

Fundamentals of UQ (AM 238)
Homework 4

Question 1. Consider the system of SDEs¹

$$\begin{cases} dX(t; \omega) = -X(t; \omega)^3 dt + dY(t; \omega) \\ dY(t; \omega) = -\tau Y(t; \omega) dt + \sigma dW(t; \omega) \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $\sigma, \tau \geq 0$ are given parameters and $W(t; \omega)$ is a Wiener process. The initial condition $(X(0; \omega), Y(0; \omega))$ has i.i.d. components both of which are uniformly distributed in $[0, 1]$, i.e., $X(0; \omega)$ and $Y(0; \omega)$ are independent random variables with uniform PDF in $[0, 1]$.

- a) Plot a few sample paths of $X(t; \omega)$ for $\sigma = 0.1$ and $\tau = \{0.01, 1, 10\}$.
- b) Do you expect the system (1) to have a statistically stationary state? Justify your answer.
- c) Write the Fokker-Planck equation for the joint PDF of $X(t; \omega)$ and $Y(t; \omega)$.
- d) Write the reduced-order equation for the PDF of $X(t; \omega)$ in terms of the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}\{Y(t; \omega)|X(t; \omega)\}$. (Hint: Integrate the Fokker-Planck equation with respect to y and use the definition of conditional PDF).
- e) Set $\sigma = 0$. Compute the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}\{Y(t; \omega)|X(t; \omega)\}$ explicitly as a function of t and substitute it in the reduced order equation you obtained in d) (with $\sigma = 0$) to obtain an exact (and closed) equation for the PDF of $X(t; \omega)$.
- f) Write the PDF equation you obtained in e) as an evolution equation for the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of $X(t; \omega)$.

¹The system (1) is a prototype initial value problem where $X(t; \omega)$ is driven by the Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process $Y(t; \omega)$, which is a colored (non-white) random noise with exponential correlation function.