

**P1:** Solve the differential equation

$$dY_t = \mu dt + \sigma Y_t dW_t$$

Hint: Use the integrating factor

$$F_t = \exp(-\sigma W_t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t)$$

to prove that

$$Y_t = \frac{Y_0 + \mu \int_0^t F_s ds}{F_t}$$

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To prove that the  $Y_t$  is the solution, we only need to show  $Y_t$  satisfies the SDE. First, we look at  $F_t$

$$\begin{aligned} F_t &= \exp(-\sigma W_t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t) \\ \Rightarrow dF_t &= \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 F_t dt - \sigma F_t dW_t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 F_t (dW_t)^2 \\ &= \sigma^2 F_t dt - \sigma F_t dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Then, starting from  $F_t$ , we can get  $dY_t$

$$\begin{aligned} dY_t &= \frac{\partial Y_t}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial Y_t}{\partial F_t} dF_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 Y_t}{\partial F_t^2} (dF_t)^2 \\ &= \frac{\mu}{F_t} F_t dt - \frac{1}{F_t} Y_t (\sigma^2 F_t dt - \sigma F_t dW_t) + \frac{1}{F_t^2} Y_t \sigma^2 F_t^2 dt \\ &= \mu dt + \sigma Y_t dW_t - \sigma^2 Y_t dt + \sigma^2 Y_t dt \\ &= \mu dt + \sigma Y_t dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Proof Completed

**P2:** Let  $X_t$  denote geometric Brownian motion

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

where  $\mu, \sigma$  are constants.

Prove the following: if  $\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} < 0$  then the probability  $p$  that  $X_t$  starting from  $x < R$  ever hits  $R$  is given by

$$p = \left(\frac{x}{R}\right)^{\gamma_1}$$

where  $\gamma_1 = 1 - \frac{2\mu}{\sigma^2}$  (Hint: Compute the infinitesimal operator of  $X_t^{\gamma_1}$  and use the Dynkin formula )

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**Remark:** Some technicalities about stopping times and optional sampling theorem to be clarified later.

Define: Let  $\tau$  be the time that  $X_t$  hits  $R$ .

Define:  $\tau_k = \min\{k, \tau\}$ , then  $\tau_k$  is a bounded stopping time.

Define:  $f(X_t) = \begin{cases} x_t^{\gamma_1}, & t \leq \tau_k \\ 0, & t > \tau_k \end{cases}$

Then, for  $f(X_t)$ , we would get

$$\begin{aligned} df(X_t) &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial X_t} dX_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X_t^2} (dX_t)^2 \\ &= \gamma_1 X_t^{\gamma_1-1} (\mu X_t dt + \sigma X_t dW_t) + \frac{1}{2} \gamma_1 (\gamma_1 - 1) X_t^{\gamma_1-2} \sigma^2 X_t^2 dt \\ &= \sigma \gamma_1 X_t^{\gamma_1} dW_t \end{aligned}$$

Taking integrals from 0 to  $t$ , we would get

$$f(X_{\tau_k}) - f(X_0) = \int_0^{\tau_k} \sigma \gamma_1 X_t^{\gamma_1} dW_t$$

Taking expectation on both sides, we would have

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X_{\tau_k})] = f(X_0)$$

Write out the probabilities

$$P(X \text{ hits } R \text{ before } \tau_k) R^{\gamma_1} + P(X \text{ did not hit } R) \times 0 = x^{\gamma_1}$$

Then, taking  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we can conclude

$$P(X \text{ hits } R \text{ before } K) = \left(\frac{x}{R}\right)^{\gamma_1}$$

**P3:** Consider the solution to the PDE

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F(t, x)}{\partial t} + \mathcal{A}F(t, x) - r(x)F(t, x) &= -h(x) \\ F(T, x) &= \Phi(x) \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\mathcal{A}F(t, x) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \mu(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2} \sigma^2(t, x)$$

Letting

$$dX_t = \mu(t, X_t)dt + \sigma(t, X_t)dW_t$$

Prove that

$$F(t, x) = \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \int_t^T e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} h(X_s)ds + e^{-\int_t^T r(X_u)du} \Phi(X_T) \right]$$

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We build a stochastic process, write out its integral form and cancel out  $dW_s$  terms when taking expectation.

Define

$$Z_s = e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} F(s, X_s)$$

Using Ito's lemma:

$$dZ_s = -e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} F(s, X_s)ds + e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} dF(s, X_s)$$

Write out  $dF(s, X_s)$  using Ito's lemma

$$\begin{aligned} dF(s, X_s) &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial s} ds + \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_s} dX_s + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial X_s^2} (dX_s)^2 \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial F}{\partial s} + \mathcal{A}F \right] ds + \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_s} \sigma dW_s \end{aligned}$$

According to the BVP,

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial s} + \mathcal{A}F = r(s)F(s, X_s) - h(X_s)$$

Therefore,

$$dF(s, X_s) = [r(s)F(s, X_s) - h(X_s)]ds + \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_s} \sigma dW_s$$

Plug this back into  $Z_t$ ,

$$dZ_s = e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} (-h(X_s))ds + e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} \frac{\partial F}{\partial X_s} \sigma dW_s$$

For simplicity, we compile all  $dW_s$  terms into a function  $C$ . Then, integrate from  $t$  to  $T$

$$Z_T - Z_t = - \int_t^T e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} h(X_s)ds + \int_t^T c(X_s, s) dW_s$$

Plug in the expression for  $Z$ , then

$$Z_T = e^{-\int_t^T r(X_u)du} F(T, X_T) = e^{-\int_t^T r(X_u)du} Z_t = e^0 F(t, X_t) = F(t, X_t)$$

Therefore, we could write out expressions

$$F(t, X_t) = e^{-\int_t^T r(x_u)du} \Phi(X_T) + \int_t^T e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} h(X_s)ds + \int_t^T c(s, X_s)dW_s$$

Taking expectation on both sides conditioning on  $\mathcal{F}_t^{\mathcal{X}}$ , then the  $dW_t$  term would cancel out

$$F(t, X_t) = \mathbb{E}_t[e^{-\int_t^T r(X_u)du} \Phi(X_T) + \int_t^T e^{-\int_t^s r(X_u)du} h(X_s)ds]$$