

7.11. Let X_t be an Itô diffusion in \mathbf{R}^n and let $f: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be a function such that

$$E^x \left[\int_0^\infty |f(X_t)| dt \right] < \infty \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbf{R}^n.$$

Let τ be a stopping time. Use the strong Markov property to prove that

$$E^x \left[\int_\tau^\infty f(X_t) dt \right] = E^x [g(X_\tau)],$$

where

$$g(y) = E^y \left[\int_0^\infty f(X_t) dt \right].$$

We begin using a change of variables

$$\int_\tau^\infty f(X_t) dt = \int_0^\infty f(X_{\tau+s}) ds$$

And notice that by the law of the iterated expectation,

$$E^x \left[\int_0^\infty f(X_{\tau+s}) ds \right] = E^x \left[E^x \left[\int_0^\infty f(X_{\tau+s}) ds \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau \right] \right]$$

Then, using the Strong Markov Property,

$$\begin{aligned} E^x \left[E^x \left[\int_0^\infty f(X_{\tau+s}) ds \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau \right] \right] &= E^x \left[E^{X_\tau} \left[\int_0^\infty f(X_s) ds \right] \right] \\ &= E^x [g(X_\tau)] \end{aligned}$$

□