

**Stochastic calculus part**

Here  $W_t$  always denotes the standard Wiener process.

1. (10 points) You throw a standard fair die  $n$  times. Let  $X$  be the number of «fives» in the first  $(n - 1)$  throws and  $Y$  — the number of «fives» in the last  $(n - 1)$  throws.

For  $n \geq 3$  calculate  $E(Y|X)$ ,  $E(X|Y)$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y|X)$ .

2. (10 points) Find a constant  $b$  such that  $Y_t = \int_0^t W_u^3 du + bW_t^5$  is a martingale.
3. (10 points) The process  $X_t$  evolves according to the formula

$$X_t = 1 - t + (1 - t) \int_0^t \frac{1}{1 - u} dW_u$$

- (a) Is  $X_t$  a martingale?
  - (b) Find  $E(X_t)$ ,  $\text{Var}(X_t)$  and  $\text{Cov}(W_t, X_t)$
  - (c) Draw  $E(X_t)$  and  $\text{Var}(X_t)$  as functions of  $t$
  - (d) Draw two possible trajectories of  $X_t$
4. (10 points) Find the price of the «Asset-or-nothing» call option at time  $t = 0$  in the framework of Black and Scholes model. The risk-free interest rate is equal to  $r$ . The volatility of the share is equal to  $\sigma$ . The current share price is  $S_0$ . The «Asset-or-nothing» call option pays you at fixed time  $T$  the sum  $S_T$  if  $S_T$  is higher than the strike price  $K$  or nothing otherwise.

Hint: the correct answer will contain the normal cumulative distribution function  $F()$ .

5. (20 points) Interest rate evolves according to the stochastic differential equation

$$dr_t = -\lambda(r_t - c) dt + \sigma dW_t$$

where  $r_0$ ,  $c$ ,  $\lambda$  and  $\sigma$  are some positive constants.

Solve this stochastic differential equation.

You may use or not use the following hints:

- (a) Obtain a stochastic differential equation for  $X_t = r_t - c$ .
- (b) Solve the ordinary differential equation  $dY_t = -\lambda Y_t dt$ ,  $Y_0 = 1$
- (c) Represent  $X_t$  as  $X_t = Y_t \cdot Z_t$  and find the equation for  $dZ_t$ .
- (d) Solve the equation for  $Z_t$ .
- (e) The correct answer for  $r_t$  will contain an Ito's integral that cannot be simplified.

**Optimal control part**

6. (10 points) Solve the bounded control problem:

$$\int_0^T (u - x)^2 dt \rightarrow \min$$

subject to  $\dot{x} = \frac{1}{2}(u - x)$ ,  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $|u| \leq 1$ ,  $T > 0$ .

7. (10 points) Find the extremals for the calculus of variations problem:

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 + x \dot{x} + x dt$$

when both endpoint values  $x(0)$  and  $x(1)$  can be chosen freely.

8. (20 points) Costs of the farmer's production  $C(x, y)$  depends on the output  $y(t)$  and the fertility of soil  $x(t)$  by the formula  $C = y^2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ . This industry is perfectly competitive and the price of the harvest per unit is  $p$ . Fertility changes over time by the dynamic law  $\dot{x} = B - \alpha y$ , where  $p\alpha > 2B > 0$ , and  $x(0) > 0$ . Constant  $B$  is defined by the government subsidy. Profit of the firm is discounted with the rate  $r > 0$ .

- (a) Write down the problem of maximizing the stream of discounted profit over the infinite time horizon.
- (b) Write down the system of first order conditions using the current value Hamiltonian. Draw the phase portrait in  $(x, y)$  coordinate system, in which  $x$  — axis is drawn horizontally. Find the steady-state  $(x_s, y_s)$  if it exists, classify it using Jacobian. With the help of the arrows provide the sketch of the dynamic paths of the system.
- (c) Find the sign of  $\partial x_s / \partial p$ . What justification of this sign can you provide from the economic point of view?