

Problem sheet 2

Solutions has to be uploaded into Moodle:

<https://lernen.min.uni-hamburg.de/mod/assign/view.php?id=54153>
until 20:00, May 4.

1. [2+4+1 points] Let $B_t, t \geq 0$, be a one dimensional Brownian motion.

(a) Define the process

$$X_t = a(t) \left(x_0 + \int_0^t b(s) dB_s \right),$$

where $a, b : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are differentiable functions with $a(0) = 1$ and $a(t) > 0$. Compute the SDE satisfied by the process.

(b) Use (a) to find an explicit solution for the following SDEs:

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t &= -\alpha X_t dt + \sigma dB_t, \quad t \in [0, T], \\ X_0 &= x_0, \end{aligned}$$

where α, σ, T are positive constants;

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t &= -\frac{X_t}{1-t} dt + dB_t, \quad t \in [0, 1), \\ X_0 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

(c) Are the solutions to the SDEs above strong and pathwise unique?

2. [2 points] Let $X_t, t \geq 0$, be a continuous process on \mathbb{R} and $X_0 = 0$. Assume that for every $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R})$

$$M_t^f := f(X_t) - f(0) - \int_0^t \frac{1}{2} f''(X_s) ds, \quad t \geq 0,$$

is a continuous local martingale. Show that $X_t, t \geq 0$, is a Brownian motion.

3. [4 points] (Feynman-Kac formula for Ito diffusions)

Consider the solution (X, B) to the SDE in \mathbb{R}^n

$$dX_t = b(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dB_t, \quad X_0 = x_0,$$

where B is an m -dimensional Brownian motion and $b : [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^n, \sigma : [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ bounded continuous functions. Let \mathcal{A}_t be the associated second order differential operator define in Section 2.3 of the skript. Fix $t > 0$ and assume that $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $V : [0, t] \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ are continuous functions. Show that any bounded solution $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}([0, t] \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ to the PDE

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} u(s, x) &= \mathcal{A}_s u(s, x) - V(s, x) u(s, x), \quad (s, x) \in (0, t] \times \mathbb{R}^n, \\ u(0, x) &= \varphi(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \end{aligned}$$

has the stochastic representation

$$u(t, x) = \mathbb{E} \left[\varphi(X_t) \exp \left(- \int_0^t V(t-s, X_s) ds \right) \right].$$

In particular, there is at most only one solution of the PDE.

Hint: Show that $M_r = \exp \left(- \int_0^r V(t-s, X_s) ds \right) u(t-r, X_r), r \in [0, t]$, is a martingale