

5.5. a) Solve the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck equation (or Langevin equation)

$$dX_t = \mu X_t dt + \sigma dB_t$$

where μ, σ are real constants, $B_t \in \mathbf{R}$.

The solution is called the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process. (Hint: See Exercise 5.4 (ii).)

Multiplying by the integrating factor $e^{-\mu t}$,

$$e^{-\mu t} dX_t = e^{-\mu t} \mu X_t dt + e^{-\mu t} \sigma dB_t \quad (1)$$

Now notice that

$$d(e^{-\mu t} X_t) = -\mu e^{-\mu t} X_t dt + e^{-\mu t} dX_t \quad (2)$$

With (1) and (2)

$$d(e^{-\mu t} X_t) = e^{-\mu t} \sigma dB_t$$

Therefore,

$$e^{-\mu t} X_t = X_0 + \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\mu s} dB_s$$

And hence,

$$X_t = e^{\mu t} X_0 + \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\mu(s-t)} dB_s$$

b) Find $E[X_t]$ and $\text{Var}[X_t] := E[(X_t - E[X_t])^2]$.

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad E[X_t] &= E\left[e^{\mu t} X_0 + \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\mu(s-t)} dB_s\right] = E\left[e^{\mu t} X_0\right] \\ &= e^{\mu t} E[X_0] \end{aligned}$$

• Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_t^2] &= E\left[e^{2\mu t} X_0^2 + \sigma^2 \int_0^t e^{-2\mu(s-t)} ds + 2e^{\mu t} X_0 \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\mu(s-t)} dB_s\right] \\ &= e^{2\mu t} E[X_0^2] + \sigma^2 E\left[\int_0^t e^{-2\mu(s-t)} ds\right] \\ &= e^{2\mu t} E[X_0^2] + \sigma^2 \int_0^t e^{-2\mu(s-t)} ds \\ &= e^{2\mu t} E[X_0^2] + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\mu} (e^{2\mu t} - 1) \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X_t] &= E[X_t^2] - E^2[X_t] \\ &= e^{2\mu t} E[X_0^2] + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\mu} (e^{2\mu t} - 1) - e^{2\mu t} E^2[X_0] \\ &= e^{2\mu t} (E[X_0^2] - E^2[X_0]) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\mu} (e^{2\mu t} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Obs. } e^{2\mu t} \int_0^+ e^{-2\mu s} ds = e^{2\mu t} \cdot \left[\frac{e^{-2\mu s}}{-2\mu} \right]_0^+ = -\frac{e^{2\mu t}}{2\mu} (e^{-2\mu t} - 1)$$

(*)

$$= -\frac{1}{2\mu} (1 - e^{2\mu t}) = \frac{1}{2\mu} (e^{2\mu t} - 1)$$