card}(D_s^+)\leq\aleph_0$ for any s>0, that is $\operatorname{card}(D^+)\leq\aleph_0$.

II. Let us suppose that the statement does not hold, i.e. that, for some s>0, there are $t_0\in D_s^+$ and h>0, such that in the neighbourhood $i_{t_0,h}$ to t_0 there is no interval whose all points are from the complement \bar{D}_s^+ of the set D_s^+ ; hence, the set $D_s^+\cap i_{t_0,h}$ is dense in $i_{t_0,h}$. From that, and from the fact that the set D_s^+ is closed, it follows that $i_{t_0,h}\subset D_s^+$, which contradicts the statement from. I. Thus the proof is completed.

It is clear that the result from I is stronger than the statement (i) from [1].

Note that in proofs of statement, in which the mean square continuity from the left of the process X is presupposed, only the assumption about the existence of left limits of X is used.

- 2. We showed that any stochastic process, mean square continuous from the left, uniquely determines a non-negative function ω^+ with the following properties:
 - (a) ω^+ is upper semi-continuous function;
 - (b) $\omega^+(t-0) = 0$ for any $t \in (0;1]$;
 - (c) card $(D^+) < \aleph_0$;
 - (d) the set D_s^+ is nowhere dense for any s > 0.

The natural question is: if ω_0 is arbitrary non-negative function with the above properties (a)–(d), does there always exist a process X, whose function ω^+ , defined by (4), satisfies the equality

$$\omega^+(t) = \omega_0(t)$$
 for each t.

If we were to answer that question, we need some preliminary results.

Lemma 4. Suppose that a non-negative upper semi-continuous function ω_0 , defined on [0; 1], satisfies the condition $\omega_0(t-0)=0$ for all $t\in(0;1]$. If the set $D=\{t:\omega_0(t)>0\}$ is at most countable and nowhere dense, then there exists a process X, whose right oscillation function satisfied the equality

(8)
$$\omega^+(t) = \omega_0(t) \text{ for each } t.$$

PROOF. First of all we shall show that for each $u \in [0;1)$ and any s>0 there exists a process $X_{u,s}$, whose right oscillation function $\omega_{u,s}^+$ is defined by

(9)
$$\omega_{u,s}^+(t) = \begin{cases} s & \text{for } t = u, \\ 0 & \text{for } t \neq u. \end{cases}$$

Really, if $W = \{W(t), 0 \le t \le 1\}$ is Brownian motion process (i.e. process such that $P\{W(0) = 0\} = 1$, and for all $t, s \in [0; 1]$ the random variable W(t) - W(s) has the probability distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, |t-s|)$), and if the process $X_{u,s}$ is defined by

(10)
$$X_{u,s}(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \le u, \\ s \cdot W\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(\sin\frac{1}{t-u} + 1\right)\right), & t > u, \end{cases}$$

then the oscillation function $\omega_{u,s}^+$ of $X_{u,s}$ has the form (9).

Put $D = \{t_1, t_2, \dots\}$. For any $t_i \in D$, because the set D is nowhere dense, it can be contructed a sequence of intervals $(a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}]$ $k = 1, 2, \dots$, with the following properties (compare with [4]):

- 1. $(a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}]$ does not contain points from $D, k = 1, 2, \ldots;$
- 2. $a_{i,k} > t_i$ for all k = 1, 2, ...;
- 3. $(a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}] \cap (a_{i,j}; b_{i,j}] = \emptyset$ for all j, k = 1, 2, ... and $j \neq k$;
- 4. $b_{i,k} \to t_i$ when $k \to \infty$;

for the sequence of intervals with the above properties we say that converges to t_i (it is clear that it converges descreasingly). These convergent sequences can be contructed so that

$$\bigcap_{i(t_i \in D)} \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}] = \emptyset.$$

Let Z be a process, defined on [0;1], continuous on (0;1], and such that its right oscillation at t=0 is $\omega_Z^+(0)=1$ (we can, for example, put $Z(t)=X_{0,1}(t)$, $0 \le t \le 1$, where the process $X_{0,1}$ is defined by (10) for u=0 and s=1). Put $T_i = \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty (a_{i,k};b_{i,k}], i=1,2,\ldots$, and the process $X_i, i=1,2,\ldots$, define by

$$X_i(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0, & t \in \bar{T}_i, \\ \omega_0(t_i) Z\left(\frac{t-t_i}{1-t_i}\right), & t \in T_i. \end{array} \right.$$

Finally, if the process X is defined by

(11)
$$X(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in \overline{\bigcup_i T_i}, \\ X_i(t), & t \in T_i, \end{cases}$$

then it is easy to see that the right oscillation function ω^+ of X satisfies (8). The proof is completed.

It can happen that X has discontinuities of the first kind on the ends of intervals $(a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}]$ for some or all values of indices i, k. Let us show it is possible to contruct a process X, which has no discontinuities of the first kind, and whose right oscillation function ω^+ satisfies (8). Suppose that on [0;1] a mean square

continuous process Z is defined, such that $P\{Z(0) = 0\} = P\{Z(1) = 0\} = 1$ and $\max_{0 \le t \le 1} ||Z(t)|| = 1$. By using denotations from Lemma 4, we can define the process X_i^* , $i = 1, 2, \ldots$, by

$$X_i^*(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in \bar{T}_i \\ \omega_0(t_i) Z\left(\frac{t - a_{i,k}}{b_{i,k} - a_{i,k}}\right), & t \in (a_{i,k}; b_{i,k}], \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{cases}$$

If in (11) we exchange X_i by X_i^* for i = 1, 2, ..., we shall see that so obtained process X has no discontinuities of the first kind and that its right oscillation function ω^+ satisfies (8).

COROLLARY 4.1. Let ω_0 be a non-negative function, defined on [0;1], and satisfying the conditions (a) – (d). If the indicator function of the set $\{t:0<\omega_0(t)\leq\varepsilon\}$ we denote by $I_\varepsilon=I_\varepsilon(t)$, then for any $\varepsilon>0$ there exists a process X_ε , whose right oscillation function ω_ε^+ satisfies the equality

$$\omega_{\varepsilon}^+(t) = (1 - I_{\varepsilon}(t))\omega_0(t), \quad t \in [0; 1).$$

Lemma 5. Suppose that X_1 and X_2 are arbitrary stochastic processes of second order, and that the process X_0 is defined by $X_0(t) = X_1(t) + X_2(t)$, $0 \le t \le 1$. If ω_i is the oscillation function of X_i , i = 0, 1, 2, then the inequality

(12)
$$\omega_0(t) \le \omega_1(t) + \omega_2(t), \quad 0 \le t \le 1,$$

holds. This inequality becomes equality if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) processes X_1 and X_2 are mutually orthogonal;
- (ii) $D_1 \cap D_2 = \emptyset$ where $D_i = \{t : \omega_i(t) > 0\}, i = 1, 2.$

PROOF. The inequality (12) follows immediately from the properties of norm and function $\overline{\lim}$ and sup. If the condition (i) is satisfied, then for each t and arbitrary sequences $(t_n), (t_n')$ from Γ_t the equality

$$||X_0(t_n) - X_0(t_n')|| = ||X_1(t_n) - X_1(t_n')|| + ||X_2(t_n) - X_2(t_n')||, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

holds. We shall show that, from the assumption that the condition (ii) is also satisfied, it follows

(13)
$$\overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X_0(t_n) - X_0(t_n')\| = \sum_{i=1}^2 \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X_i(t_n) - X_i(t_n')\|.$$

The condition (ii) implies that t can belong to at most one of the sets D_1, D_2 ; if $t \in \overline{D_1 \cup D_2}$, then the both sides in (13) are obviously equal to zero. If t belongs to one of the sets D_1, D_2 , for example $t \in D_1$, then it holds

(14)
$$\left| \|X_{0}(t_{n}) - X_{0}(t_{n}')\| - \sum_{i=1}^{2} \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X_{i}(t_{n}) - X_{i}(t_{n}')\| \right| \leq$$

$$\leq \left| \|X_{1}(t_{n}) - X_{1}(t_{n}')\| - \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty}} \|X_{1}(t_{n}) - X_{1}(t_{n}')\| \right| + \|X_{2}(t_{n}) - X_{2}(t_{n}')\|.$$

From the definition of $\overline{\lim}$ and the fact that $t \in \overline{D}_2$ it follows that the right side in (14) will be smaller than arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$ for infinitely many values of n. Thus we proved that (13) is true. This implies, by reason of (ii), that the equality

$$\omega_0(t) = \omega_1(t) + \omega_2(t), \quad 0 < t < 1,$$

holds, as we wanted to prove.

COROLLARY 5.1. If X_1 and X_2 are arbitrary processes of second order and if a process X_0' is defined as in Lemma 5, then it holds $D_0 \subseteq D_1 \cup D_2$. That inclusion becomes equality if at least one of the conditions (i) and (ii) is satisfied.

It is clear that, analogously, it can be shown that Lemma 5 and Corollary 5.1 remain valid also for right oscillation functions ω_i^+ , i.e. for corresponding sets D_i^+ , i=0,1,2.

Lemma 6. If the sequence X_1, X_2, \ldots of stochastic processes converges uniformly to some process X, then the sequence of corresponding oscillation functions $\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots$ converges uniformly to oscillation function ω of X.

PROOF. From the uniform convergence of the sequence (X_n) , i.e. from

$$\sup_{0 \le t \le 1} \|X(t) - X_k(t)\| \to 0, \qquad n \to \infty,$$

it follows that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is k_{ε} such that

$$|||X(u) - X(v)|| - ||X_k(u) - X_k(v)||| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } u, v \in [0; 1] \text{ and } k > k_{\varepsilon};$$

that implies the following inequalities

$$\begin{split} \sup_{u,v \in i_{t,h}} \|X_k(u) - X_k(v)\| - \varepsilon & \leq \sup_{u,v \in i_{t,h}} \|X(u) - X(v)\| \leq \\ & \leq \sup_{u,v \in i_{t,h}} \|X_k(u) - X_k(v)\| + \varepsilon \text{ for any } t \text{ and all } k > k_{\varepsilon}, \end{split}$$

which hold for each h > 0. This, by reason of (2), means that it will be

$$|\omega(t) - \omega_k(t)| < \varepsilon$$
 for any t and all $k > k_{\varepsilon}$,

which is equivalent to the statement that ω_k converges uniformly to ω when $k \to \infty$, as we wanted to show.

It is easy to see that the statement from Lemma 6 remains valid if we exchange the oscillation functions by the right oscillations functions.

Theorem 2. Suppose that ω_0 is a non-negative function, defined on [0; 1] and satisfying conditions (a)-(d). Then there exists a process X, whose right oscillation function ω^+ satisfied the equality

$$\omega^+(t) = \omega_0(t)$$
 for any $t \in [0; 1)$.

PROOF. Denote by $I_n = I_n(t)$ the indicator function of the set $\{t: 0 < \omega_0(t) \le 1/2^n\}$. From Corollary 4.1 it follows that for each $n = 1, 2, \ldots$ there is a process X_n , whose right oscillation function ω_n^+ satisfied the equality $\omega_n^+(t) = (1 - I_n(t))\omega_0(t)$, $t \in [0; 1)$. It is easy to see that the sequence (ω_n^+) converges uniformly to ω_0 . If we show that processes X_n , $n = 1, 2, \ldots$, can be constructed in such a way that the sequence (X_n) converges uniformly to some process X (i.e. that (X_n) is a Cauchy sequence in the sense of the uniform convergence), then, by reason of Lemma 6, it will imply that our statement is true.

Let us construct processes X_n , $n=1,2,\ldots$ Put $D_1=\left\{t:\omega_0(t)>\frac{1}{2}\right\}$ and define the function $\omega_1=\omega_1(t)$ by

$$\omega_1(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0, & t \in \bar{D}_1, \\ \omega_0(t), & t \in D_1. \end{array} \right.$$

As the function ω_1 satisfies all conditions from Lemma 4, it must exist a process \bar{X}_1 , whose right oscillation function $\overline{\omega_1}^+$ satisfied the equality

$$\overline{\omega_1^+}(t) = \omega_1(t), \quad t \in [0; 1).$$

Put $D_2=\left\{t:\frac{1}{4}<\omega_0(t)\leq\frac{1}{2}\right\}$ and define the function $\omega_2=\omega_2(t)$ by

$$\omega_2(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in \bar{D}_2, \\ \omega_0(t), & t \in D_2. \end{cases}$$

According to Lemma 4 there is a process \bar{X}_2 , whose right oscillation function $\overline{\omega_2^+}$ satisfies the equality

$$\overline{\omega_2^+}(t) = \omega_2(t), \quad t \in [0; 1).$$

It is clear that a process \bar{X}_2 can be constructed in such a way that it is orthogonal to \bar{X}_1 , and that its norm satisfies the inequality

$$\sup_{0 \le t \le 1} \|\bar{X}_2(t)\| < 1.$$

By the described procedure we obtain the sequence of sets $D_n = \{t: 1/2^n < \omega_0(t) \le 1/2^{n-1}\}$, n = 1, 2, ..., and corresponding sequence (\bar{X}_n) of mutually orthogonal processes, whose norms satisfy the inequalities

(15)
$$\sup_{0 < t < 1} \|\bar{X}_n(t)\| < \frac{1}{2^{n-2}}, \quad n = 2, 3, \dots.$$

The new processes X_n , n = 1, 2, ..., we shall define by

$$X_n(t) = \sum_{k=1}^n \bar{X}_k(t), \quad t \in [0; 1], \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since the process X_n , for any $n=1,2,\ldots$, satisfies the conditions (i) and (ii) from Lemma 5, it follows that for the right oscillation function ω_n^+ of X_n the equality

$$\omega_n^+(t) = \sum_{k=1}^n \overline{\omega_k^+}(t), \quad t \in [0; 1),$$

will be satisfied. From the definition of ω_k^+ , i.e. of ω_k^+ , $k=1,2,\ldots$, it follows that

$$\omega_n^+(t) = (1 - I_n(t))\omega_0(t), \quad t \in [0; 1), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

For arbitrary natural numbers n and m (we can suppose that, for example, n > m) it will be, by reason of mutual orthogonality of processes \bar{X}_k , $k = 1, 2, \ldots$, and by reason of (15),

$$||X_n(t) - X_m(t)|| \le \sum_{k=m+1}^n \frac{1}{2^{k-2}} \to 0, \quad n, m \to \infty,$$

which means that the sequence (X_n) converges uniform y to some process X. The proof is completed.

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