

Introduction to Stochastic Differential Equations: Quiz II

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Course question.

- Formulate the complete definition of a weak solution to a one-dimensional Stochastic Differential Equation of the form:

$$(*) \quad \begin{cases} dX_t = b(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t, & 0 \leq t \leq T \\ X_0 = \xi \sim \mu_0, \end{cases}$$

for T a finite time horizon, μ_0 a given probability measure on \mathbb{R} such that $\int |x| \mu_0(dx) < \infty$, $b : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ two given Borel functions. **Bonus:** Formulate the differences between a weak solution and a strong solution to $(*)$.

Exercise 1. Let σ, b be two given real numbers and let $(W_t; t \geq 0)$ be a standard Brownian motion. Define the process:

$$X_t = bt + \sigma W_t, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Apply the Itô formula to the following cases:

$$(a) \quad (X_t)^3; \quad (b) \quad \sin(X_t); \quad (c) \quad \frac{1}{1 + (X_t)^2}.$$

Exercise 2. Consider the SDE

$$(**) \quad dX_t = -X_t dt + dW_t, \quad X_0 = 1.$$

1. Justify that $(**)$ admits a unique strong solution $(X_t; t \geq 0)$.
2. Show that $Y_t = e^t X_t$ is a square integrable martingale given by

$$Y_t = 1 + \int_0^t e^s dW_s.$$

3. Deduce from the preceding question the expectation and variance of $(X_t; t \geq 0)$ and show that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[X_t] = 0$.