

Question – Random Processes

Let $X_n = X(n)$, ($n=1,2,\dots$) be an independent identically distributed (IID), discrete-time random process, with mean $E[X_n]=a$ (where a is constant) and variance $\text{Var}(X_n)=\sigma_X^2$. Let $X_n \sim \mathcal{N}(a, \sigma_X^2)$. Now, a new random process S_m is defined as

$$S_m = \sum_{n=1}^m X_n$$

Which has a mean $\mu_{S_m} = ma$ and variance $\sigma_{S_m}^2 = m \cdot \sigma_X^2$.

Find the common PDF $f_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n; t_1, \dots, t_n)$ of random variables X_1, \dots, X_n .

Solution:

According to the formal solution, since all the processes are independent, then

$$f_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n; t_1, \dots, t_n) = \sum_{n=1}^m f_{X_n}(x_n; t_n) \quad .$$

but I just cannot figure out why exactly a sum is used instead of a product, because of the independence of the processes.

Can someone please indicate what exactly do I miss here?

Thanks.