

Exercises for session 7:

Existence and uniqueness, numerics, and Stratonovich SDEs

Conditions for existence and uniqueness

Question 1: Determine which of the following Initial Value Problems satisfy the sufficient condition for existence and uniqueness of a solution.

1. $dX_t = \sin X_t dt + \cos X_t dB_t, X_0 = 0$
2. $dX_t = e^{X_t} dt + dB_t, X_0 = 0$
3. $dX_t = -X_t^3 dt + dB_t, X_0 = 0$
4. $dX_t = \lambda(\mu - X_t) dt + \sigma\sqrt{|X_t|} dB_t, X_0 = \mu$, where $\mu > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$.

Optional: For each case, if the conditions are not met, can we expect solutions to fork or explode?

The physical pendulum

Consider the two coupled SDE's which model a physical pendulum with friction and noise:

$$dX_t = V_t dt, \quad dV_t = \sin X_t dt - \lambda V_t dt + \sigma dB_t \quad .$$

Here, X_t denotes the angle with $x = 0$ pointing upwards. V_t is the angular velocity.

Question 2: Show that the system satisfies the conditions for existence and uniqueness of solutions, and that the Itô interpretation and the Stratonovich interpretation of the equation are identical.

Question 3: Simulate the system with the Euler method for $t \in [0, 1000]$, taking $\lambda = 0.1$ and $\sigma = 0.01$. Use $dt = 0.01$ and $X_0 = 0, V_0 = 0$. Plot the solution as a function of time, and a histogram of the X . Does it appear that the solution reflects the long term behavior of the process? Repeat for larger values of σ , up to $\sqrt{2}$, say.

Conversion between Itô and Stratonovich equations

Consider (again) the Itô equation governing the *Cox-Ingersoll-Ross process* (a.k.a. the *square root process*):

$$dX_t = \lambda(\mu - X_t) dt + \sigma \sqrt{X_t} dB_t \quad .$$

Question 4: Identify the equivalent Stratonovich equation; i.e., the Stratonovich equation that has the same solution.

Question 5: Simulate the solution using the Euler-Maruyama method for the Itô equation: Take $\mu = \lambda = 1$. Start with small values of σ (say, 0.1) and then increase σ gradually, using the same realization of Brownian motion for all values of σ . Plot the resulting trajectory as well as the histogram of the solution. *Note:* Theoretically, the solution $\{X_t\}$ stays non-negative, but the discrete-time approximation may take on negative values which can cause havoc. Take appropriate action to address this if necessary.

Question 6 Euler-Maruyama vs. Heun; the effect of time step: Take $\mu = \lambda = 1$ and $\sigma = 1.25$. Generate a single realization of Brownian motion for $t \in [0, 100]$ with a time step of 0.01. Simulate the process with both the Euler-Maruyama method (for the Itô formulation) and the Heun method (for the Stratonovich formulation). Check that the two solutions are reasonably close to each other. Then subsample the Brownian motion to a time step of e.g. 0.1 and repeat the two simulations. Assess the sensitivity of the two schemes to the time step.