

# Lecture 4 : Wiener process

Random variable  
 $X : p(x)$

Stochastic process

$$Y_x \rightarrow Y(t)$$

when independent steps  
each have Gaussian  
probability

$$W(t)$$

① Increment  $\Delta W = W(t + \Delta t) - W(t)$

has 
$$P(\Delta W) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Delta t}} e^{-\frac{\Delta W^2}{2\Delta t}}$$

(Normalise it:  
Variance =  $\Delta t$ )

② Characteristic function of  $\Delta W$

$$\phi(k, t) = \langle e^{ik\Delta W} \rangle_{p(\Delta W)}$$

$$= e^{ikW_0} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2}k^2(\Delta t - t_0)}$$

(if we had a  
condition  $W_0$  at  $t = t_0$ )

③ Scaling:  $V(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{c}} W(ct)$  is also a Wiener

④ time-inversion:  $V(t) = t, W(1/t)$  — " —

⑤ time-reversal:  $V(t) = W(A) - W(A-t)$  — " —

Could we find the full probability of the process  $W(t)$ :  $P(W, t)$ ?

Let's start from Evolution eq:

$$\odot P(W+\Delta W, t+\Delta t) = \int G(\Delta W/\Delta t) P(W, t) dW$$

propagator: step  $\Delta W$

or it could be the Kolmogorov-Chapman:

$$P(W+\Delta W, t+\Delta t | W_0, t_0) = \int G(\Delta W/\Delta t) P(W, t | W_0, t_0) dW$$

Change variable:  $\Delta W = W(t+\Delta t) - W(t)$   
 $dW \rightarrow -d\Delta W$  from  $dW \rightarrow -d(\Delta W)$

$$P(W+\Delta W, t+\Delta t) = \int G(\Delta W/\Delta t) P(W(t+\Delta t) - \Delta W(t), t) d\Delta W$$

change the limits of integral back

Small: Taylor expansion

0-order:

$$P(w+\Delta w, t+\Delta t) = \int G(\Delta w/\Delta t) \cdot P(w(t+\Delta t), t) \cdot d\Delta w$$

$1 = \int G d\Delta w$

1st order:

$$- \int G(\Delta w/\Delta t) \cdot \frac{\partial P}{\partial w} \Delta w d\Delta w$$

Gaussian:  $\int w G d\Delta w = 0$

2nd order:

$$+ \int G(\Delta w/\Delta t) \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 P(w, t)}{\partial w^2} \Delta w^2 d\Delta w$$

! variance of G

( + ... stop )

All together this makes:

$$\frac{P(\dots, t+\Delta t) - P(\dots, t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\text{variance})}{\Delta t} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial w^2}$$

Equivalently

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial w^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = -\text{div } J$$

$$D = \frac{(\text{variance})}{2 \Delta t}$$

$$\text{flux: prob. current } J = -D \frac{\partial P}{\partial w}$$

Equations of this nature,  
for full  $P(w, t)$ , or  $\phi_k(w)$ ,  
are called "kinetic" or  
macroscopic.

On the microscopic level of  $w(t)$   
we have "stochastic differential  
equation" (SDE)

(1905 Einstein, Smoluchowski  
→ 1911 Langevin equation)

We saw this in ~~Simple~~ Brownian motion:

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = \sum \text{forces} = -\gamma v + \underbrace{\xi(t)}_{\text{stochastic force}}$$

More generally:

SDE  $\frac{dx}{dt} = F(x) + \underbrace{\sigma(x)}_{\text{diffusion term}} \underbrace{\xi(t)}_{\text{Normalised Wiener process}}$

drift term

Normalised Wiener process

→  $D = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2$

Mathematical format of SDE:

$$dX_t = \underbrace{\mu(x,t)}_{\text{drift}} dt + \underbrace{\sigma(x,t)}_{\text{diffusion}} dW_t$$

Gaussian  $P(dw)$  ← Wiener

Example of SDE:

Geometric Brownian Motion

Multiplicative

Wiener

SDE: 
$$dS_t = (\underbrace{\mu}_{\text{constant}} \cdot S_t) dt + (\underbrace{\sigma}_{\text{constant}} \cdot S_t) dW_t$$

$$\frac{dS}{S} = \mu dt + \sigma dW$$

looks like  
 $d(\ln S)$

looks like simple  
Brownian motion...

But we discover that a lot  
is hidden in how one deals  
with calculus, e.g.  $\int dW_t$ ?

⇓  
"Itô Calculus"



# Itoh Lemma

if we have a stochastic process  $X(t)$ , with SDE

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

and there is a function  $f(x)$ , then what is its SDE?

$$df = f(x+dx) - f(x)$$

chain rule

$$= \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} dx^2 + \dots$$

We only want terms linear in  $(dt)$ , not higher-order.

none there

$$= \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} (\mu dt + \sigma dW)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} (\mu^2 \cancel{dt^2} + 2\mu\sigma \cancel{dt dW} + \sigma^2 \cancel{dW^2})$$

small

$$\approx \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} (\mu dt + \sigma dW)$$

assume fast steps

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \sigma^2 dW^2 \sim \langle dW^2 \rangle = dt$$

So we have:

$$df = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \mu \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \right) dt + \sigma \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dW$$

drift term

diffusion term

Ito's Lemma

Now: GBM

$$dS = \mu S dt + \sigma S dW$$

and  $f(S) = \ln(S)$

$$d[\ln(S)] = \frac{\partial f}{\partial S} dS + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2} dS^2$$

$$= \frac{dS}{S} - \frac{1}{2S^2} dS^2$$

$$= \frac{dS}{S} - \frac{1}{2S^2} \left( \cancel{\mu^2 S^2 dt^2} + \cancel{2\mu\sigma S^2 dt dW} + \sigma^2 S^2 dW^2 \right) dt$$

$$d[\ln(S)] = \left( \mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 \right) dt + \sigma dW$$

gives  $S = S_0 e^{(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})t + \sigma W}$

Stochasticity ( $\sigma$ ) Look here! Still Stochastic  
 Can reduce, or even revert exponential growth  $e^{\mu t}$ ...