

Units: 4

Instructors: Mohammad Reza Rajati, PhD
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Office Hours: By Appointment, ONLINE

TA(s): Amirhesam Abedsoltan

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Office Hours: TBD

Grader(s): TBD

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Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, 10:00 am –11:50 am ONLINE

Discussion: Tuesday, 3:30 pm –4:20 pm ONLINE

Webpages: [Piazza Class Page](#) for everything except grades
and [USC DEN Class Page](#) for grades

– All HWs, handouts, solutions will be posted in PDF format

– *Student has the responsibility to stay current with webpage material*

Prerequisite: EE 503 and EE 510

Other Requirements: Computer programming skills.
Using R is highly recommended.
Knowing R (or willing to learn it) is highly recommended.
Fourier, Laplace, and z transforms, complex variables,
contour integrals, and residue theory.

Tentative Grading: Assignments 20%
Midterm Exam 35%
Final Exam 45%
Participation on Piazza* 5%

Letter Grade Distribution:

≥ 93.00	A	73.00 - 76.99	C
90.00 - 92.99	A-	70.00 - 72.99	C-
87.00 - 89.99	B+	67.00 - 69.99	D+
83.00 - 86.99	B	63.00 - 66.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	60.00 - 62.99	D-
77.00 - 79.99	C+	≤ 59.99	F

Disclaimer: Although the instructors do not expect this syllabus to drastically change, he reserves every right to change this syllabus any time in the semester.

Note on e-mail vs. Piazza: If you have a question about the material or logistics of the class and wish to ask it electronically, please post it on the piazza page (not e-mail). Often times, if one student has a question/comment, other also have a similar question/comment. Private Piazza posts should be used to contact the professor, TA, graders only for issues that are specific to you individually (e.g., a scheduling issue or grade issue).

Catalogue Description: Probability Axioms. Random vectors and processes, their convergence and limit theorems. Stationary processes, Markov chains, Martingales, Gaussian processes. Basic calculus of random processes. Wiener filtering.

Course Description: This course provides a rigorous introduction to probability and stochastic process theory and is geared towards first and second year graduate students in electrical engineering, computer science, industrial and systems engineering and other departments. The course will include a review of basic concepts of probability theory including probability spaces, random variables, expectation, and related convergence concepts. It will also cover Gaussian random vectors, minimum mean square estimation and conditional expectation. It will then introduce stochastic processes and key limit theorems. Other topics to be covered include stationary and wide sense stationary processes, correlation and covariance functions, power spectral density, Poisson processes, discrete and continuous-time Markov chains, martingales, basic calculus of random processes, random processes in linear systems and Wiener filtering. The course will provide examples of applications in queueing networks, communications and autonomous systems.

Course Objectives:

- Introduction to basic concepts, definitions and limit theorems about random processes
- Exploring key properties and applications of various kinds of random processes in engineering including communications, networks and autonomous systems

Exam Dates:

- **Midterm Exam** : Monday, March 15, 10:00-11:50 AM Pacific Time
- **Final Exam:** Monday May 10, 8:00 AM- 10:00 AM Pacific Time as **set by the university**

Textbooks:**• Required Textbook:**

1. Bruce Hajek, *Random Processes for Engineers*, Cambridge University Press, 2015. (Hajek)
Preprint available at <http://www.ifp.illinois.edu/~hajek/Papers/randomprocJuly14.pdf>. (No guarantee that it is exactly the same as the main version).

• Recommended Textbooks:

1. Robert A. Scholtz, *Random Processes for Engineers*, Preprint, 2017. (Will be posted as a handout)
2. Henry Stark and John Woods, *Probability, Statistics, and Random Processes for Engineers*, 4th ed., Prentice Hall, 2011.
3. John Gubner, *Probability and Random Processes for Electrical and Computer Engineers*, Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Grading Policies:

- The letter grade distribution table guarantees the *minimum* grade each student will receive based on their final score. When appropriate, relative performance measures will be used to assign the final grade, at the discretion of the instructors.
 - Final grades are non-negotiable and are assigned at the discretion of the instructors. If you cannot accept this condition, you should not enroll in this course.
- Your two lowest homework grade will be dropped from the final grade.
- *Participation on Piazza has up to 5% extra credit, which is granted on a competitive basis *at the discretion of the instructors*.

• Homework Policy

- Homework is assigned on an approximately weekly basis. A one-day grace period can be used for each homework with 10% penalty. *Absolutely no late homework will be accepted after the grace period. A late assignment results in a zero grade.*
Important Note: If you have emergencies, you should state them the homework deadline, not at the end of the semester.
- Poor internet connection, failing to upload properly, or similar issues are NOT acceptable reasons for late submissions. If you want to make sure that you do not have such problems, submit homework eight hours earlier than the deadline. Please do not ask the instructors to make individual exceptions.
- Homework solutions and simulation results should be typed or *scanned* using scanners or mobile scanner applications like CamScan and uploaded (photos taken by cell-phone cameras and in formats other than pdf will NOT be accepted).

- Students are encouraged to discuss homework problems with one another, but each student must do their own work and submit individual solutions written/ coded in their own hand. Copying the solutions or submitting identical homework sets is written evidence of cheating. The penalty ranges from F on the homework or exam, to an F in the course, to recommended expulsion.
- Posting the homework assignments and their solutions to online forums or sharing them with other students is strictly prohibited and infringes the copyright of the instructors. Instances will be reported to USC officials as academic dishonesty for disciplinary action.

- **Exam Policy**

- **Make-up Exams:** No make-up exams will be given. If you cannot make the above dates due to a class schedule conflict or personal matter, you must drop the class. In the case of a required business trip or a medical emergency, a signed letter from your manager or physician has to be submitted. This letter must include the contact of your physician or manager.

Important Note: If you have emergencies, you should state them before taking the exam. Taking the exam, waiting for the grade, and then mentioning that you were sick *is not be acceptable*

- Midterm and final exams will be closed book and notes. No calculators are allowed nor are computers and cell-phones or any devices that have internet capability. One letter size cheat sheet (back and front) is allowed for the midterm. Two letter size cheat sheets (back and front) are allowed for the final.
- All exams are cumulative, with an emphasis on material presented since the last exam.

- **Grade Adjustment**

- If you dispute any scoring of a problem on an exam or homework set, you have one week from the date that the graded paper is returned to request a change in the grade. After this time, no further alterations will be considered.

- **Attendance:**

- Students are highly encouraged to attend all the lectures and discussion sessions and actively participate in class discussions.

- **Suggestions:**

- Remember the big picture.
- Read the book and supplementary sources.
- Prepare your own summaries from texts and notes.
- Work as many problems as you can.

Important Notes:

- Textbooks are secondary to the lecture notes and homework assignments.
- Handouts and course material will be distributed.
- Please use your USC email to register on Piazza and to contact the instructors and TAs.

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Jan 18th		20th	1
Martin Luther King Day		Probability Spaces (Hajek Ch. 1) σ -fields Kolmogorov Axioms Properties of Probability Measures Borel-Cantelli Lemmas	
25th	2	27th	3
Random Variables (Hajek Ch. 1) Definition CDFs Discrete and Continuous Random Variables Statistical Properties of Random Variables Conditioning		Random Vectors (Hajek Ch. 3) Random Vectors and Matrices Complex Random Variables and Vectors Covariance Matrices Decorrelation and Karhunen-L��ve Expansion Simulation of Random Vectors Transformations of Random Vectors* Characteristic Functions	
Feb 1st	4	3rd	5
Random Vectors (Hajek Ch. 3) Linear and Affine Minimum Mean-Square (MMSE) Error Estimation of Random Vectors Wiener Filters “Causal” Estimates Estimation of Covariance Matrices* MMSE Estimates		Gaussian Random Vectors (Hajek Ch. 3) Definitions Characteristic Functions of Gaussian Random Vectors Singular Covariance Matrices* Detection and Hypothesis Testing* Simulation Decorrelation Complex Gaussian Vectors and Circularity Homework 1 Due	
8th	6	10th	7
Stochastic Convergence (Hajek Ch. 2) Random Samples vs. Random Sequences (Statistical View vs. Process View) Modes of Convergence Hierarchy of Modes of Convergence		Stochastic Convergence (Hajek Ch. 2) Examples and Counter-examples Skokhorod’s Representation Theorem Continuous Mapping Theorem L��vy’s Continuity Theorem Slutsky’s Theorem Homework 2 Due	

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
15th President's Day		17th Limit Theorems (Hajek Ch.2) Weak Law of Large Numbers Strong Law of Large Numbers Monte-Carlo Methods Bootsrtap* The Central Limit Theorem (CLT) Berry-Esseen Theorem Homework 3 Due	8
22nd Limit Theorems (Hajek Ch. 2) Binomial Approximation Chi-squared Approximation Generalized CLT for Stable Distributions (Kolmogorov-Gnedenko) Extreme-Value Theorem (Fisher-Trippet-Genedenko CLT) Lindeberg-Feller CLT The Statistical View vs. The Process View	9	24th Introduction to Random Processes (Hajek Ch. 4) Discrete-Time vs. Continuous-Time Random Processes Brownian Motion Characterization of Random Processes Mean and Correlation Functions Covariance Function Cross-correlation Functions Complex Random Processes Homework 4 Due	10
Mar 1st Introduction to Random Processes (Hajek Chs. 4, 8) Strict-sense and Wide-sense Stationary (WSS) Processes Estimation of Correlation Functions WSS Processes Through LTI Systems Time-Domain and Frequency-Domain Analysis Power-Spectral Densities (PSDs) for WSS Processes	11	3rd Introduction to Random Processes (Hajek Ch. 9) White Noise Characterization of Correlation Functions Matched Filters Wiener Filters Homework 5 Due	12

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
8th	13	10th	14
Introduction to Random Processes (Hajek Ch. 4) Causal Wiener Filters The Wiener Khinchin Theorem Mean-Square Ergodic Theorem for WSS Processes PSDs for non-WSS processes		Advanced Concepts in Random Processes (Hajek 4.5-4.8) The Poisson Process Properties Jump Times, Arrival Times, Interarrival Times Derivation of Poisson Probabilities* Compound Poisson Processes Homework 6 Due	
15th	15	17th	16
Midterm		Advanced Concepts in Random Processes (Hajek 4.5-4.8) Shot Noise Renewal Theory Wiener Processes The Wiener Integral Itô and Stratonovich Geometries Random Walks Approximations of Wiener Processes Homework 7 Due	
22nd	17	24th	18
Advanced Concepts in Random Processes (-) Specifications of Finite and Infinite Random Sequences and Kolmogorov Consistency* Continuous-time Processes Gaussian Processes		Markov Processes (Hajek Ch. 6.1-6.4) Countable state Markov Chains Classification (recurrence/transience) Homework 8 Due	
29th	19	31st	20
Markov Processes (Hajek Ch. 6.1-6.4) Convergence Birth-death processes		Markov Processes (Hajek Ch. 6.5-6.9) Ergodicity Mean arrival time Homework 9 Due	
Apr 5th	21	7th	
Markov Processes (Hajek Ch. 6.5-6.9) Stability discrete time queueing systems		Wellness Day Homework 10 Due Thursday April 8	

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
12th	22	14th	23
Markov Processes (Continuous-time Markov Chains: Examples Birth-death processes Kolmogorov differential equations Limiting probabilities		Mean-Square Calculus (Hajek Ch. 7) Mean-Square Continuity and Differentiability Stochastic Differential Equations Hilbert and Banach Spaces of Random Variables Mean-Square Integrability Mean-Square Integrals Homework 10 Due	
19th	24	21st	25
Mean-Square Calculus (Hajek Ch. 7) Karhunen-Loève Expansion The Wiener Integral Projection Theorem and The Orthogonality Principle		Mean-Square Calculus (More Rigorous Definitions of Conditional Expectation and Probability Filtrations and Filtered Spaces* Spectral Representation of Processes Homework 11 Due	
26th	26	28th	27
Martingales (Hajek Ch. 10) Martingales: Definition Martingale differences, Level crossings		Martingales (Hajek Ch. 10) Stopping times Azuma's maximal inequality Martingale convergence theorem Homework 12 Due	

Notes:

- Items marked by * will be covered only if time permits.

Statement on Academic Integrity: USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. SCampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11.00), while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A. See: <http://scampus.usc.edu>.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies. See the university's site on Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness: <http://preparedness.usc.edu>

Statement for Students with Disabilities: Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website: http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html

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