

ALGEBRAIC COMPUTATION OF THE STATISTICS OF THE SOLUTION  
OF SOME NONLINEAR STOCHASTIC DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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This paper presents an algebraic method for computing the statistics of the solution of some stochastic non-linear differential equations by mean of the Volterra functional expansion. The symbolic calculus introduced, based on noncommutative variables and iterated integrals has the advantage of allowing easily the use of symbolic computation systems, like REDUCE or MACSYMA, to perform the manipulations. This becomes necessary as soon as one tries to get high order terms.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Volterra or Wiener functional series has been widely used in the study of the statistical properties of the output of nonlinear systems with a random input. They have been introduced by Wiener in 1942 [10] for nonlinear circuits analysis. Since Wiener's early work, many authors have dealt with the subject. Among them, the papers by Barrett [2] and Bedrosian and Rice [3] are of a particular importance. But the difficulties involved in obtaining the terms of the series and in performing the required integrations reduce the interest of the method.

Recently, a new approach of causal functionals was proposed, using non-commutative variables and iterated integrals [4]. In this approach, the input/output behaviour of a nonlinear system is represented in terms of a formal power series, called the generating power series. There is, in fact, a strong relationship between Volterra series and noncommutative generating power series. The present paper shows how to use this series

to determine the statistics of the output of some nonlinear systems driven by a white Gaussian noise. It is a sequel to an earlier paper [7] where we described an algebraic algorithm for computing the response of a nonlinear system to deterministic inputs. The symbolic calculus introduced has the advantage of allowing easily the use of symbolic computation systems, like REDUCE or MACSYMA, to perform the manipulations. This becomes necessary as soon as one tries to get high order terms.

## II. VOLTERRA SERIES

Let us consider a system described by the Volterra series [8],[9]

$$y(t) = h_0(t) + \int_0^t h_1(t, \tau_1) u(\tau_1) d\tau_1 + \dots + \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_n} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} h_n(t, \tau_n, \dots, \tau_1) u(\tau_1) \dots u(\tau_n) d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_n + \dots \quad (1)$$

where  $y(t)$  is the system output and  $u(t)$  is the system input. The kernels  $h_i$  are assumed to be analytic. Their Taylor expansion may be written

$$h_n(t, \tau_n, \dots, \tau_1) = \sum_{i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0}^{(i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n)} h_n^{(i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n)} \times \frac{(t - \tau_n)^{i_n} (\tau_n - \tau_{n-1})^{i_{n-1}} \dots (\tau_2 - \tau_1)^{i_1} \tau_1^{i_0}}{i_n! \dots i_1! \dots i_0!}$$

with respect to the new variables  $\tau_1, \tau_2 - \tau_1, \dots, t - \tau_n$ .

Each  $n$ -dimensional integral

$$\int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_n} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} \frac{(t - \tau_n)^{i_n} (\tau_n - \tau_{n-1})^{i_{n-1}} \dots (\tau_2 - \tau_1)^{i_1} \tau_1^{i_0}}{i_n! i_{n-1}! \dots i_0!} u(\tau_1) \dots u(\tau_n) d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_n$$

can be shown to be equal to the iterated integral

$$\underbrace{x_0 \dots x_0}_{i_n} x_1 \underbrace{x_0 \dots x_0}_{i_{n-1}} x_1 \dots x_1 \underbrace{x_0 \dots x_0}_{i_0}$$

where the letter  $x_0$  denotes the integration with respect to time and the letter  $x_1$  the integration with respect to time after multiplying by the input  $u$ . This is a generalization of the well known formula

$$\int_0^t \frac{(t-\tau)^n}{n!} u(\tau) d\tau = \int_0^t d\tau_n \int_0^{\tau_n} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} d\tau_1 \int_0^{\tau_1} u(\tau_0) d\tau_0$$

This allow to write (1) symbolically in the form

$$g = \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n \geq 0} h_n^{(i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n)} x_0^{i_n} x_1 \dots x_0^{i_1} x_1 x_0^{i_0}$$

$g$  is called the *noncommutative generating power series* associated with the system. This power series can, as we shall see in a next section, be derived directly from the nonlinear differential equations governing the dynamic of a system.

Of course this is a noncommutative series because

$$\int_0^t d\tau_1 \int_0^{\tau_1} u(\tau_2) d\tau_2 \neq \int_0^t u(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \int_0^{\tau_2} d\tau_2$$

that is  $x_0 x_1 \neq x_1 x_0$ .

### III. NONCOMMUTATIVE GENERATING POWER SERIES

Let  $X = \{x_0, x_1\}$  be a finite alphabet and  $X^*$  the monoid generated by  $X$ . An element of  $X^*$  is a word, i.e. a sequence  $x_{j_v} \dots x_{j_0}$  of letters of the alphabet. The product of two words  $x_{j_v} \dots x_{j_0}$  and  $x_{k_\mu} \dots x_{k_0}$  is the concatenation  $x_{j_v} \dots x_{j_0} x_{k_\mu} \dots x_{k_0}$ . The neutral element is called the empty word and denoted by 1. A formal power series with real or complex coefficients is written as a formal sum

$$g = \sum_{w \in X^*} (g, w) w, \quad (g, w) \in \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{C}.$$

Let  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  be two formal power series, the following operations are defined :

Addition 
$$g_1 + g_2 = \sum_{w \in X^*} [(g_1, w) + (g_2, w)] w$$

Cauchy product 
$$g_1 \cdot g_2 = \sum_{w \in X^*} \left[ \sum_{w_1 w_2 = w} (g_1, w_1) (g_2, w_2) \right] w$$

Shuffle product 
$$g_1 \omega g_2 = \sum_{w_1, w_2 \in X^*} (g_1, w_1) (g_2, w_2) w_1 \omega w_2$$

The shuffle product of two words consists of mixing the letters of the two words keeping the order of each one. For example

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_0 x_1 \omega x_1 x_0 &= \overline{x_0 x_1} x_1 x_0 + \overline{x_0 x_1} x_1 x_0 + \overline{x_0 x_1 x_0} x_1 + \overline{x_1 x_0 x_1} x_0 \\
 &\quad + \overline{x_1 x_0} x_0 x_1 + \overline{x_1 x_0} x_0 x_1 \\
 &= 2x_0 x_1^2 x_0 + x_0 x_1 x_0 x_1 + x_1 x_0 x_1 x_0 + x_1 x_0^2 x_1
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us now consider two generating power series  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  associated respectively with the output systems  $y_1\{t, u(t)\}$  and  $y_2\{t, u(t)\}$ . It can be shown [4] that the generating power series associated with the product

$$y_1\{t, u(t)\} \times y_2\{t, u(t)\}$$

is the shuffle product of the generating power series  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ .

#### IV. DERIVATION OF GENERATING POWER SERIES

In this section, we describe an algorithm for finding algebraically the generating power series associated with the solution of a nonlinear forced differential equation. The equation we are going to consider is

$$\begin{aligned}
 Ly(t) + \sum_{i=2}^m a_i y^i(t) &= u(t) \\
 L &= \sum_{i=0}^n \ell_i \frac{d^i}{dt^i}, \quad (\ell_n = 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

or, in its integral form

$$\begin{aligned}
 y(t) &+ \ell_{n-1} \int_0^t y(\tau_1) d\tau_1 + \ell_{n-2} \int_0^t d\tau_2 \int_0^{\tau_2} y(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \\
 &\quad + \dots + \ell_0 \int_0^t d\tau_n \int_0^{\tau_n} d\tau_{n-1} \dots d\tau_2 \int_0^{\tau_2} y(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \\
 &+ \sum_{i=2}^m a_i \int_0^t d\tau_n \int_0^{\tau_n} d\tau_{n-1} \dots d\tau_2 \int_0^{\tau_2} y^i(\tau_1) d\tau_1 = \\
 &= \int_0^t d\tau_n \int_0^{\tau_n} d\tau_{n-1} \dots d\tau_2 \int_0^{\tau_2} u(\tau_1) d\tau_1
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Here we assume, for simplicity's sake, zero initial conditions.

Let  $g$  denotes the generating power series associated with  $y(t)$ , then (2) can be written symbolically

$$g + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \ell_j x_0^{n-i} g + x_0^n \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \underbrace{g \omega \dots \omega g}_{i \text{ times}} = x_0^{n-1} x_1$$

where  $\underbrace{g \omega \dots \omega g}_{i \text{ times}}$  corresponds, according to the previous theorem, to the nonlinear functional  $y^i(t)$ .

This algebraic equation can be solved iteratively, following the recursive scheme

$$g = g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_n + \dots$$

with

$$g_1 = \left( 1 + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \ell_i x_0^{n-i} \right)^{-1} x_0^{n-1} x_1$$

and

$$g_n = - \left( 1 + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \ell_i x_0^{n-i} \right)^{-1} x_0^n \sum_{i=2}^m a_i \sum_{v_1+v_2+\dots+v_i=n} g_{v_1} \omega g_{v_2} \dots \omega g_{v_i}$$

To have the closed form expression of  $g_i$ , one only need to compute the shuffle product of noncommutative power series of the form

$$\left( 1 - a_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \left( 1 - a_1 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_0 \right)^{-1} ; i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p \in \{0, 1\}.$$

This results from the following proposition [6] :

Proposition 1 : Given two formal power series

$$g_1^p = \left( 1 - a_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \left( 1 - a_1 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_0 \right)^{-1} = g_1^{p-1} x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_0 \right)^{-1}$$

and

$$g_2^q = \left( 1 - b_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{j_1} \left( 1 - b_1 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{j_2} \dots x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_0 \right)^{-1} = g_2^{q-1} x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_0 \right)^{-1}$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  belongs to  $\mathbb{N}$ , the subscripts  $i_1, \dots, i_p, j_1, \dots, j_q$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  and  $a_i, b_j$  to  $\mathbb{C}$  ; the shuffle product is given by induction on the length by

$$g_1^p \omega g_2^q = \left( g_1^p \omega g_2^{q-1} \right) x_{j_q} \left[ 1 - (a_p + b_q) x_0 \right]^{-1} + \left( g_1^{p-1} \omega g_2^q \right) x_{i_p} \left[ 1 - (a_p + b_q) x_0 \right]^{-1}$$

$$\text{with } \left( 1 - a x_0 \right)^{-1} \omega \left( 1 - b x_0 \right)^{-1} = \left[ 1 - (a+b) x_0 \right]^{-1}.$$

Using this proposition,  $g_{i_1}$  is obtained as a finite sum of expressions of the form :

$$\left(1 - a_0 x_0\right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \left(1 - a_1 x_0\right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} \left(1 - a_n x_0\right)^{-1} ; i_1, \dots, i_n \in \{0, 1\} \quad (3)$$

Example 1 :

The technique presented above is now used to compute the generating power series associated with the nonlinear differential equation

$$\dot{y}(t) + k_1 y(t) + k_2 y^2(t) = u(t) \quad (4)$$

Its integral form is :

$$y(t) + k_1 \int_0^t y(\tau) d\tau + k_2 \int_0^t y^2(\tau) d\tau = \int_0^t u(\tau) d\tau$$

where we assume a zero initial condition.

Thus, the generating power series  $g$  is simply the solution of

$$g + k_1 x_0 g + k_2 x_0 g \omega g = x_1$$

This equation is solved iteratively by a computer program (table 1).

$$\begin{aligned} g = & 1 \\ & k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -2 & k_2 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ +4 & k_2^2 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ +12 & k_2^2 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -8 & k_2^3 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -24 & k_2^3 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -72 & k_2^3 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -24 & k_2^3 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \\ -144 & k_2^3 k_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0^2 x_1 k_1 x_1 x_0 \end{aligned}$$

table 1

where the symbolic notation

$$x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} ; i_1, \dots, i_n \in \{0, 1\}$$

$a_0 \quad a_1 \quad a_{n-1} \quad a_n$

stands for  $\left(1+a_0x_0\right)^{-1}x_{i_1}\left(1+a_1x_0\right)^{-1}x_{i_2}\dots\left(1+a_{n-1}x_0\right)^{-1}x_{i_n}\left(1+a_nx_0\right)^{-1}$

Remark : The expansion, in table 1, is equivalent to the Volterra series expansion of the solution up to order 5. The algebraic closed form expression of triangular Volterra kernels can be easily deduced from it [6], since the expression (3) is the symbolic representation of the  $n$ -dimensional integral

$$\int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_1} \dots \int_0^{\tau_{n-1}} e^{a_0(t-\tau_n)} e^{a_1(\tau_n-\tau_{n-1})} \dots e^{a_{n-1}(\tau_2-\tau_1)} e^{a_n\tau_1} u_{i_n}(\tau_1) \dots u_{i_2}(\tau_{n-1}) u_{i_1}(\tau_n) d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_n$$

where

$$\{i_1, \dots, i_n\} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad u_0(\tau) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad u_1(\tau) = u(\tau),$$

which we shall denote later by

$$\left[ \left(1 - a_0x_0\right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \left(1 - a_1x_0\right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} \left(1 - a_nx_0\right)^{-1} \right]_0^t$$

## V. A SYMBOLIC CALCULUS FOR THE OUTPUT STATISTICS

In the previous section, we used noncommutative generating power series to derive, by simple algebraic manipulations, a functional expansion (i.e. the Volterra series) of the solution of some nonlinear differential equations. In the following the derived series is used to obtain closed form expressions for the *moments* and *correlations* of the output of a Volterra system driven by Gaussian white noise.

### Output moments

Let us consider a zero-mean Gaussian process  $u(t)$  with correlation function

$$E[u(t)u(\tau)] = \sigma^2 \delta(t-\tau)$$

where  $\delta$  is the Dirac delta function (a process of this kind is usually called a white Gaussian noise) [1]. The first-order moment of the output  $E[y(t)]$  is then obtained by a simple rule on each term (3) of the functional expansion of  $y(t)$ . This rule results [5] from the classical rules of stochastic differential calculus and is given by induction on the length by

$$\begin{aligned}
& E \left[ \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_n} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{a_0(t-\tau_n)} u_{i_1}(\tau_n) e^{a_1(\tau_n-\tau_{n-1})} u_{i_2}(\tau_{n-1}) \dots u_{i_n}(\tau_1) e^{a_n \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_n \right] \\
& = \begin{cases} \int_0^t e^{a_0(t-\tau_n)} d\tau_n E \left[ \int_0^{\tau_n} e^{a_1(\tau_n-\tau_{n-1})} u_{i_2}(\tau_{n-1}) \dots u_{i_n}(\tau_1) e^{a_n \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_{n-1} \right] & \text{if } i_1 = 0 \\ \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \int_0^t e^{a_0(t-\tau_n)} d\tau_n E \left[ \int_0^{\tau_n} e^{a_2(\tau_n-\tau_{n-2})} u_{i_3}(\tau_{n-2}) \dots u_{i_n}(\tau_1) e^{a_n \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_{n-2} \right] & \text{if } i_1 = i_2 = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

In fact, the moment of the output function  $y(t)$  can be obtained directly from its associated generating power series by the following algebraic rule which is a symbolic representation of the previous one :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle \left( 1 - a_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \left( 1 - a_1 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} \left( 1 - a_n x_0 \right)^{-1} \right\rangle \quad (5) \\
& = \begin{cases} \left( 1 - a_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_0 \left\langle \left( 1 - a_1 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_n} \left( 1 - a_n x_0 \right)^{-1} \right\rangle & \text{if } i_1 = 0 \\ \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \left( 1 - a_0 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_0 \left\langle \left( 1 - a_2 x_0 \right)^{-1} x_{i_3} \dots x_{i_n} \left( 1 - a_n x_0 \right)^{-1} \right\rangle & \text{if } i_1 = i_2 = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

This results in a rational fraction in the only variable  $x_0$ . Its decomposition into partial fractions and the following lemma give its corresponding expression in time.

Lemma : The rational fraction

$$\left( 1 - a x_0 \right)^{-p}$$

corresponds to the exponential polynomial

$$\left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{p-1} \binom{j}{p-1} \frac{a^j t^j}{j!} \right\} e^{at} .$$

In order to illustrate the use of this rule, consider again the non-linear differential equation (4). For the first-order moment of  $y(t)$  we have then



$$\begin{aligned} \langle g \rangle = & \begin{array}{cccccccc} -2\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)^2 k_2 & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 0 & & & & \\ & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 3k_1 x_0 & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 0 & \\ -24\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)^2 k_2^3 & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 3k_1 x_0 & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 0 & \\ -144\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)^2 k_2^3 & k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 3k_1 x_0 & 4k_1 x_0 & 2k_1 x_0 & 0 & \\ & \vdots & & & & & & \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

By decomposing into partial fractions, we get the corresponding time function :

$$E[y(t)] = 2\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)\frac{1}{k_1}\left(e^{-k_1 t} - \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4}k_1 t e^{-2k_1 t}\right) + 24\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)^2\frac{1}{k_1^5}\left[\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}k_1 t\right)e^{-k_1 t} - \left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4}k_1 t\right)e^{-2k_1 t} + \frac{1}{12}e^{-3k_1 t} + \frac{1}{12}\right] + 144\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)^2\frac{1}{k_1^5}\left[\frac{1}{6}e^{-k_1 t} - \frac{1}{4}k_1 t e^{-2k_1 t} - \frac{1}{6}e^{-3k_1 t} + \frac{1}{48}e^{-4k_1 t} - \frac{1}{48}\right] + \dots$$

High order moments  $E[y^n(t)]$  result in the same way from the series

$\underbrace{gwg \dots wg.}_{n \text{ times}}$

### Output autocorrelation

In this section, we are interested in computing the output autocorrelation function defined by

$$R_{yy}(t_1, t_2) = E[y(t_1)y(t_2)]$$

where  $y(t)$  is the functional expansion derived previously. As  $y(t)$  is a sum of expressions of the form (3), we only need to compute the partial autocorrelation functions :

$$E\left[\left(\int_0^{t_1} \dots \int_0^{t_2} e^{a_o(t_1 - \tau_p)} u_{i_1}(\tau_p) \dots u_{i_p}(\tau_1) e^{a_p \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_p\right) \left(\int_0^{t_2} \dots \int_0^{t_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q\right)\right] \quad (6)$$

Let us assume  $t_2 > t_1$  ; then the second integral may be decomposed as follows :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^{t_2} \int_0^{\tau_q} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q = \\
& \left( \int_0^{t_1} \int_0^{\tau_q} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q \right) \left( \int_{t_1}^{t_2} e^{b_o \tau_1} d\tau_1 \right) \\
& + \left( \int_0^{t_1} \int_0^{\tau_{q-1}} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{b_1(t_2 - \tau_{q-1})} u_{j_2}(\tau_{q-1}) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_{q-1} \right) \\
& \quad \times \left( \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{t_1}^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_2)} u_{j_1}(\tau_1) e^{b_1 \tau_1} d\tau_1 d\tau_2 \right) \\
& + \dots \\
& + \left( \int_0^{t_1} e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \right) \left( \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{t_1}^{\tau_q} \dots \int_{t_1}^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and this leads for the expression (6) to

$$\begin{aligned}
& E \left[ \left( \int_0^{t_1} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{a_o(t_1 - \tau_p)} u_{i_1}(\tau_p) \dots u_{i_p}(\tau_1) e^{a_p \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_p \right) \right. \\
& \left. \left( \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \dots \int_{t_1}^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q \right) \right] E \left[ \int_{t_1}^{t_2} e^{b_o \tau_1} d\tau_1 \right] \\
& + \dots \\
& + E \left[ \left( \int_0^{t_1} \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} e^{a_o(t_1 - \tau_p)} u_{i_1}(\tau_p) \dots u_{i_p}(\tau_1) e^{a_p \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_p \right) \left( \int_0^{t_1} e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \right) \right] \\
& \quad \times E \left[ \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \dots \int_{t_1}^{\tau_2} e^{b_o(t_2 - \tau_q)} u_{j_1}(\tau_q) \dots u_{j_q}(\tau_1) e^{b_q \tau_1} d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_q \right]
\end{aligned}$$

where we used statistical independance between integrals over  $[0, t_1]$  and  $[t_1, t_2]$ .

Now recalling that the product of two iterated integrals over the same interval corresponds to the shuffle product of their generating power series, we derive the following symbolic rule :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle \left[ \left( 1 - a_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_o \right)^{-1} \right]_o^{t_1} \times \left[ \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_o \right)^{-1} \right]_o^{t_2} \right\rangle \\
&= \left[ \left\langle \left\{ \left( 1 - a_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_o \right)^{-1} \right\} \omega \left\{ \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_o \right)^{-1} \right\} \right\rangle \right]_o^{t_1} \times \\
&\quad \left[ \left\langle \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} \right\rangle \right]_{t_1}^{t_2} \quad (7) \\
&+ \left[ \left\langle \left\{ \left( 1 - a_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_o \right)^{-1} \right\} \omega \left\{ \left( 1 - b_1 x_o \right)^{-1} x_{j_2} \dots x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_o \right)^{-1} \right\} \right\rangle \right]_o^{t_1} \times \\
&\quad \left[ \left\langle \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{j_1} \left( 1 - b_1 x_o \right)^{-1} \right\rangle \right]_{t_1}^{t_2} \\
&+ \dots \\
&+ \left[ \left\langle \left\{ \left( 1 - a_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_p} \left( 1 - a_p x_o \right)^{-1} \right\} \omega \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} \right\rangle \right]_o^{t_1} \times \\
&\quad \left[ \left\langle \left( 1 - b_o x_o \right)^{-1} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_q} \left( 1 - b_q x_o \right)^{-1} \right\rangle \right]_{t_1}^{t_2}
\end{aligned}$$

Example 2 : Let us consider the linear stochastic differential equation

$$\dot{v} = -\alpha v + u(t), \quad v(0) = c$$

where  $u(t)$  is a white Gaussian process and  $c$  is assumed independent of  $u(t)$ . The generating power series associated with  $v(t)$  is given by

$$\langle g \rangle = \left( 1 + \alpha x_o \right)^{-1} x_1 + c \left( 1 + \alpha x_o \right)^{-1}.$$

In accordance with (5) and (7),  $v(t)$  has mean value

$$\langle g \rangle = E(c) \left( 1 + \alpha x_o \right)^{-1}$$

that is 
$$E(v(t)) = E(c) e^{-\alpha t}$$

and covariance

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle [g]_0^{t_1} [g]_0^{t_2} \rangle &= \langle \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle \\
&+ \left\{ \langle c \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle = 0 \right\} \\
&+ \left\{ \langle c \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle = 0 \right\} \\
&+ \langle c^2 \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle = \\
&= \left[ \langle (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \rangle \omega \left( (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right) \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_{t_1}^{t_2} + \\
&\left\{ \langle \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} x_1 \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle = 0 \right\} + \langle c^2 \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_1} \left[ (1+\alpha x_0)^{-1} \right]_0^{t_2} \rangle \\
\text{that is } E(v(t_1)v(t_2)) &= \frac{\sigma^2}{2\alpha} (1 - e^{-2\alpha t_1}) e^{-\alpha(t_2 - t_1)} + E(c^2) e^{-\alpha(t_1 + t_2)}
\end{aligned}$$

If we begin with an  $N(0, \frac{\sigma^2}{2\alpha})$ -distributed  $c$  then  $v(t)$  is a stationary Gaussian process (sometimes called a colored noise) such that

$$E(v(t)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad E(v(t_1)v(t_2)) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2\alpha} e^{-\alpha|t_2 - t_1|}$$

Remark : The techniques presented in this paper still apply for a rationally correlated noise input ; for example considering example 1 in conjunction with example 2 allows to deal with the nonlinear system

$$\dot{y}(t) + k_1 y(t) + k_2 y^2(t) = v(t)$$

where  $v(t)$  is a Gaussian colored noise. The following equivalent nonlinear system with a white Gaussian noise input  $u(t)$  is then considered :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v} = -v + u(t) \\ \dot{y} = -k_1 y - k_2 y^2 + v(t). \end{cases}$$

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