

Stochastic differential equations

SDE: $dX_t = U_t dt + Y_t dB_t$, $U_t = a(t, X_t)$, $Y_t = \sigma(t, X_t)$.

Ex. • $dN_t = \alpha N_t dt + \beta N_t dB_t$ (population growth)

• $dX_t = \frac{d-1}{2X_t} dt + dB_t$ (Bessel process)

• $dX_t = -\nabla V(X_t) dt + dB_t$ (Langevin equation)
↑
d-dim. SBM

Def A 'standard setting' for SDE $dX_t = a(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dB_t$ is the fourtuple:

$$((\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P), \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}, \{B_t\}_{t \geq 0}, X_0)$$

where

• P_0 -null sets lie in $\mathcal{F}_0$

• X_0 is $\mathcal{F}_0$ -meas.

↑
initial value

and $a(\dots)$, $\sigma(\dots)$ are Borel measurable

Def A strong solution to SDE $dX_t = a(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t) \cdot dB_t$ is a stochastic process $\{X_t; t \geq 0\}$ on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ s.t.:

1) X is adapted to $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ and continuous.

2) $\forall t \geq 0: \int_0^t |a(s, X_s)| ds < \infty \wedge \int_0^t |\sigma(s, X_s)|^2 ds < \infty$ a.s.

3) $\forall t \geq 0$

$$X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t a(s, X_s) ds + \int_0^t \sigma(s, X_s) \cdot dB_s$$

Note: $|a(t, X_t)| := \|a(t, X_t)\|_2, |\sigma(t, X_t)|^2 := \text{tr} \sigma \sigma^T(t, X_t)$ a.s.

Ex: population growth:

$$\begin{aligned} d \log N_t &= \frac{1}{N_t} (\alpha N_t dt + \beta N_t dB_t) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{N_t^2} \beta^2 N_t^2 dt \\ &= (\alpha - \frac{\beta^2}{2}) dt + \beta dB_t \Rightarrow N_t = N_0 e^{(\alpha - \frac{\beta^2}{2})t + \beta B_t} \end{aligned}$$

Ex (Bessel) $d \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$: $X_t = |X_0 + B_t|$ (where $B_t \perp X_0$)

$$dX_t = \frac{d-1}{2X_t} dt + d\tilde{B}_t \quad \tilde{B}_t = \sum_{i=1}^d \int_0^t \frac{1}{X_s} B_s^{(i)} dB_s^{(i)}$$

Not strong solution

Thm (Itô, 1940s) Suppose "standard setting" with $X_0 \in L^2$ and $K \in (0, \infty)$ s.t.

$$\forall t \geq 0 \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d: |a(t, x) - a(t, y)| + |\sigma(t, x) - \sigma(t, y)| \leq K|x - y|$$
$$\forall t \geq 0: |a(t, 0)| + |\sigma(t, 0)| \leq K$$

Then a strong solution to SDE $dX_t = a(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t)dB_t$ exists.

Idea: Picard-Lindelöf iterations:

$$X_t^{(0)} := X_0 \wedge \forall n \geq 0: X_t^{(n+1)} := X_0 + \int_0^t a(s, X_s^{(n)}) ds + \int_0^t \sigma(s, X_s^{(n)}) \cdot dB_s$$

with continuous version of integrals on RHS.

First issue: Need to ensure the integrals exist.

Lemma Let $\{Y_t: t \geq 0\}$ be adapted & continuous. Then
 so are $\{a(t, Y_t): t \geq 0\}$ and $\{\sigma(t, Y_t): t \geq 0\}$.

If $\forall t \geq 0: \sup_{s \leq t} E|Y_s|^2 < \infty$

then $\forall t \geq 0: E \int_0^t |a(s, Y_s)|^2 ds < \infty \wedge E \int_0^t |\sigma(s, Y_s)|^2 ds < \infty$

and so $Z_t := \int_0^t a(s, Y_s) ds + \int_0^t \sigma(s, Y_s) dB_s$

is well defined with a continuous version, s.t. $\forall t \geq 0: \sup_{s \leq t} E|Z_s|^2 < \infty$

Pf Assumption give: $|a(t, x)| + |\sigma(t, x)| \leq K[1 + |x|]$

$$E\left(\sup_{u \leq t} \left|\int_0^u a(s, Y_s) ds\right|^2\right) \leq t E\left(\int_0^t |a(s, Y_s)|^2 ds\right) \\ \leq 2t^2 K^2 \sup_{s \leq t} (1 + E|Y_s|^2)$$

$$E\left(\sup_{u \leq t} \left|\int_0^u \sigma(s, Y_s) dB_s\right|^2\right) \stackrel{\text{Doob-L}^2}{\leq} 4 E\left(\left|\int_0^t \sigma(s, Y_s) dB_s\right|^2\right) \\ \stackrel{\text{It\^o}}{=} 4 E\left(\int_0^t |\sigma(s, Y_s)|^2 ds\right) \leq \dots \leq 8t^2 \sup_{s \leq t} (1 + E|Y_s|^2)$$

Lemma Define: $g_n(t) := E \left(\sup_{s \leq t} |X_s^{(n)} - X_s^{(n-1)}|^2 \right) \quad n \geq 1$

Then $\forall n \geq 0 \quad \forall t \geq 0: \quad g_{n+1}(t) \leq 2K^2(t+4) \int_0^t g_n(s) ds$

where $g_0(t) := 2K^2 t (1 + E(|X_0|^2))$

Pf $X_s^{(n+1)} - X_s^{(n)} = A_t + M_t$ where

$$A_t := \int_0^t [a(s, X_s^{(n)}) - a(s, X_s^{(n-1)})] ds$$

$$M_t := \int_0^t [\sigma(s, X_s^{(n)}) - \sigma(s, X_s^{(n-1)})] \cdot dB_s$$

Lipschitz bound gives:

$$\begin{aligned}
n \geq 1: \quad E \left[\sup_{s \leq t} A_s^2 \right] &\leq t E \left(\int_0^t |a(s, X_s^{(n)}) - a(s, X_s^{(n-1)})|^2 ds \right) \\
&\leq K^2 t E \left(\int_0^t |X_s^{(n)} - X_s^{(n-1)}|^2 ds \right) \leq K^2 t \int_0^t g_n(s) ds \\
E \left[\sup_{s \leq t} M_s^2 \right] &\stackrel{\text{Doob-L}^2}{\leq} 4 E(M_t^2) \stackrel{It\ddot{o}}{\leq} 4 E \left(\int_0^t |\sigma(s, X_s^{(n)}) - \sigma(s, X_s^{(n-1)})|^2 ds \right) \\
&\leq \dots \leq 4 K^2 \int_0^t g_n(s) ds.
\end{aligned}$$

Now use $E \left(\sup_{s \leq t} |X_s^{(n)} - X_s^{(n-1)}|^2 \right) \leq 2 E \left(\sup_{s \leq t} |A_s|^2 \right) + 2 E \left(\sup_{s \leq t} |M_s|^2 \right)$

$n=0$ case similar. □

Pf of Thm Fix $t \geq 0$, denote $C(t) = 2K^2(t+1)$.

Iterating gives $g_n(t) \leq \frac{C(t)^n t^n}{n!} [1 + E(|X_0|^2)]$

So $P \left(\sup_{s \leq t} |X_s^{(n)} - X_s^{(n-1)}| > 2^{-k} \right) \leq 4^n g_n(t) \leq \frac{[4C(t)t]^n}{n!} [1 + E(|X_0|^2)]$

So $P \left(\sum_{n \geq 1} \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{< \infty} \right) = 1$

Define:

$$X_t = \begin{cases} X_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [X_t^{(n)} - X_t^{(n-1)}] & \text{on } \Omega^* \\ X_0 & \text{on } \Omega_*^c \end{cases}$$

Then $X^{(n)} \rightarrow X_t$ locally uniformly on Ω_*

so X is a continuous process.

We even get:

$$E \left[\sup_{s \leq t} |X_s^{(n)} - X_s|^2 \right] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

Then Lipschitz cont:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t a(s, X_s^{(n)}) ds &\xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{L^2} \int_0^t a(s, X_s) ds \\ \int_0^t \sigma(s, X_s^{(n)}) dB_s &\xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{L^2} \int_0^t \sigma(s, X_s) dB_s \end{aligned}$$

So, X is strong solution.

