

AM 216 - Stochastic Differential Equations: Assignment 8

Dante Buhl

November 25, 2025

Problem 1: Lambda-rule for stochastic derivatives

Proof. We begin this section by first taking $X(t) = H(t, W(t))$.

$$\begin{aligned} dX &= \left(X_t + \frac{1}{2} X_{WW} \right) dt + X_W dW \\ &= \left(2tX + \frac{1}{2} X \right) dt + X dW \end{aligned}$$

We notice that if this were true we must have several conditions which also follow with our original assumption. First and foremost,

$$\begin{aligned} X = X_W &\implies X_W = X_{WW} \\ X &\propto e^{W(t)} \\ X_t = 2tX &\implies X \propto e^{t^2} \\ X &= X_0 e^{t^2 + W(t)} \end{aligned}$$

This all follows if we take the λ -chain rule and the original SDE to be equivalent. What remains is to resolve the initial condition and this simply implies that $X_0 = 2$.

$$H(t, W(t)) = X(t) = e^{t^2 + W(t)}$$

□

Problem 2: Time Reversal of an SDE

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{(X(t)|X(t+dt)=x_1)}(x_0) &\propto \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2 dt} [(x_0 - x_1)^2 + 2c_1 dt(x_0 - x_1) + c_2 dt(x_0 - x_1)^2 + \dots]\right) \\ \hat{\sigma}^2 &= \frac{\sigma^2 dt}{1 + c_2 dt}, \quad \beta = \frac{c_1 dt}{1 + c_2 dt} \\ \rho_{(X(t)|X(t+dt)=x_1)}(x_0) &\propto \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\hat{\sigma}^2} [\Delta_x^2 + 2\beta\Delta_x + \dots]\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\hat{\sigma}^2} [\Delta_x^2 + 2\beta\Delta_x + \beta^2]\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\hat{\sigma}^2} [\Delta_x + \beta]^2\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1 + c_2 dt}{2\sigma^2 dt} \left[x_0 - x_1 + \frac{c_1 dt}{1 + c_2 dt}\right]^2\right) \\ (X(t)|X(t+dt)=x_1) &\sim N\left(\frac{-c_1 dt}{1 + c_2 dt}, \frac{\sigma^2 dt}{1 + c_2 dt}\right) \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 3: Feynman-Kac Formula

i) Write out the FVP

$$0 = u_t + \frac{1}{2}u_{xx} + xu$$

$$u(x, T, T) = 1$$

ii) Verify the given solution

$$u(x, t, T) = \exp\left(\frac{(T-t)^3}{6} + (T-t)x\right)$$

$$u_t = -(x + (T-t)^2/2) \exp\left(\frac{(T-t)^3}{6} + (T-t)x\right)$$

$$u_x x = (T-t)^2 \exp\left(\frac{(T-t)^3}{6} + (T-t)x\right)$$

$$0 = \exp\left(\frac{(T-t)^3}{6} + (T-t)x\right) \left[-\left(x + \frac{(T-t)^2}{2}\right) + \frac{(T-t)^2}{2} + x \right]$$

$$= 0$$

$$u(x, T, T) = \exp(0) = 1$$

Thus this solution satisfies the FVP.

iii) This specific problem is easy enough to directly integrate so I will do so.

Proof. We begin by expanding $X(s)$ (Note that, $\int_t^T \hat{W}(s)ds \sim N\left(0, \frac{(T-t)^3}{3}\right)$)

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t, T) &= E\left[\exp\left(\int_t^T x + \hat{W}(s)ds\right) \middle| \hat{W}(t) = 0\right] \\ &= E\left[\exp((T-t)x) \exp\left(\int_t^T \hat{W}(s)ds\right) \middle| \hat{W}(t) = 0\right] \\ &= C \exp((T-t)x) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^x e^{-x^2/2\sigma^2} dx \\ &= C \exp((T-t)x) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^2-2\sigma^2 x)/2\sigma^2} dx \\ &= C \exp((T-t)x) e^{\sigma^2/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x-\sigma^2)^2/2\sigma^2} dx \\ &= \exp((T-t)x) e^{\sigma^2/2} \\ &= \exp\left(x(T-t) + \frac{(T-t)^3}{6}\right) \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 4: Integrating Factor to solve SDE

i)

$$\begin{aligned}
 dX - \frac{1}{1+t} X dt &= dW \\
 d\left(\frac{X}{1+t}\right) &= \frac{dW(s)}{1+s} \\
 X(t) &= (1+t) \left[c + \int_0^t \frac{dW(s)}{1+s} \right] \\
 X(0) = 1 &\implies c = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

ii)

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X(t)) &= (1+t) \left(1 + E \left(\int_0^t \frac{dW(s)}{1+s} \right) \right) \\
 &= 1 + t \\
 \text{Var}(X(t)) &= (1+t)^2 \text{Var} \left(\int_0^t \frac{dW(s)}{1+s} \right) \\
 &= (1+t)^2 \left(\int_t^T \frac{ds}{(1+s)^2} \right) \\
 &= (1+t)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{1+s} \Big|_0^t \right) \\
 &= (1+t)^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+t} \right) \\
 &= t + t^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 5: Simulating Feynman-Kac

Problem 6: Nonlinear Function of an RV