

# MEAN FIELD PARTICLE SYSTEMS AND THEIR LIMITS TO NONLOCAL PD'S

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### **Abstract**

This lecture aims to give an introduction on the mean field derivation of a family of non-local partial differential equations with and without diffusion

# Chapter 1

## Model description and Introduction

The following chapter will outline how the relevant particle models are defined, we differentiate between first and second order systems focusing here on first order systems while leaving the second order setting as exercises

### 1.1 1st Order Particle Systems

**Definition 1.1.1 (1st Order Particle System).** We consider a system of  $N$  particles and denote by  $(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  the trajectories of the particles.

Our first order system is then governed by the system of ordinary differential equations

$$\begin{cases} dx_i(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N K(x_i, x_j) dt + \sigma dW_i(t), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \\ x_i(t)|_{t=0} &= x_i(0) \end{cases}.$$

where  $K : \mathbb{R}^{2d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a given function.

For  $\sigma = 0$  we say the system is deterministic

We consider the following examples for  $K$

**Example.** A common example for a well-behaved  $K$  is

$$K(x, y) = \nabla(|x - y|^2).$$

which is a locally Lipschitz continuous function.

Another typical interaction force which is not continuous is the potential field given by Coulomb potential, namely

$$K(x, y) = \nabla \frac{1}{|x - y|^{d-2}} = \frac{x - y}{|x - y|^d}.$$

**Definition 1.1.2 (Empirical Measure).** For a set of particles  $(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  we define the empirical measure by

$$\mu^N(t) \triangleq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{x_j(t)}.$$

Our goal is the study of the limit of this system as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . An appropriate quantity is to consider the empirical measure 1.1.2. If the initial empirical measure converges in some sense to a measure  $\mu(0)$  i.e.

$$\mu^N(0) \rightarrow \mu(0).$$

would  $\mu^N(t)$  also converge to some measure  $\mu(t)$  ?

$$\mu^N(t) \xrightarrow{?} \mu(t).$$

Furthermore, can we find an equation which  $\mu(t)$  satisfies and in which sense does it satisfy this equation?

**Note.** Consider the following case when the limit measure  $\mu(t)$  is absolutely continuous with respect the Lebesgue measure, this means that

$$d\mu(0, x) = \rho_0(x)dx \quad \rho_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

would the limit function have the same property ?

## 1.2 Motivation For Partial Differential Equation

Let the following Proposition serve as a motivation on which partial differential equation  $\mu(t)$  should satisfy and consider only the deterministic case for now.

**Proposition 1.2.1.** We say  $\mu(t)$  solves the following partial differential equation (in the sense of distribution)

$$\partial_t \mu(t, x) + \nabla \cdot \left( \mu(t, x) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\cdot, y) d\mu(t, y) \right) = 0.$$

**Proof.** Take  $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \mu^N(t), \varphi \rangle &\triangleq \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu^N(t, x) \\ &\stackrel{\text{Def.}}{=} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \varphi(x) d\delta_{x_j(t)} \\ &\stackrel{\text{Lin.}}{=} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{d}{dt} \varphi(x_j(t)) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \nabla \varphi(x_j(t)) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} x_j(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \nabla \varphi(x_j(t)) \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N K(x_i, x_j) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \nabla \varphi(x_j(t)) \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_i, y) d\delta_{x_j(t)}(y) \\ &\stackrel{\text{Emp.}}{=} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \nabla \varphi(x_j(t)) \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_i, y) d\mu^N(t, y) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla \varphi(x) \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x, y) d\mu^N(t, y) d\delta_{x_j(t)}(x) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla \varphi(x) \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x, y) d\mu^N(t, y) d\mu^N(t, x) \\ &= - \left\langle \nabla \cdot \left( \mu^N(t, \cdot) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\cdot, y) d\mu^N(t, y) \right), \varphi \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

i.e  $\mu^N$  is a solution to

$$\partial_t \mu^N(t, x) + \nabla \cdot \left( \mu^N(t, x) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\cdot, y) d\mu^N(t, y) \right) = 0.$$

If we can now take the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we obtain that  $\mu$  should satisfy the proposed PDE  $\square$

**Corollary.** If  $\sigma > 0$  i.e our system is stochastic then we expect the limit partial differential equation to share a similar structure

$$\partial_t \mu(t, x) + \nabla \cdot \left( \mu(t, x) \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\cdot, y) d\mu(t, y) \right) = \Delta \mu(t, x).$$

We define the stochastic case in detail later

### 1.3 2nd Order Particle Systems

We define a second order particle system as follows

**Definition 1.3.1.** Given the  $N$  particles

$$((x_1(t), v_1(t)), \dots, (x_N(t), v_N(t))) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{2d}).$$

with initial values  $x_i(0)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$

Then our second order system is then governed by

$$(\text{MPS}) \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt}x_i(t) &= v_i(t) \\ \frac{d}{dt}v_i(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N F(x_i(t), v_i(t); x_j(t), v_j(t)) \end{cases} \quad 1 \leq i \leq N.$$

In this setting  $(x_i(t), v_i(t))$  mean the position and velocity of the  $i$ -th particle respectively. An example for  $F$  would be

$$F(x, v; y, u) = \frac{x - y}{|x - y|^d}.$$

The empirical measure from Definition 1.1.2 can be rewritten to include the velocity as well

$$\mu^N \triangleq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{x_j(t), v_j(t)}.$$

**Exercise.** Calculate for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  the following in the second order case

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \mu^N(t), \varphi \rangle.$$

## 1.4 Lecture Structure

In Chapter 1, we are going to discuss the deterministic case for "Good" interaction forces (2-3 weeks) while giving a brief review of the well-posedness theory of ordinary differential equation. And prove the mean field limit in the framework of 1-Wasserstein distance.

The stochastic case will be studied in Chapter 2. Where we first review the mandatory concepts of probability theory, the definition of the Itô integral, and the well-posedness of stochastic differential equations. Then the propagation of chaos result of the interacting SDE system is studied, where the well-posedness of McKean-Vlasov equation plays an important role. If time allows, we will study non-smooth interaction forces in chapter 3.

The first result is the convergence in probability, which implies the weak convergence of propagation of chaos. The second topic is to introduce the relative entropy method to get the convergence in  $L^1$  space.



## Chapter 2

# MEAN-FIELD LIMIT IN THE DETERMINISTIC SETTING

In this chapter we focus on the deterministic version of the mean-field limit. Namely, we start from a system of deterministic interacting particle system with mean-field structure and prove that the corresponding empirical measure converges weakly to the measure valued solution of the corresponding partial differential equation. We are going to work only with the first order system, recall

**Definition (1st Order Particle System).** We consider a system of  $N$  particles and denote by  $(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  the trajectories of the particles.

Our first order system is then governed by the system of ordinary differential equations

$$\begin{cases} dx_i(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N K(x_i, x_j) dt \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \\ x_i(t)|_{t=0} &= x_i(0) \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{cases}.$$

where  $K : \mathbb{R}^{2d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a given function.

In the case of higher dimensional vectors we sometimes use the following notation

$$X_N(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t))^T \in \mathbb{R}^{dN}.$$

### 2.1 Review Of ODE Theory

**Definition 2.1.1 (Initial Value Problem).** For  $\forall T > 0$  and  $f : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  we consider the initial value problem given by

$$(IVP) \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} x(t) &= f(t, x) \quad t \in [0, T] \\ x|_{t=0} &= x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{cases}.$$

**Assumption A.**  $f \in \mathcal{C}([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $f$  is Lipschitz continuous in  $x$ , which means there  $\exists L > 0$  such that  $\forall (t, x), (t, y) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d$

$$|f(t, x) - f(t, y)| \leq L|x - y|.$$

**Theorem 2.1.1 (Existence and uniqueness of IVP).** If **Assumption A** holds then the (IVP) has a unique solution  $x \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$

**Proof.** We use Picard iteration to prove the existence, we can define the equivalent way of solving the (IVP) by considering the integral equation

$$x(t) - x_0 = \int_0^t f(s, x(s)) ds \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

Then our Picard iteration is given by the following

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t f(s, x_0) ds \\ x_2(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t f(s, x_1(s)) ds \\ &\vdots \\ x_m(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t f(s, x_{m-1}(s)) ds. \end{aligned}$$

By **Assumption A** and properties of integration we have  $x_m(t) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Due to completeness of  $\mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  we only need to show that  $(x_m(t))_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Cauchy sequence to get the existence. We first prove by induction that for  $m \geq 2$  it holds for some constant  $M$  that

$$|x_m(t) - x_{m-1}(t)| \leq \frac{ML^{m-1}|t|^m}{m!}.$$

**IA** For  $m = 1$  it holds

$$\begin{aligned} |x_2(t) - x_1(t)| &\stackrel{\text{Tri.}}{\leq} \int_0^t |f(s, x_1(s)) - f(s, x_0)| ds \\ &\leq L \int_0^t |x_1(s_0) - x_0| ds_0 \\ &\leq L \int_0^t \int_0^{s_0} |f(s_1, x_0)| ds_1 ds_0 \\ &\leq ML \int_0^t (s_0 - 0) ds_0 \\ &= \frac{MLt^2}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

where we chose  $M \geq \max_{s \in [0, T]} |f(s, x_0)|$

**IV** Suppose for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  it holds

$$|x_m(t) - x_{m-1}(t)| \leq \frac{ML^{m-1}|t|^m}{m!}.$$

**IS**  $m \rightarrow m+1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |x_{m+1}(t) - x_m(t)| &= \left| \int_0^t f(s, x_m(s)) - f(s, x_{m-1}(s)) ds \right| \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Tri.}}{\leq} \int_0^t |f(s, x_m(s)) - f(s, x_{m-1}(s))| ds \\
 &\leq L \int_0^t |x_m(s) - x_{m-1}(s)| ds \\
 &\stackrel{\text{IV}}{\leq} L \int_0^t \frac{ML^{m-1}|s|^m}{m!} ds \\
 &= \frac{ML^m |t|^{m+1}}{(m+1)!}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now take arbitrary  $p, m \in \mathbb{N}$  then by triangle inequality we obtain for  $\forall t \in [0, T]$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
 |x_{m+p} - x_m(t)| &\leq \sum_{k=m+1}^{m+p} |x_k(t) - x_{k-1}(t)| \\
 &\leq \sum_{k=m+1}^{m+p} M \frac{L^{k-1} T^k}{k!} \\
 &= \frac{M}{L} \sum_{k=m+1}^{m+p} \frac{(LT)^k}{k!}
 \end{aligned}$$

Continuing on the next page

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{M}{L} \sum_{k=m+1}^{m+p} \frac{(LT)^k}{k!} &\leq \frac{M}{L} \frac{(LT)^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{(LT)^k}{k!} \\
 &\leq \frac{M}{L} \frac{(LT)^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(LT)^k}{k!} \\
 &= \frac{M}{L} \frac{(LT)^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} e^{LT} \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0 \text{ uniformly in } t \in [0, T].
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $x_m(t)$  has a limit  $x(t) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  with

$$\max_{t \in [0, T]} |x_m(t) - x(t)| \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Then by taking  $m \rightarrow \infty$  in

$$x_m(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s, x_{m-1}(s)) ds.$$

we get

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s, x(s)) ds.$$

which means  $x(t) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  is a solution of the equivalent integral equation.

To prove the uniqueness suppose we have two solutions  $x(t), \tilde{x}(t) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  then they

satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s, x(s)) ds \\ \tilde{x}(t) &= x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s, \tilde{x}(s)) ds. \end{aligned}$$

By taking the difference of these two solutions and using the Lipschitz continuity of  $f$  in  $x$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| &\leq \int_0^t |f(s, x(s)) - f(s, \tilde{x}(s))| ds + |x_0 - x_0| \\ &\leq L \int_0^t |x(s) - \tilde{x}(s)| ds \\ &\leq L \int_0^t e^{-\alpha s} |x(s) - \tilde{x}(s)| e^{\alpha s} ds. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $\alpha > 0$ . By considering the quantity  $P(t) = e^{-\alpha t} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)|$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| &\leq L \int_0^t \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} \{e^{-\alpha s} |x(s) - \tilde{x}(s)|\} e^{\alpha s} ds \\ &\leq L \max_{0 \leq s \leq t} \{e^{-\alpha s} |x(s) - \tilde{x}(s)|\} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} ds. \end{aligned}$$

We obtain

$$P(t) = e^{-\alpha t} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| \leq \max_{t \in [0, T]} P(t) \leq \frac{L}{\alpha} \max_{t \in [0, T]} P(t) \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

By choosing  $\alpha = 2L$  we have

$$\max_{t \in [0, T]} e^{-2Lt} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| = 0.$$

i.e

$$x(t) = \tilde{x}(t) \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

This concludes the uniqueness proof □

**Remark.** An alternative proof for uniqueness uses Gronwall's inequality which we give in the following. Furthermore similar to the uniqueness proof, one can obtain that the solution  $x(t; t_0, x_0)$  is continuously dependent on initial data

**Lemma 2.1.1 (Gronwall's inequality).** Let  $\alpha, \beta, \varphi \in \mathcal{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\beta(t) \geq 0$  for  $\forall t \in [a, b]$  such that

$$0 \leq \varphi(t) \leq \alpha(t) + \int_a^t b(s) \varphi(s) ds \quad \forall t \in [a, b].$$

then

$$\varphi(t) \leq \alpha(t) + \int_a^t \beta(s) e^{\int_s^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} \alpha(s) ds \quad \forall t \in [a, b].$$

Specially if  $\alpha(t) \equiv M$  then we have

$$\varphi(t) \leq M e^{\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} \quad \forall t \in [a, b].$$

**Proof.** Define

$$\psi(t) = \int_a^t \beta(\tau) \varphi(\tau) d\tau \quad \forall t \in [a, b].$$

because of the continuity of  $\beta$  and  $\varphi$  we get that  $\psi$  is differentiable on  $[a, b]$  and

$$\psi'(t) = \beta(t) \varphi(t).$$

Since  $\beta(t) \geq 0$  we have

$$\psi'(t) = \beta(t) \varphi(t) \leq \beta(t) (\alpha(t) + \psi(t)) \quad \forall t \in [a, b].$$

Then by multiplying both sides with  $e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau}$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} \psi(t)) &= e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} (\psi'(t) - \beta(t) \psi(t)) \\ &\leq \beta(t) \alpha(t) e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau}. \end{aligned}$$

Integrate the above inequality from  $a$  to  $t$  to get

$$e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} \psi(t) - e^{-\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} \psi(a) \leq \int_a^t \beta(s) \alpha(s) e^{-\int_a^s \beta(\tau) d\tau} ds.$$

Which implies

$$\psi(t) \leq \int_a^t \beta(s) \alpha(s) e^{\int_s^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} ds.$$

and

$$\varphi(t) \leq \alpha(t) + \psi(t) \leq \alpha(t) + \int_a^t \beta(s) \alpha(s) e^{\int_s^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} ds.$$

The case with  $\alpha(t) \equiv M$  is handled by using the main theorem of Differential and Integral calculus

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t) &\leq M \left( 1 + \int_a^t \beta(s) e^{\int_s^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} ds \right) \\ &= M (1 - e^{\int_s^t \beta(\tau) d\tau} |_a^t) \\ &= M e^{\int_a^t \beta(\tau) d\tau}. \end{aligned}$$

□

## 2.2 Mean-field particle system, well-posedness and problem setting

Let us again give the model and problem setting

**Definition 2.2.1 (1st Order Particle System).** We consider a system of  $N$  particles and denote by  $(x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  the trajectories of the particles. Our first order system is then governed by the system of ordinary differential equations

$$(\text{MPS}) \begin{cases} dx_i(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N K(x_i, x_j) dt \quad 1 \leq i \leq N \\ x_i(t)|_{t=0} &= x_i(0) \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{cases}.$$

where  $K : \mathbb{R}^{2d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is anti-symmetric i.e

$$K(x, y) = -K(y, x) \quad K(x, x) = 0.$$

**Assumption B.**  $K \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and there exists some  $L > 0$  such that  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  it holds

$$\sup_y |\nabla_x K(x, y)| + \sup_x |\nabla_y K(x, y)| \leq L.$$

**Lemma 2.2.1.** When **Assumption B** holds for  $K$  then for  $\forall T > 0$  the (MPS) has a unique solution

$$X_N(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_N(t)) \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{dN}).$$

and for any fixed  $t \in [0, T]$  the map

$$X_N(t, \cdot) : \mathbb{R}^{dN} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{dN} : x \mapsto X_N(t, x)$$

is a bijection

In the introduction we saw that the empirical measure satisfies a partial differential equation

**Definition 2.2.2 (PDE Problem).** Let  $\mu^N(t)$  be the empirical measure

$$\mu^N(t) \triangleq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{x_j(t)}.$$

Then from the introduction we know that for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  the empirical measure satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \mu^N(t), \varphi \rangle = \langle \mu^N(t), \nabla \varphi \cdot \mathcal{K} \mu^N(t) \rangle.$$

where

$$\mathcal{K} \mu^N(\cdot) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(\cdot, y) d\mu^N(y).$$

**Idea.** If  $\mu^N \rightarrow \mu$  in some sense, then the limiting measure  $\mu$  should also satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mu + \nabla \cdot (\mu \mathcal{K} \mu) = 0 \\ \mu^N(0) \rightarrow \mu_0 \end{cases}.$$

in the sense weak sense i.e. the "sense of distributions" which we define in the following section

## 2.3 A short introduction for Distributions

**Definition 2.3.1.** Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be an open subset then the space of test functions  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  consists of all the functions in  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)$  supplemented by the following convergence

We say  $\varphi_m \rightarrow \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)$  iff

1. There exists a compact set  $\exists K \subset \Omega$  such that  $\text{supp } \varphi_m \subset K$  for  $\forall m$
2. For all multi indices  $\alpha$  it holds

$$\sup_K |\partial^\alpha \varphi_m - \partial^\alpha \varphi| \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

**Remark.**  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  is a linear space

**Definition 2.3.2 (Multi-Index).** A multi-index  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  of length  $|\alpha| = \sum_i \alpha_i$  for example  $\alpha = (0, 2, 1) \in \mathbb{N}_0^3$  can be used to denote partial derivatives of higher order as such :

$$\partial^\alpha = \prod_i \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right)^{\alpha_i}.$$

**Definition 2.3.3 (Distribution).** The space of Distributions is denoted by  $\mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  and is the dual space of  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  i.e. it is the linear space of all continuous linear functions on  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$

We say a functional  $T : \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is continuous linear iff

1.  $\langle T, \alpha\varphi_1 + \beta\varphi_2 \rangle = \alpha\langle T, \varphi_1 \rangle + \beta\langle T, \varphi_2 \rangle$
2. If  $\varphi_m \rightarrow \varphi$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  then  $\langle T, \varphi_m \rangle \rightarrow \langle T, \varphi \rangle$

We can define several operations on the space of distributions but since most of them are not used in this Lecture we only define the multiplication with a smooth function

**Definition 2.3.4.** For a smooth function  $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty$  and a distribution  $T \in \mathcal{D}'$  the product is defined as follows

$$\langle Tf, \varphi \rangle = \langle T, f\varphi \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}.$$

**Remark.** Multiplication between two Distributions  $T, F \in \mathcal{D}'$  is not well defined, instead the convolution of two Distributions is defined

**Example.** For functions  $f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega)$  we can define the associated distribution  $T_f \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  is defined by

$$\langle T_f, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\Omega} f(x)\varphi(x)dx \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

and say  $L_{\text{loc}}^1(\Omega) \subset \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$

Similarly  $L_{\text{loc}}^p \subset \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$ , using Hölder's inequality one obtains  $L_{\text{loc}}^p(\Omega) \subset L_{\text{loc}}^q(\Omega)$  for  $1 < q < p < \infty$

**Remark.** The support of a distribution is also well-defined

**Theorem 2.3.1.**  $L^1_{\text{loc}}$  functions are uniquely determined by distributions. More precisely for two functions  $f, g \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$  if

$$\int_{\Omega} f \varphi dx = \int_{\Omega} g \varphi dx \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

then  $f = g$  a.e. in  $\Omega$

**Proof.** This proof is left as an exercise □

**Example.** The set of probability density functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ . For any probability density function  $P(x)$  the associated distribution  $T_P \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  is defined by

$$\langle T_P, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(x) P(x) dx \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}).$$

**Example.** The set of measures  $\mathcal{M}(\Omega)$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$ . For any  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$  the associated distribution  $T_{\mu}$  is defined by

$$\langle T_{\mu}, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x) d\mu \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

**Example.** An important example of a distribution which is not defined in the above way is the Delta distribution  $\delta_y(x)$  (concentrated on  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ )

$$\langle \delta_y, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\delta_y(x) = \varphi(y) \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

where

$$\delta_y(E) = \begin{cases} 1, & y \in E \\ 0, & y \notin E \end{cases}.$$

The empirical measure  $\mu^N$  is actually given by using the Delta distribution

$$\mu^N(t) \triangleq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta_{x_j(t)} \quad \langle \mu^N, \varphi \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \varphi(x_j(t)).$$

We define the convergence for a sequence of distributions as follows

**Definition 2.3.5.** For a sequence of distributions  $(T_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  we say it converges against a limit  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  iff

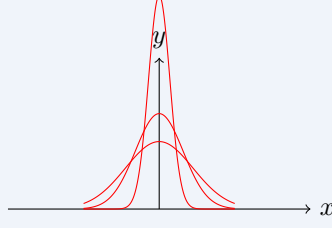
$$\langle T_m, \varphi \rangle \rightarrow \langle T, \varphi \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

Based on this convergence we give some examples in the approximation of  $\delta_0(x)$

**Example (Heat Kernel).** The heat kernel for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $t > 0$  is given by

$$f_t(x) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{4t}}.$$




 Figure 2.1: Heat Kernel for different  $t$ 

**Lemma 2.3.1.** The sequence of distributions associated to the heat kernel converge to the Delta distribution

**Proof.** We consider the limit  $t \rightarrow 0^+$  and obtain  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_t(x) \varphi(x) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{4t}} \varphi(x) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-y^2} \varphi(2\sqrt{t}y) dy \\ &= \varphi(0) = \langle \delta_0, \varphi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

where we used  $x = 2\sqrt{t}y$

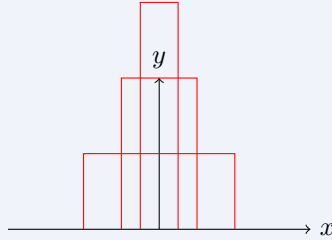
□

**Example.** For the rectangular functions

$$Q_n(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{2}, & |x| \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ 0, & |x| > \frac{1}{n} \end{cases}.$$

Then

$$Q_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_0(x).$$


 Figure 2.2: Rectangular functions for different  $n$

**Example.** The Dirichlet kernel

$$D_n(x) = \frac{\sin(n + \frac{1}{2})x}{\sin \frac{x}{2}} = 1 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n \cos(kx).$$

Then

$$D_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 2\pi\delta_0(x).$$

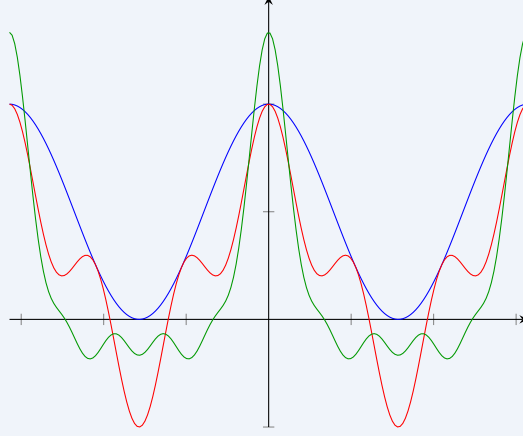


Figure 2.3: Dirichlet kernel for different  $n$

## 2.4 Weak Derivative Of Distributions

**Definition 2.4.1.** For all distributions  $\forall T \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  we define the derivative  $\partial_i T$  by

$$\langle \partial_i T, \varphi \rangle := -\langle T, \partial_i \varphi \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega) \quad \langle \partial_i^\alpha T, \varphi \rangle := (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle T, \partial_i^\alpha \varphi \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega).$$

For multi index  $\alpha$

**Exercise.** Prove the function  $-\langle T, \partial_i \varphi \rangle$  is a continuous and linear function

*Hint:* Consider the case where  $T := T_f$  for  $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}$

We give a couple examples

**Example.** For  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  the weak derivative of the Dirac Delta distribution is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \delta'_0, \varphi \rangle &= -\langle \delta_0, \varphi' \rangle = -\varphi(0) \\ \langle \delta_0^{(k)}, \varphi \rangle &= (-1)^k \varphi^{(k)}(0). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.4.1.** The weak derivative of the 1-D Heaviside function

$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases}.$$

is the Dirac Delta distribution

**Proof.** For  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  it holds

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H', \varphi \rangle &\stackrel{\text{Def.}}{=} -\langle H, \varphi' \rangle \\ &= -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(x) \varphi'(x) dx \\ &= -\int_0^{\infty} \varphi'(x) dx \\ &= \varphi(0) \\ &= \langle \delta_0, \varphi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$H' = \delta_0.$$

□

We can now go on to properly formulate the mean field partial differential equation in a weak sense

## 2.5 Weak Formulation Of The Mean Field Partial Differential Equation

Using the notation of the empirical measure we can rewrite our earlier definition of the (MPS) as follows

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} x_i(t) &= \langle K(x_i, \cdot), \mu^N(t, \cdot) \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_i, y) d\mu^N(t, y) \\ x_i(0) &= x_{i,0} \in \mathbb{R}^d, t \in [0, T] \end{cases}.$$

As has been discussed before, the empirical measure satisfies for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^D)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \mu^N, \varphi \rangle = \langle \mu^N \mathcal{K} \mu^N, \nabla \varphi \rangle = \langle -\operatorname{div}(\mu^N \mathcal{K} \mu^N), \varphi \rangle.$$

where

$$\mathcal{K} \mu^N(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x, y) d\mu^N(y),$$

which means that the empirical measure  $\mu^N$  satisfies the following equation in the sense of distribution

$$(\text{MPDE}) \quad \partial_t \mu^N + \operatorname{div}(\mu^N \mathcal{K} \mu^N) = 0.$$

**Exercise.** Show  $\mu^N \mathcal{K} \mu^N$  is a distribution for smooth  $K(x, y)$

Next we concentrate on the following PDE

**Definition 2.5.1 (Mean Field Equation (MFE)).** Define the mean field equation as

$$(\text{MFE}) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t + \operatorname{div}(\mu \mathcal{K} \mu) &= 0 \\ \mu|_{t=0} &= \mu_0 \end{cases}.$$

where

$$\mathcal{K} \mu^N(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x, y) d\mu^N(y),$$

We give the definition of the weak solution of (MFE)

**Definition 2.5.2 (Weak Solution of MFE).** For all  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $\mu(t) \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is called a weak solution of (MFE), where  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  denotes the space of measures on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

For  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\langle \mu(t), \varphi \rangle - \langle \mu_0, \varphi \rangle = \int_0^t \langle \mu(s) \mathcal{K} \mu(s), \nabla \varphi \rangle.$$

**Remark.** If  $\mu_0 = \mu^N(0)$  i.e. the initial data is given by an empirical measure, then  $\mu^N(t, \cdot)$  is a weak solution of the (MFE)

We define the following initial value problem, the so called characteristics equation

**Definition 2.5.3 (Push Forward Measure).** For a measurable function  $X$  and a measure  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  denote the push forward measure for any Borel set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  by

$$X \# \mu_0 := \mu_0(X^{-1}(B)).$$

**Definition 2.5.4 (Characteristics equation).**

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} x(t, x_0, \mu_0) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(t, x_0, \mu_0), y) d\mu(y, t) \\ x(0, x_0, \mu_0) &= x_0 \quad \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \mu(\cdot, t) &= x(t, \cdot, \mu_0) \# \mu_0 \end{cases}.$$

The solution flow  $x(t, \cdot, \mu_0)$  gives for any time  $t > 0$  a map

$$x(t, \cdot, \mu_0) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d.$$

**Remark.** It can be easily checked that the push forward measure  $\mu(t)$  obtained in the **Characteristics equation** is a weak solution of the (MFE)

**Remark.** The solution space of the **Characteristics equation** is given by

$$\mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d) : \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x| d\mu(x) < \infty\}.$$

where  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is the space of all probability measures

**Assumption C (Regularity).** We say an interaction force  $K$  is regular if  $K \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and there exists an  $L > 0$  such that

$$\sup_y |\nabla_x K(x, y)| + \sup_x |\nabla_y K(x, y)| \leq L.$$

Actually this assumption has already been used in order to show the well-posedness of the particle system

**Theorem 2.5.1** (Existence and Uniqueness of Characteristics Equation). Let Assumption C hold for  $K$  and  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  then the Characteristics equation has a unique solution  $x(t, x_0, \mu_0) \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $x(t, \cdot, \mu_0) \# \mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1$  for  $\forall t > 0$

**Proof.** The proof is based on Picard iteration.

Let  $C_1 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x| d\mu_0(x)$  and define the following Banach space

$$X := \{v \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^d) \mid \|v\|_X < \infty\}.$$

Where

$$\|v\|_X := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|v(x)|}{1 + |x|}.$$

As preparations we need the following estimates for the nonlocal term, by using Assumption C for  $K$  we have for  $\forall v, w \in X$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(v(x), v(y)) d\mu_0(y) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(w(x), w(y)) d\mu_0(y) \right| \\ & \leq L \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |v(x) - w(x)| + |v(y) - w(y)| d\mu_0(y) \\ & \leq L \|v - w\|_X (1 + |x|) + L \|v - w\|_X \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (1 + |y|) d\mu_0(y) \\ & \leq L(2 + C_1) \|v - w\|_X (1 + |x|). \end{aligned}$$

Now define the Picard iteration for  $\forall y \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\begin{aligned} x_0(t, y) &= y \\ x_1(t, y) &= y + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_0(s, y), x_0(s, z)) d\mu_0(z) ds \\ &\vdots \\ x_m(t, y) &= y + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_{m-1}(s, y), x_{m-1}(s, z)) d\mu_0(z) ds \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Then we can bound the difference between  $x_1$  and  $x_0$  by

$$\begin{aligned} |x_1(t, y) - x_0(t, y)| &= \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x_0(s, y), x_0(s, z)) d\mu_0(z) ds \right| \\ &= \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(y, z) d\mu_0(z) ds \right| \\ &\leq \int_0^{|t|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} L(|y| + |z|) d\mu_0(z) ds \\ &= \int_0^{|t|} L(|y| + C_1) ds \\ &\leq L(1 + C_1)(1 + |y|)|t|. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore for  $\forall m \geq 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |x_m(t, y) - x_{m-1}(t, y)| \\ &= \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (K(x_{m-1}(s, y), x_{m-1}(s, z)) - K(x_{m-2}(s, y), x_{m-2}(s, z))) d\mu_0(z) ds \right| \\ &\leq L(2 + C_1) \int_0^{|t|} \|x_{m-1}(s, \cdot) - x_{m-2}(s, \cdot)\|_X (1 + |y|) ds. \end{aligned}$$

hence by dividing both sides by  $1 + |y|$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_m(t, \cdot) - x_{m-1}(t, \cdot)\|_X &\leq L(2 + C_1) \int_0^{|t|} \|x_{m-1}(s, \cdot) - x_{m-2}(s, \cdot)\|_X ds \\ &\leq \frac{((2 + C_1)L|t|)^d}{(m-1)!}. \end{aligned}$$

which implies for  $\forall m > n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\|x_m(t, \cdot) - x_n(t, \cdot)\|_X \leq \sum_{i=n}^{m-1} \|x_{i+1}(t, \cdot) - x_i(t, \cdot)\|_X \rightarrow 0.$$

Therefore for  $T > 0$

$$x_m(t, \cdot) \rightarrow x(t, \cdot) \text{ in } X \text{ uniformly in } [-T, T].$$

and  $x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^d)$  satisfies that, after taking the limit in Picard iteration  $\forall y \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$x(t, y) = y + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(s, y), x(s, z)) d\mu_0(z) ds.$$

By the fundamental theorem of calculus and [Assumption C](#) we know that for  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $x(t, y) \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x(t, y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(t, y), x(t, z)) d\mu_0(z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(t, y), z') d\mu(z', t).$$

where  $\mu(\cdot, t)$  is the push forward measure of  $\mu_0$  along  $x(t, \cdot)$

For uniqueness consider two solutions  $x, \tilde{x}$  then by taking the difference we have

$$x(t, y) - \tilde{x}(t, y) = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (K(x(s, y), x(s, z)) - K(\tilde{x}(s, y), \tilde{x}(s, z))) d\mu_0(z) ds.$$

Using estimates similarly to before we obtain

$$\|x(t, \cdot) - \tilde{x}(t, \cdot)\|_X \leq L(2 + C_1) \int_0^{|t|} \|x(s, \cdot) - \tilde{x}(s, \cdot)\|_X ds.$$

By applying Gronwall's inequality we get

$$\|x(t, \cdot) - \tilde{x}(t, \cdot)\|_X = 0.$$

where clearly  $\|x(0, \cdot) - \tilde{x}(0, \cdot)\|_X = 0$  □

### 2.5.1 Stability

Let's remind us of the  $N$ -particle system (MPS), the Mean field equation (MFE) and its weak solution as defined in [Definition 2.5.2](#). We have thus far done the following things

1. If  $\mu_0 = \mu_N(0)$  then  $\mu_N(t)$  is a weak solution of (MFE)
2. If  $\mu_0 = \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and the assumption on [Regularity](#) hold for  $K$ , then

$x(t, \cdot, \mu_0) \# \mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1$  is the solution of (MFE)

We will prove the stability of the mean field PDE, which means directly that

$$\mu_N(0) \rightarrow \mu(0) \Rightarrow \mu_N(t) \rightarrow \mu(t).$$

by using the so called Monge-Kantorovich distance (or Wasserstein distance)

**Definition 2.5.5 (Monge-Kantorovich Distance).** For two measures  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathbb{R}^d)$   $p \geq 1$  with

$$\mathcal{P}_p(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d) : \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x|^p d\mu(x) < \infty\}.$$

the Monge-Kantorovich distance  $\text{dist}_{\text{MK},p}(\mu, \nu)$  or  $W^p(\mu, \nu)$  is defined by

$$\text{dist}_{\text{MK},p}(\mu, \nu) = W^p(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left( \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^p d\pi(x, y) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

where

$$\Pi(\mu, \nu) = \{\pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d) : \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \pi(\cdot, dy) = \mu(\cdot) \text{ and } \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \pi(dx, \cdot) = \nu(\cdot)\}.$$

**Remark.** For  $\forall \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that  $\varphi(x) \sim O(|x|^p)$  for  $|x| \gg 1$  and  $\psi(y) \sim O(|y|^p)$  for  $|y| \gg 1$ , for  $\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)$  it holds

$$\iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} (\varphi(x) + \psi(y)) d\pi(x, y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu(x) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \psi(y) d\nu(y).$$

**Remark (Kantorovich-Rubinstein duality).** It can be shown that the  $W^1$  distance can be computed by

$$\text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu, \nu) = W^1(\mu, \nu) = \sup_{\varphi \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d), \text{Lip}(\varphi) \leq 1} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu(x) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\nu(x) \right|.$$

**Theorem 2.5.2 (Dobrushin's stability).** Let  $\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0 \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $(x(t, \cdot, \mu_0), \mu(\cdot, t))$ ,  $(x(t, \cdot, \bar{\mu}_0), \bar{\mu}(\cdot, t))$  be solutions of Theorem 2.5.1. Then  $\forall t > 0$  it hold

$$\text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu(\cdot, t), \bar{\mu}(\cdot, t)) \leq e^{2|t|L} \text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0).$$

**Proof.** Let  $(x_0, \mu_0)$  and  $(\bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)$  be two initial data pairs of problem Theorem 2.5.1 and  $\pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0)$  taking the difference of these two problems, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & x(t, x_0, \mu_0) - x(t, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0) \\ &= x_0 - \bar{x}_0 + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(s, x_0, \mu_0), y) d\mu(s, y) ds \\ & \quad - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0), y) d\bar{\mu}(s, y) ds. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu(\cdot, t) = x(t, \cdot, \mu_0) \# \mu_0$  and  $\bar{\mu}(\cdot, t) = x(t, \cdot, \bar{\mu}_0) \# \bar{\mu}_0$ . Now we compute further and get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & x(t, x_0, \mu_0) - x(t, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0) \\
 &= x_0 - \bar{x}_0 + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(s, x_0, \mu_0), x(s, z, \mu_0)) d\mu_0(z) ds \\
 &\quad - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0), x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)) d\bar{\mu}_0(\bar{z}) ds \\
 &= x_0 - \bar{x}_0 + \int_0^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} (K(x(s, x_0, \mu_0), x(s, z, \mu_0)) \\
 &\quad - K(x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0), x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0))) d\pi_0(z, \bar{z}) ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

There for by assumption on **Regularity** for  $K$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |x(t, x_0, \mu_0) - x(t, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)| \\
 &\leq |x_0 - \bar{x}_0| + L \int_0^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(s, x_0, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)| \\
 &\quad + |x(s, z, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(z, \bar{z}) ds \\
 &\leq |x_0 - \bar{x}_0| + L \int_0^t |x(s, x_0, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)| ds \\
 &\quad + L \int_0^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(s, z, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(z, \bar{z}) ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

Next we integrate both sides in  $x_0, \bar{x}_0$  with respect to the measure  $\pi_0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(t, x_0, \mu_0) - x(t, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(x_0, \bar{x}_0) \\
 &\leq \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x_0 - \bar{x}_0| d\pi_0(x_0, \bar{x}_0) \\
 &\quad + L \int_0^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(s, x_0, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(x_0, \bar{x}_0) ds \\
 &\quad + L \int_0^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(s, z, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(z, \bar{z}) ds
 \end{aligned}$$

By denoting

$$D[\pi_0](t) = \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(s, z, \mu_0) - x(s, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi_0(z, \bar{z}).$$

we have obtained the estimate

$$D[\pi_0](t) \leq D[\pi_0](0) + 2L \int_0^t D[\pi_0](s) ds.$$

which implies by Gronwall's inequality that

$$D[\pi_0](t) \leq D[\pi_0](0) e^{2Lt}.$$

Now let  $\varphi_t : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$  be the map such that

$$\varphi_t(x_0, \bar{x}_0) = (x(t, x_0, \mu_0), x(t, \bar{x}_0, \bar{\mu}_0)).$$



and for arbitrary  $\pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu_0, \nu_0)$ ,  $\pi_t := \varphi_t \# \pi_0$  be the push forward measure of  $\pi_0$  by  $\varphi_t$ . It is obvious that

$$\pi_t = \varphi_t \# \pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu(\cdot, t), \bar{\mu}(\cdot, t)).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu(\cdot, t), \bar{\mu}(\cdot, t)) &= \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu(\cdot, t), \bar{\mu}(\cdot, t))} \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |z - \bar{z}| d\pi(z, \bar{z}) \\ &\leq \inf_{\pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0)} \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x(t, z, \mu_0) - x(t, \bar{z}, \bar{\mu}_0)| d\pi(z, \bar{z}) \\ &= \inf_{\pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0)} D[\pi_0](t) \\ &\leq \inf_{\pi_0 \in \Pi(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0)} D[\pi_0](0) e^{2Lt} \\ &= e^{2Lt} \text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu_0, \bar{\mu}_0). \end{aligned}$$

□

## 2.6 Mollification Operator

**Definition 2.6.1 (Mollification-Kernel).** A function  $j(x) \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty$  is called a mollification kernel if it satisfies the following properties

1.  $j(x) \geq 0$
2.  $\text{supp } j \subset \overline{B_1(0)}$
3.  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} j(x) dx = 1$

A typical example of a smooth kernel is given by

**Example.**

$$j(x) = \begin{cases} k \exp(-\frac{1}{1-|x|^2}) & \text{if } |x| < 1 \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

where  $k$  is given s.t the integral is 1

**Remark.** Based on the given function  $j$  it is easy to prove that its rescaled sequence converges to the Dirac Delta distribution in the weak sense

$$j_\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^d} j\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \delta_0.$$

**Exercise.** Prove that for  $\varphi(x) \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds that  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} j_\varepsilon \star \varphi(x) = \varphi(x).$$

**Definition 2.6.2 (Mollification Operator).** For  $\forall u \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  we define the following function as its mollification

$$J_\varepsilon(u)(x) \triangleq j_\varepsilon(x) \star u(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} j_\varepsilon(x-y) u(y) dy.$$

where  $J_\varepsilon$  is called the mollification operator

**Remark.** Notice that  $\text{supp } j_\varepsilon(x) \subset \overline{B_\varepsilon(0)}$  we obtain

$$J_\varepsilon(u)(x) = \int_{B_\varepsilon(0)} j_\varepsilon(x-y)u(y)dy < \infty.$$

**Lemma 2.6.1.**

1. If  $u(x) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\text{supp } u(x)$  is compact in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  then

$$J_\varepsilon(u) = j_\varepsilon \star u \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

2. if  $u \in C_0(\mathbb{R}^d)$  then

$$J_\varepsilon(u) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} u \text{ uniformly on } \text{supp } u.$$

**Proof.** 1. Let  $K = \text{supp } u \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be compact, then we have

$$\text{supp } j_\varepsilon \star u = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \text{dist}(x, K) \leq \varepsilon\}.$$

is also compact. For the differentiability it is enough to show the first order partial differentiability at any given point, as the argument for higher order differentiability is analog

Now for  $\forall x \in \text{supp } j_\varepsilon \star u$  we have that  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, d$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} j_\varepsilon(x-y)u(y)dy = \int_K \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} j_\varepsilon(x-y)u(y)dy.$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} j_\varepsilon(x-y)u(y) \right| \leq \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} j_\varepsilon(x-y) \right| \|u\|_{L^1} \leq \frac{Cj'}{\varepsilon^d}.$$

to show the uniform integrability of  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} j_\varepsilon(x-y)u(y)$

For (2) we need to prove that for  $u \in C_0(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\|J_\varepsilon(u) - u\|_{L^\infty(\text{supp } u)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

Actually  $\forall x \in \text{supp } u$  we have the following estimate

$$\begin{aligned} |j_\varepsilon \star u(x) - u(x)| &= \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} j_\varepsilon(x-y)(u(y) - u(x))dy \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\text{supp } u} j_\varepsilon(x-y)(u(y) - u(x))dy \right| \\ &\leq \max_{\substack{x, y \in \text{supp } u \\ |x-y| < \varepsilon}} |u(y) - u(x)| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} j_\varepsilon(x-y)dy \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0. \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $u \in \mathcal{C}(\text{supp } u)$  which means  $u$  is uniformly continuous to obtain the limit in the last step above  $\square$

### 2.6.1 Conservation of Mass

Let  $u(t)$  be the push forward measure obtained from [Definition 2.5.4](#), one can check that is a weak solution of (MFE) by using test functions. Furthermore we obtain that if the initial measure has a probability density, then the solution is also integrable for any fixed time  $t$

**Corollary.** Let  $f_0$  be a probability density of  $\mu_0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x| f_0(x) dx < \infty.$$

Then the Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t f + \nabla \cdot (f \mathcal{K} f) &= 0 \\ f|_{t=0} &= f_0 \end{cases}.$$

has a unique weak solution  $f(t, \cdot) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\|f(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} = 1$ . The weak solution in the sense of distribution means that  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty$  it holds for all  $0 \leq \tilde{t} < t < \infty$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(t, x) dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(\tilde{t}, x) dx = \int_{\tilde{t}}^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(s, x) \mathcal{K} f(s, x) dx ds.$$

**Proof.** We need to prove  $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mu_t \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure i.e.  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $\int_B d\lambda = 0$  it holds  $\mu_t(B) = 0$ . The mass conservation property,  $\|f(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} = 1$  comes from the definition of probability measures  $\square$

**Exercise.** Let  $\mu_t \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be an absolutely continuous measure with respect to the Lebesgue measure, then proof that for  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that

$$\int_B d\lambda = 0.$$

it holds that  $\mu_t(B) = 0$

In the next we give an alternative proof of the conservation of mass without using the characteristics presentation and instead only use the definition of a weak solution

**Proof.** In the weak solution formulation it holds

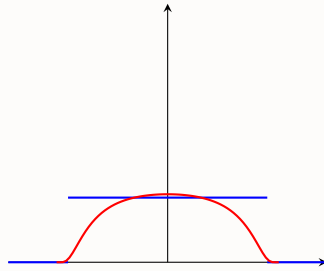
$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(t, x) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(\tilde{t}, x) dx + \int_{\tilde{t}}^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} f(s, x) K(x, y) f(s, y) \nabla \varphi(x) dx dy ds.$$

where the test function  $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty$  is chosen arbitrarily. Now we take a sequence of test functions defined as follows.

For  $\forall R > 0$

$$\varphi_R(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| \leq R \\ \text{smooth}, & R < |x| < 2R, \\ 0, & |x| \geq 2R \end{cases}.$$

An example of this is the mollification of a step function i.e.  $\varphi_R = j_{\frac{R}{2}} \cdot \mathbb{1}_{B_{\frac{3R}{2}}}$



One obtains directly for the gradient estimate  $|\nabla \varphi_R(x)| \leq \frac{C}{R}$ . Therefore with this test function, we obtain from the weak solution formula that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t, x) \varphi_R(x) dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\tilde{t}, x) \varphi_R(x) dx \right| &= \left| \int_{\tilde{t}}^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} f(s, x) K(x, y) f(s, y) \nabla \varphi_R(x) dx dy ds \right| \\ &\leq \frac{CL}{R} \int_{\tilde{t}}^t \iint_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} (1 + |x| + |y|) f(s, x) f(s, y) |\nabla \varphi_R(x)| dx dy ds \\ &\leq \frac{C}{R} |t - \tilde{t}|. \end{aligned}$$

Where  $C$  depends on  $\|(1 + |\cdot|)f(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}$ . Since

$$|f(t, x) \varphi_R(x)| \leq |f(t, x)| \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

we can use the dominant convergence theorem to obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t, x) \varphi_R(x) dx \xrightarrow{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t, x) dx > 0.$$

Therefore passing to the limit  $R \rightarrow \infty$  we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(t, x) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_0(x) dx.$$

□

## 2.7 Mean Field Limit

**Theorem 2.7.1 (Mean Field Limit).** For  $f_0 \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , let  $\mu_0^N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_{i,0}}$  such that

$$\text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu_0^N, f_0) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Let  $X_N(t)$  be the solution of the  $N$  particle system (MPS) with its empirical measure

$$\mu^N(t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_i(t, X_{N,0})}.$$

Then

$$\text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu^N(t), f(t, \cdot)) \leq e^{2Lt} \text{dist}_{\text{MK},1}(\mu_0^N, f_0) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

And  $\mu^N(t) \rightharpoonup f(t, \cdot)$  weakly in measures, i.e for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu^N(t, x) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(t, x) dx.$$

**Proof.** The stability result from Theorem 2.5.2 gives us already the convergence rate estimate. We are left to prove the weak convergence in measure. Note  $\forall \varphi \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu^N(t, x) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(t, x) dx \right| &= \left| \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} (\varphi(x) - \varphi(y)) d\pi_t(x, y) \right| \\ &\leq \text{Lip}(\varphi) \iint_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y| d\pi_t(x, y) \\ &\rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\pi_t \in \Pi(\mu^N(t), f(t, \cdot))$

Since  $\text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is dense in  $C_0(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and because the total mass is 1, the above also holds for test functions in  $C_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Hence the weak convergence in measure is true. The fact that  $\text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is dense in  $C_0$  can be obtained by using the mollification operator introduced in Definition 2.6.2. More precisely we have to show that  $\forall \varphi \in C_b^\infty$  it holds

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu^N(t, x) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(X) f(t, x) dx.$$

Notice we have shown that the above convergence holds for all  $\varphi \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

For  $\forall \varphi \in C_b^\infty$  and  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$  we choose  $R > 1$  s.t.

$$\frac{2\|\varphi\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} M_1}{R} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

where  $M_1 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x| d\mu^N(t, x)$ . Let  $\varphi_m \in C_0^\infty(B_{2R})$  be the approximation of  $\varphi$  on  $B_{\frac{3R}{2}}$ . This means that  $\exists M > 0$  such that for  $\forall m > M$  it holds

$$\|\varphi_m - \varphi\|_{L^\infty(B_R)} < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}.$$

Now we take  $\varphi_{M+1} \in C_0^\infty(B_{2R})$  which is obviously Lipschitz continuous. Therefore the convergence holds. Then  $\exists N_1 > 0$  such that  $\forall N > N_1$  we have

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi_{M+1}(x) (d\mu^N(t, x) - f(t, x) dx) \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}.$$

To summarize we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) d\mu^N(t, x) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x) f(t, x) dx \right| &\leq \left| \int_{B_R} \varphi(x) (d\mu^N(t, x) - f(t, x) dx) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_{B_R^c} \varphi(x) (d\mu^N(t, x) - f(t, x) dx) \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{B_R} \varphi_{M+1}(x) (d\mu^N(t, x) - f(t, x) dx) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_{B_R} (\varphi_{M+1}(x) - \varphi(x)) (d\mu^N(t, x) - f(t, x) dx) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_{B_R^c} |\varphi(x)| \frac{|x|}{R} (d\mu^N(t, x) + f(t, x) dx) \right| \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{4} + \|\varphi_{M+1} - \varphi\|_{L^\infty(B_R)} + \frac{2}{R} \|\varphi\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} M_1 \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{4} + \frac{\varepsilon}{4} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

□

This concludes the chapter on the Mean-field Limit in the deterministic setting, we have thus far reviewed the basics of relevant ODE Theory, introduced the Mean-Field particle system (MPS) and the associated Mean-Field equation (MFE) and finished by proving a convergence result for the Mean-Field Limit

## Chapter 3

# MEAN FIELD LIMIT FOR SDE SYSTEM

### 3.1 Basics On Probability Theory

This section is dedicated to a small review of basic concepts in probability theory in preparations of SDE's

#### 3.1.1 Probability Spaces and Random Variables

**Definition 3.1.1 ( $\sigma$ -Algebra).** Let  $\Omega$  be a given set, then a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\Omega$  is a family of subsets of  $\Omega$  s.t.

1.  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$
2.  $F \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow F^c \in \mathcal{F}$
3. If  $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$  countable, then

$$A = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} A_j \in \mathcal{F}.$$

**Definition 3.1.2 (Measure Space).** A tuple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  is called a measurable space. The elements of  $\mathcal{F}$  are called measurable sets

**Definition 3.1.3 (Probability Measure).** A probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$  on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  is a function

$$\mathbb{P} : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1].$$

s.t.

1.  $\mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$
2. If  $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset \forall i \neq j$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} A_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_j).$$

**Definition 3.1.4 (Probability Space).** The triple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is called a probability space.  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  is called event. We say the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is complete, if  $\mathcal{F}$  contains all

zero-measure sets i.e. if

$$\inf\{\mathbb{P}(F) : F \in \mathcal{F}, G \subset F\} = 0.$$

then  $G \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathbb{P}(G) = 0$ . Without loss of generality we use in this lecture  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  as complete probability space

**Definition 3.1.5 (Almost Surely).** If for some  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  it holds  $\mathbb{P}(F) = 1$  then we say that  $F$  happens with probability 1 or almost surely (a.s.)

**Remark.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a family of subsets of  $\Omega$ , then there exists a smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\Omega$  called  $\mathcal{U}_{\mathcal{H}}$  with

$$\mathcal{U}_{\mathcal{H}} = \bigcap_{\substack{\mathcal{H} \subset \mathcal{U} \\ \sigma\text{-alg.}}} \mathcal{H}.$$

**Example.** The  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by a topology  $\tau$  of  $\Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_{\tau} \triangleq \mathcal{B}$  is called the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra, the elements  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  are called Borel sets.

**Definition 3.1.6 (Measurable Functions).** Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space, a function

$$Y : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d.$$

is called measurable if and only if

$$Y^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}.$$

holds for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  or equivalent for all  $B \in \tau$

**Example.** Let  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a given function, then the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{U}(X)$  generated by  $X$  is

$$\mathcal{U}(X) = \{X^{-1}(B) : B \in \mathcal{B}\}.$$

**Lemma 3.1.1 (Doob-Dynkin).** If  $X, Y : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  are given then  $Y$  is  $\mathcal{U}(X)$  measurable if and only if there exists a Borel measurable function  $g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  such that

$$Y = g(X).$$

**Exercise.** Proof the above lemma

From now on we denote  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  as a given probability space.

**Definition 3.1.7 (Random Variable).** A random variable  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable function. Every random variable induces a probability measure or  $\mathbb{R}^d$

$$\mu_X(B) = \mathbb{P}(X^{-1}(B)) \quad \forall B \in \mathcal{B}.$$

This measure is called the distribution of  $X$

**Definition 3.1.8** (Expectation and Variance). Let  $X$  be a random variable, if

$$\int_{\Omega} |X(\omega)| d\mathbb{P}(\omega) < \infty.$$

then

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \int_{\Omega} X(\omega) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} x d\mu_X(x).$$

is called the expectation of  $X$  (w.r.t.  $\mathbb{P}$ )

$$\mathbb{V}[X] = \int_{\Omega} |X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega).$$

is called variance and there exists the simple relation

$$\mathbb{V}[X] = \mathbb{E}[|X - \mathbb{E}[X]|^2] = \mathbb{E}[|X|^2] - \mathbb{E}[X]^2.$$

**Remark.** If  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  measurable and

$$\int_{\Omega} |f(X(\omega))| d\mathbb{P}(\omega) < \infty.$$

then

$$\mathbb{E}[f(x)] = \int_{\Omega} f(X(\omega)) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x) d\mu_X(x).$$

**Definition 3.1.9** ( $L^p$  spaces). Let  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  be a random variable and  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . With the norm

$$\|X\|_p = \|X\|_{L^p(\mathbb{P})} = \left( \int_{\Omega} |X(\omega)|^p d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

If  $p = \infty$

$$\|X\|_{\infty} = \inf\{N \in \mathbb{R} : |X(\omega)| \leq N \text{ a.s.}\}.$$

the space  $L^p(\mathbb{P}) = L^p(\Omega) = \{X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \mid \|X\|_p \leq \infty\}$  is a Banach space.

**Remark.** If  $p = 2$  then  $L^2(\mathbb{P})$  is a Hilbert space with inner product

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \mathbb{E}[X(\omega) \cdot Y(\omega)] = \int_{\Omega} X(\omega) \cdot Y(\omega) d\mathbb{P}(\omega).$$

**Definition 3.1.10** (Distribution Functions). Note for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  we write  $x \leq y$  if  $x_i \leq y_i$  for  $\forall i$

1.  $X : (\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a random variable the its distribution function  $F_x : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is defined by

$$F_X(x) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$



2. If  $X_1, \dots, X_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  are random variables, their joint distribution function is

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X_1, \dots, X_m} : (\mathbb{R}^d)^m &\rightarrow [0, 1] \\ F_{X_1, \dots, X_m} &= \mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_m \leq x_m) \quad \forall x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.1.11 (Density Function Of X).** If there exists a non-negative function  $f(x) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{x_n} f(y) dy \quad y = (y_1, \dots, y_n).$$

then  $f$  is called density function of  $X$  and

$$\mathbb{P}(X^{-1}(B)) = \int_B f(x) dx \quad \forall B \in \mathcal{B}.$$

**Example.** Let  $X$  be random variable with density function  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{|x-m|^2}{2\sigma^2}}.$$

then we say that  $X$  has a Gaussian (or Normal) distribution with mean  $m$  and variance  $\sigma^2$  and write

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(m, \sigma^2).$$

Obviously

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} x f(x) dx = m \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} |x - m|^2 f(x) dx = \sigma^2.$$

**Definition 3.1.12 (Independent Events).** Events  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  are called independent if  $\forall 1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_m \leq n$  it holds

$$\mathbb{P}(A_{k_1} \cap A_{k_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{k_m}) = \mathbb{P}(A_{k_1}) \mathbb{P}(A_{k_2}) \dots \mathbb{P}(A_{k_m}).$$

**Definition 3.1.13 (Independent  $\sigma$ -Algebra).** Let  $\mathcal{F}_j \subset \mathcal{F}$  be  $\sigma$ -algebras for  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then we say  $\mathcal{F}_j$  are independent if for  $\forall 1 \leq k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_m$  and  $\forall A_{k_j} \in \mathcal{F}_{k_j}$  it holds

$$\mathbb{P}(A_{k_1} \cap A_{k_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{k_m}) = \mathbb{P}(A_{k_1}) \mathbb{P}(A_{k_2}) \dots \mathbb{P}(A_{k_m}).$$

**Definition 3.1.14 (Independent Random Variables).** We say random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  are independent if for  $\forall B_1, \dots, B_m \subset \mathcal{B}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  it holds

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{j_1} \in B_{j_1}, \dots, X_{j_k} \in B_{j_k}) = \mathbb{P}(X_{j_1} \in B_{j_1}) \dots \mathbb{P}(X_{j_k} \in B_{j_k}).$$

which is equivalent to proving that  $\mathcal{U}(X_1), \dots, \mathcal{U}(X_k)$  are independent

**Theorem 3.1.1.**  $X_1, \dots, X_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  are independent if and only if

$$F_{X_1, \dots, X_m}(x_1, \dots, x_m) = F_{X_1}(x_1) \dots F_{X_m}(x_m) \quad \forall x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

**Theorem 3.1.2.** If  $X_1, \dots, X_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are independent and  $\mathbb{E}[|X_i|] < \infty$  then

$$\mathbb{E}[|X_1, \dots, X_m|] < \infty.$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}[X_1 \dots X_m] = \mathbb{E}[X_1] \dots \mathbb{E}[X_m].$$

**Theorem 3.1.3.**  $X_1, \dots, X_m : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are independent and  $\mathbb{V}[X_i] < \infty$  then

$$\mathbb{V}[X_1 + \dots + X_m] = \mathbb{V}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbb{V}[X_m].$$

**Exercise.** Proof the above theorems

### 3.1.2 Borel Cantelli

**Definition 3.1.15.** Let  $A_1, \dots, A_m \in \mathcal{F}$  then the set

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \text{ belongs to infinite many } A_m \text{'s}\}.$$

is called  $A_m$  infinitely often or  $A_m$  i.o.

**Lemma 3.1.2 (Borel Cantelli).** If  $\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_m) < \infty$  then  $\mathbb{P}(A \text{ i.o.}) = 0$

**Proof.** By definition we have

$$\mathbb{P}(A_m \text{ i.o.}) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m\right) \leq \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_m) \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

□

**Definition 3.1.16 (Convergence In Probability).** We say a sequence of random variables  $(X_k)_{k=1}^{\infty}$  converges in probability to  $X$  if for  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_k - X| > \varepsilon) = 0.$$

**Theorem 3.1.4 (Application Of Borel Cantelli).** If  $X_k \rightarrow X$  in probability, then there exists a subsequence  $(X_{k_j})_{j=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$X_{k_j}(\omega) \rightarrow X(\omega) \text{ for almost every } \omega \in \Omega.$$

This means that  $\mathbb{P}(|X_{k_j} - X| \rightarrow 0) = 1$

**Proof.** For  $\forall j \exists k_j$  with  $k_j < k_{j+1} \rightarrow \infty$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_{k_j} - X| > \frac{1}{j}) \leq \frac{1}{j^2}.$$

then

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(|X_{k_j} - X| > \frac{1}{j}) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j^2} < \infty.$$

Let  $A_j = \{\omega : |X_{k_j} - X| > \frac{1}{j}\}$  then by **Borel Cantelli** we have  $\mathbb{P}(A_j \text{ i.o.}) = 0$  s.t.

$$\forall \omega \in \Omega \exists J \text{ s.t. } \forall j > J.$$

it holds

$$|X_{k_j}(\omega) - X(\omega)| \leq \frac{1}{j}.$$

□

### 3.1.3 Strong Law Of Large Numbers

**Definition 3.1.17.** A sequence of random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  is called identically distributed if

$$F_{X_1}(x) = F_{X_2}(x) = \dots = F_{X_n}(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

If additionally  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent then we say they are identically-independent-distributed i.i.d

**Theorem 3.1.5 (Strong Law Of Large Numbers).** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  be a sequence of i.i.d integrable random variables on the same probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_N}{N} = \mathbb{E}[X_i]\right) = 1.$$

where  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = \mathbb{E}[X_j]$

**Proof.** Suppose for simplicity  $\mathbb{E}[X_i^4] < \infty$  for  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then without loss of generality we may assume  $\mathbb{E}[X_i] = 0$  otherwise we use  $X_i - \mathbb{E}[X_i]$  as our new sequence. Consider

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right)^4\right] = \sum_{i,j,k,l} \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j X_k X_l].$$

If  $i \neq j, k, l$  then because of independence it follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[X_i X_j X_k X_l] = \mathbb{E}[X_i] \mathbb{E}[X_j X_k X_l] = 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right)^4\right] &= \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}[X_i^4] + 3 \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E}[X_i^2 X_j^2] \\ &= N \mathbb{E}[X_1^4] + 3(N^2 - N) \mathbb{E}[X_1^2]^2 \\ &\leq N^2 C. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore for fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right| \geq \varepsilon\right) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right|^4 \geq (\varepsilon N)^4\right) \\ &\stackrel{\text{Mrkv.}}{\leq} \frac{1}{(\varepsilon N)^4} \mathbb{E}\left[\left|\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right|^4\right] \\ &\leq \frac{C}{\varepsilon^4} \frac{1}{N^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then by **Borel Cantelli** we get

$$\mathbb{P}(|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i| \geq \varepsilon \text{ i.o.}) = 0.$$

because

$$\sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_N) = \sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \frac{C}{\varepsilon^4} \frac{1}{N^2} < \infty.$$

where

$$A_N = \{\omega \in \Omega : |\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i| \geq \varepsilon\}.$$

Now we take  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{k}$  then the above gives

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sup \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i(\omega) \leq \frac{1}{k}.$$

holds except for  $\omega \in B_k$  with  $\mathbb{P}(B_k) = 0$ . Let  $B = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} B_k$  then  $\mathbb{P}(B) = 0$  and

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i(\omega) = 0 \text{ a.e..}$$

□

### 3.1.4 Conditional Expectation

**Definition 3.1.18.** Let  $Y$  be random variable, then  $\mathbb{E}[X|Y]$  is defined as a  $\mathcal{U}(Y)$ –measurable random variable s.t for  $\forall A \in \mathcal{U}(Y)$  it holds

$$\int_A X d\mathbb{P} = \int_A \mathbb{E}[X|Y] d\mathbb{P}.$$

**Definition 3.1.19.** Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space and  $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathcal{F}$  be a  $\sigma$ –algebra, if  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is an integrable random variable then  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]$  is defined as a random variable on  $\Omega$  s.t.  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]$  is  $\mathcal{U}$ –measurable and for  $\forall A \in \mathcal{U}$

$$\int_A X d\mathbb{P} = \int_A \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}] d\mathbb{P}.$$

**Exercise.** Proof the following equalities

1.  $\mathbb{E}[X|Y] = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]$
2.  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]] = \mathbb{E}[X]$
3.  $\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{W}]$ , where  $\mathcal{W} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$

**Remark.** One can define the conditional probability similarly. Let  $\mathcal{V} \subset \mathcal{U}$  be a  $\sigma$ –algebra then for  $A \in \mathcal{U}$  the conditional probability is defined as follows

$$\mathbb{P}(A|\mathcal{V}) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{1}_A|\mathcal{V}].$$

Note the equivalent notation  $\chi_A \equiv \mathbb{1}_A$

**Theorem 3.1.6.** Let  $X$  be an integrable random variable, then for all  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathcal{F}$  the conditional expectation  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]$  exists and is unique up to  $\mathcal{U}$ -measurable sets of probability zero

**Proof.** Omit □

**Theorem 3.1.7 (Properties Of Conditional Expectation).** 1. If  $X$  is  $\mathcal{U}$ -measurable then  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}] = X$  a.s.

$$2. \mathbb{E}[aX + bY|\mathcal{U}] = a\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}] + b\mathbb{E}[Y|\mathcal{U}]$$

3. If  $X$  is  $\mathcal{U}$ -measurable and  $XY$  is integrable then

$$\mathbb{E}[XY|\mathcal{U}] = X\mathbb{E}[Y|\mathcal{U}].$$

4. If  $X$  is independent of  $\mathcal{U}$  then  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}] = \mathbb{E}[X]$  a.s.

5. If  $\mathcal{W} \subset \mathcal{U}$  are two  $\sigma$ -algebras then

$$\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{W}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]|\mathcal{W}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{W}]|\mathcal{U}] \text{ a.s.}$$

6. If  $X \leq Y$  a.s. then  $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}] \leq \mathbb{E}[Y|\mathcal{U}]$  a.s.

**Exercise.** Proof the above properties

**Lemma 3.1.3 (Conditional Jensen's Inequality).** Suppose  $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex and  $\mathbb{E}[\varphi(x)] < \infty$  then

$$\varphi(\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{U}]) \leq \mathbb{E}[\varphi(X)|\mathcal{U}].$$

**Exercise.** Proof the above Lemma

### 3.1.5 Stochastic Processes And Brownian Motion

**Definition 3.1.20 (Stochastic Process).** A stochastic process is a parameterized collection of random variables

$$(X(t))_{t \in [0, T]} : [0, T] \times \Omega : (t, \omega) \mapsto X(t, \omega).$$

For  $\forall \omega \in \Omega$  the map

$$X(\cdot, \omega) : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d : t \mapsto X(t, \omega).$$

is called sample path

**Definition 3.1.21 (Modification and Indistinguishable).** Let  $X(\cdot)$  and  $Y(\cdot)$  be two stochastic processes, then we say they are modifications of each other if

$$\mathbb{P}(X(t) = Y(t)) = 1 \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

We say they are indistinguishable if

$$\mathbb{P}(X(t) = Y(t) \forall t \in [0, T]) = 1.$$

**Remark.** Note that if two stochastic processes are indistinguishable then they are also always a modification of each other, the reverse is not always true.

**Definition 3.1.22 (History).** Let  $X(t)$  be a real valued process. The  $\sigma$ -algebra

$$\mathcal{U}(t) := \mathcal{U}(X(s) \mid 0 \leq s \leq t).$$

is called the history of  $X$  until time  $t \geq 0$

**Definition 3.1.23 (Martingale).** Let  $X(t)$  be a real valued process and  $\mathbb{E}[|X(t)|] < \infty$  for  $\forall t \geq 0$

1. If  $X(s) = \mathbb{E}[X(t) | \mathcal{U}(s)]$  a.s.  $\forall t \geq s \geq 0$  then  $X(\cdot)$  is called a martingale
2. If  $X(s) \leq \mathbb{E}[X(t) | \mathcal{U}(s)]$  a.s.  $\forall t \geq s \geq 0$  then  $X(\cdot)$  is called a (super) sub-martingale

**Lemma 3.1.4.** Suppose  $X(\cdot)$  is a real-valued martingale and  $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a convex function. If  $\mathbb{E}[|\varphi(X(t))|] < \infty$  for  $\forall t \geq 0$  then  $\varphi(X(\cdot))$  is a sub-martingale

**Theorem 3.1.8 (Martingale-Inequalities).** Assume  $X(\cdot)$  is a process with continuous sample paths a.s.

1. If  $X(\cdot)$  is a sub-martingale then  $\forall \lambda > 0, t \geq 0$  it holds

$$\mathbb{P}(\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} X(s) \geq \lambda) \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbb{E}[X(t)^+].$$

2. If  $X(\cdot)$  is a martingale and  $1 < p < \infty$  then

$$\mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} |X(s)|^p] \leq \left(\frac{p}{p-1}\right)^p \mathbb{E}[|X(t)|^p].$$

**Proof.** Omit □

### 3.1.6 Brownian Motion

**Definition 3.1.24 (Brownian Motion).** A real valued stochastic process  $W(\cdot)$  is called a Brownian motion or Wiener process if

1.  $W(0) = 0$  a.s.
2.  $W(t)$  is continuous a.s.
3.  $W(t) - W(s) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t - s)$  for  $\forall t \geq s \geq 0$
4.  $\forall 0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n, W(t_1), W(t_2) - W(t_1), \dots, W(t_n) - W(t_{n-1})$  are independent

**Remark.** One can derive directly that

$$\mathbb{E}[W(t)] = 0 \quad \mathbb{E}[W^2(t)] = t \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Furthermore based on the above remark for  $t \geq s$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[W(t)W(s)] &= \mathbb{E}[(W(t) - W(s))(W(s))] + \mathbb{E}[(W(s)w(s))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[W(t) - W(s)]\mathbb{E}[W(s)] + \mathbb{E}[W(s)W(s)] \\ &= s. \end{aligned}$$

which means generally

$$\mathbb{E}[W(t)W(s)] = t \wedge s.$$

**Definition 3.1.25.** An  $\mathbb{R}^d$  valued process  $W(\cdot) = (W^1(\cdot), \dots, W^d(\cdot))$  is a  $d$ -dimensional Wiener process (or Brownian motion) if

1.  $W^k(\cdot)$  is a 1-D Wiener process for  $\forall k = 1, \dots, d$
2.  $\mathcal{U}(W^k(t))$ ,  $t \geq 0$   $\sigma$ -algebras are independent  $k = 1, \dots, d$

**Remark.** If  $W(\cdot)$  is a  $d$ -Dimensional Brownian motion, then  $W(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t)$  and for any Borel set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\mathbb{P}(W(t) \in A) = \frac{1}{(2\pi t)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \int_A e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{2t}} dx.$$

**Theorem 3.1.9.** If  $X(\cdot)$  is a given stochastic process with a.s. continuous sample paths and

$$\mathbb{E}[|X(t) - X(s)|^\beta] \leq C|t - s|^{1+\alpha}.$$

Then for  $\forall 0 < \gamma < \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  and  $T > 0$  a.s.  $\omega$ , there  $\exists K = K(\omega, \gamma, T)$  s.t.

$$|X(t, \omega) - X(s, \omega)| \leq K|t - s|^\gamma \quad \forall 0 \leq s, t \leq T.$$

**Proof.** Omit □

An application of this result on Brownian motion is interesting since

$$\mathbb{E}[|W(t) - W(s)|^{2m}] \leq C|t - s|^m.$$

we get immediately

$$W(\cdot, \omega) \in \mathcal{C}^\gamma([0, T]) \quad 0 < \gamma < \frac{m-1}{2m} < \frac{1}{2} \quad \forall m \gg 1.$$

This means that Brownian motions is a.s. path Hölder continuous up to exponent  $\frac{1}{2}$

**Remark.** One can also further prove that the path wise smoothness of Brownian motion can not be better than Hölder continuous. Namely

1.  $\forall \gamma \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$  and a.s.  $\omega, t \mapsto W(t, \omega)$  is nowhere Hölder continuous with exponent  $\gamma$
2.  $\forall$  a.s.  $\omega \in \Omega$  the map  $t \mapsto W(t, \omega)$  is nowhere differentiable and is of infinite variation on each subinterval.

**Definition 3.1.26 (Markov Property).** An  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued process  $X(\cdot)$  is said to have the Markov property, if  $\forall 0 \leq s \leq t$  and  $\forall B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  Borel, it holds

$$\mathbb{P}(X(t) \in B | \mathcal{U}(s)) = \mathbb{P}(X(t) \in B | X(s)) \text{ a.s..}$$

**Remark.** The  $d$ -Dimensional Wiener Process  $W(\cdot)$  has Markov property and

$$\mathbb{P}(W(t) \in B | W(s)) = \frac{1}{(2\pi(t-s))^{\frac{n}{2}}} \int_B e^{-\frac{|x-W(s)|^2}{2(t-s)}} dx \text{ a.s..}$$

### 3.1.7 Convergence of Measure and Random Variables

In the following we include a couple definitions for the convergence of measures and random variables

**Definition 3.1.27** (Weak convergence of measures). The following statements are equivalent

1.  $\mu_n \rightharpoonup \mu$
2. For  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu.$$

3. For  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}$

$$\mu_n(B) \rightarrow \mu(B).$$

4. For  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  uniform continuous it holds

$$\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu.$$

**Definition 3.1.28** (Weak convergence of Random variable). The following statements are equivalent

1.  $X_n$  converges weakly in Law to  $X$

$$X_n \rightharpoonup X.$$

2. For  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X_n)] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[f(x)].$$

1.  $X_n$  converges to  $X$  in probability

2. For  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \varepsilon) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

**Exercise.** Prove that

$$X_n \rightarrow X \text{ a.s.} \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \varepsilon) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \Rightarrow X_n \xrightarrow{(D)} X.$$

**Definition 3.1.29** (Tightness). A set of probability measures  $S \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is called tight, if for  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\exists K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  compact such that

$$\sup_{\mu \in S} \mu(K^c) \leq \varepsilon.$$

**Theorem 3.1.10** (Prokhorov's theorem). A sequence of measures  $(\mu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is tight in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  iff any subsequence has a weakly convergences subsequence.

**Proof.** Refer to literature □



### 3.2 Itô Integral

From now on we denote by  $W(\cdot)$  the 1 -  $D$  Brownian motion on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$

#### Definition 3.2.1.

1.  $\mathcal{W}(t) = \mathcal{U}(W(s)|0 \leq s \leq t)$  is called the history up to  $t$
2. The  $\sigma$ -algebra

$$\mathcal{W}^+(t) := \mathcal{U}(W(s) - W(t)|s \geq t).$$

is called the future of the Brownian motion beyond time  $t$

**Definition 3.2.2 (Non-Anticipating Filtration).** A family  $\mathcal{F}(\cdot)$  of  $\sigma$ -algebras is called non-anticipating (w.r.t  $W(\cdot)$ ) if

1.  $\mathcal{F}(t) \supseteq \mathcal{F}(s)$  for  $\forall t \geq s \geq 0$
2.  $\mathcal{F}(t) \supseteq \mathcal{W}(t)$  for  $\forall t \geq 0$
3.  $\mathcal{F}(t)$  is independent of  $\mathcal{W}^+(t)$  for  $\forall t \geq 0$

A primary example of this is

$$\mathcal{F}(t) := \mathcal{U}(W(s), 0 \leq s \leq t, X_0).$$

where  $X_0$  is a random variable independent of  $\mathcal{W}^+(0)$

**Definition 3.2.3 (Non-Anticipating Process).** A real-valued stochastic process  $G(\cdot)$  is called non-anticipating (w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}(\cdot)$ ) if for  $\forall t \geq 0$ ,  $G(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable

From now on we use  $(\omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}(t), \mathbb{P})$  as a filtered probability space with right continuous filtration  $\mathcal{F}(t) = \bigcap_{s \geq t} \mathcal{F}(s)$ . Note we also use the convention that  $\mathcal{F}(t)$  is complete

#### Definition 3.2.4.

1. A stochastic process is adapted to  $(\mathcal{F}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  if  $X_t$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$  measurable for  $\forall t \geq 0$
2. A stochastic process is progressively measurable w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}(t)$  if

$$X_t(s, \omega) : [0, t] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

is  $\mathcal{B}([0, t]) \times \mathcal{F}(t)$  measurable for  $\forall t > 0$

**Definition 3.2.5.** We denote  $\mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  the space of all real-valued progressively measurable stochastic processes  $G(\cdot)$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G^2 dt \right] < \infty.$$

We denote  $\mathbb{L}^1([0, T])$  the space of all real-valued progressively measurable stochastic processes  $F(\cdot)$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |F| dt \right] < \infty.$$

**Definition 3.2.6 (Step-Process).**  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  is called a step process if there exists a partition of the interval  $[0, T]$  i.e.  $P = \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = T\}$  s.t.

$$G(t) = G_k \quad \forall t_k \leq t < t_{k+1} \quad k = 0, \dots, m-1.$$

where  $G_k$  is an  $\mathcal{F}(t_k)$  measurable random variable

**Remark.** Note that the above definition directly yields the following representation for any step process  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$

$$G(t, \omega) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} G_k(\omega) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[t_k, t_{k+1})}(t).$$

**Definition 3.2.7 ((Simple) Itô Integral).** Let  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  be a step process. Then we define

$$\int_0^T G(t, \omega) dW_t := \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} G_k(\omega) \cdot (W(t_{k+1}, \omega) - W(t_k, \omega)).$$

**Proposition 3.2.1.** Let  $G, H \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  be two step processes, then for  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  it holds

1.  $\int_0^T (aG + bH) dW_t = a \int_0^T G dW_t + b \int_0^T H dW_t$
2.  $\mathbb{E} \int_0^T G dW_t = 0$

**Proof.** (1). This case is easy. Set

$$\begin{aligned} G(t) &= G_k \quad t_k \leq t < t_{k+1} \quad k = 0, \dots, m_1 - 1 \\ H(t) &= H_l \quad t_l \leq t < t_{l+1} \quad l = 0, \dots, m_2 - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $0 \leq t_0 < t_1 < \dots \leq t_n = T$  be the collection of  $t_k$ 's and  $t_l$ 's which together form a new partition of  $[0, T]$  then obviously  $G, H \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  are again step processes on this new partition. We have directly the linearity by definition on the Itô integral for step processes

$$\int_0^T (G + H) dW_t = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (G_j + H_j) \cdot (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)).$$

(2). By definition we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G dW_t \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} G_k (W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)) \right] = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E} [G_k (W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k))].$$

Notice that  $G_k$  by definition is  $\mathcal{F}_{t_k}$  measurable and  $W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)$  is measurable in  $\mathcal{W}^+(t_k)$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}_{t_k}$  is independent of  $\mathcal{W}^+(t_k)$ , we can deduce that  $G_k$  is independent of  $W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)$  which implies

$$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E} [G_k (W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k))] = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E} [G_k] \cdot \mathbb{E} [W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)] = 0.$$

□

**Lemma 3.2.1** ((Simple) Itô isometry). For step processes  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}[(\int_0^T G dW_t)^2] = \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T G^2 dt].$$

**Proof.** By definition we can write

$$\mathbb{E}[(\int_0^T G dW_t)^2] = \sum_{k,j=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E}[G_k G_j (W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k))(W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j))].$$

If  $j < k$ , then  $W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)$  is independent of  $G_k G_j (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j))$ . Therefore

$$\sum_{j < k} \mathbb{E}[\dots] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j > k} \mathbb{E}[\dots] = 0.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(\int_0^T G dW_t)^2] &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E}[G_k^2 (W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k))^2] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E}[G_k^2] \mathbb{E}[(W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k))^2] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mathbb{E}[G_k^2] (t_{k+1} - t_k) \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T G^2 dt]. \end{aligned}$$

□

For general  $\mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  processes we use approximation by step processes to define the Itô integral

**Lemma 3.2.2.** If  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  then there exists a sequence of bounded step processes  $G^n \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |G - G^n|^2 dt] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

**Proof.** We roughly sketch the Idea here

If  $G(\cdot, \omega)$  is a.e. continuous then we can take

$$G^n(t) := G(\frac{k}{n}) \quad \frac{k}{n} \leq t < \frac{k+1}{n} \quad k = 0, \dots, \lfloor nT \rfloor.$$

For general  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  let

$$G^m(t) := \int_0^t m e^{m(s-t)} G(s) ds.$$

Then  $G^m \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$ ,  $t \mapsto G^m(t, \omega)$  is continuous for a.s.  $\omega$  and

$$\int_0^T |G - G^m|^2 dt \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.s..}$$

□

**Definition 3.2.8 (Itô Integral).** If  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$ . Let step processes  $G^n$  be an approximation of  $G$ . Then we define the Itô integral by using the limit

$$I(G) = \int_0^T G dW_t := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T G^n dW_t.$$

where the limit exists in  $L^2(\Omega)$

In order to derive the validity of this definition, one has to check

1. Existence of the limit. This can be obtained by showing that it is a Cauchy sequence, namely by Itô isometry we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T (G^m - G^n) dW_t \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |G^m - G^n|^2 dt \right] \xrightarrow{n, m \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

This implies  $\int_0^T G^n dW_t$  has a limit in  $L^2(\Omega)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

2. The limit is independent of the choice of approximation sequences. Let  $\tilde{G}^n$  be another step process which converges to  $G$ . Then we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |\tilde{G}^n - G^n|^2 dt \right] \leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |G^n - G|^2 dt \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |\tilde{G}^n - G|^2 dt \right].$$

it follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T \tilde{G}^n dW_t - \int_0^T G^n dW_t \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |\tilde{G}^n - G^n|^2 dt \right] \rightarrow 0.$$

By using this approximation, all the properties for step processes can be obtained for general  $\mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  processes

**Theorem 3.2.1 (Properties Of The Itô Integral).** For  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\forall G, H \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  it holds

1.  $\int_0^T (aG + bH) dW_t = a \int_0^T G dW_t + b \int_0^T H dW_t$
2.  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G dW_t \right] = 0$
3.  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G dW_t \cdot \int_0^T H dW_t \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T GH dt \right]$

**Lemma 3.2.3 (Itô Isometry).** For general  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T G dW_t \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G^2 dt \right].$$

**Proof.** Choose step processes  $G_n \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  such that  $G_n \rightarrow G$  (in the sense previously defined) then by Definition 3.2.8 we get

$$\|I(G) - I(G_n)\|_{L^2} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Then using the simple version of Itô isometry one obtains

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T G dW_t \right)^2 \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T G_n dW_t \right)^2 \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T (G_n)^2 dt \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T (G)^2 dt \right].$$

□

**Remark.** The Itô integral is a map from  $\mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  to  $L^2(\Omega)$

**Remark.** For  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  the Itô integral  $\int_0^\tau G dW_t$  with  $0 \leq \tau \leq T$  is a martingale

### 3.2.1 Itô's Formula

**Definition 3.2.9 (Itô Process).** Let  $X(\cdot)$  be a real-valued process given by

$$X(r) = X(s) + \int_s^r F dt + \int_s^r G dW_t.$$

for some  $F \in \mathbb{L}^1([0, T])$  and  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  for  $0 \leq s \leq r \leq T$ , then  $X(\cdot)$  is called Itô process.

Furthermore we say  $X(\cdot)$  has a stochastic differential.

$$dX = F dt + G dW_t \quad \forall 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

**Theorem 3.2.2 (Itô's Formula).** Let  $X(\cdot)$  be an Itô process given by  $dX = F dt + G dW_t$  for some  $F \in \mathbb{L}^1([0, T])$  and  $G \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$ . Assume  $u : \mathbb{R} \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous and  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  exists and are continuous. Then  $Y(t) := u(X(t), t)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} dY &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dX + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} G^2 dt \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} F + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} G^2 \right) dt + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} G dW_t. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the differential form of the Itô formula is understood as an abbreviation of the following integral form, for all  $0 \leq s < r \leq T$

$$\begin{aligned} u(X(r), r) - u(X(s), s) &= \int_s^r \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(X(t), t) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(X(t), t) F(t) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(X(t), t) G^2(t) \right) dt \\ &\quad + \int_s^r \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(X(t), t) G(t) dW_t. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** The proof is split into five steps

**Step 1.** First we prove two simple cases. If  $X(t) = W_t$  then

1.  $d(W_t)^2 = 2W_t dW_t + dt$
2.  $d(tW_t) = W_t dt + t dW_t$

For (1) it is sufficient to prove  $W_t^2 - W_0^2 = \int_0^t 2W_s dW_s + t$  a.s. By definition of Itô integral,

for a.s.  $\omega \in \Omega$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^t 2W_s dW_s &= 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} W(t_k^n) (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} W(t_k^n) (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} W(t_{k+1}^n) (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) \right] \\
 &= - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_k^n))^2 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n))^2 \right] \\
 &= - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 + (W(t))^2 - (W(0))^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

where for any fixed  $n$ , the partition of  $[0, T]$  is given by  $0 \leq t_0^n < t_1^n < \dots < t_n^n = T$  and  $t_k^n - t_{k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n}$ . It remains to prove that the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 - t = 0.$$

holds true. Actually

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 - (t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n) \right)^2 \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \left( (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 - (t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \cdot \left( (W(t_{l+1}^n) - W(t_l^n))^2 - (t_{l+1}^n - t_l^n) \right) \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

The terms with  $k \neq l$  vanish because of the independence. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left( (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2 - (t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n) \right)^2 \right] \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n)^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \frac{(W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n))^2}{t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n)^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \left( \frac{W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)}{\sqrt{t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n}} \right)^2 - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &\leq C \cdot \frac{t^2}{n} \\
 &\rightarrow 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $Y = \frac{W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)}{\sqrt{t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n}} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . Hence  $\mathbb{E}[(Y^2 - 1)^2]$  is bounded by a constant  $C$

For (2) : It is sufficient to prove  $tW_t - 0W_0 = \int_0^t W_s ds + \int_0^t s dW_s$ . Actually we have

$$\int_0^t s dW_s = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t_k^n (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) \text{ a.s..}$$

and for a.s.  $\omega$  the standard Riemann sum

$$\int_0^t W_s ds = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} W(t_{k+1}^n)(t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n).$$

The summation of the above integrals yields

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t s dW_s + \int_0^t W_s ds &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t_k^n (W(t_{k+1}^n) - W(t_k^n)) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} W(t_{k+1}^n)(t_{k+1}^n - t_k^n) \\ &= W(t) \cdot t - 0 \cdot W(0). \end{aligned}$$

**Step 2.** Now let us prove the Itô product rule. If

$$dX_1 = F_1 dt + G_1 dW_t \quad \text{and} \quad dX_2 = F_2 dt + G_2 dW_t.$$

for some  $G_i \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  and  $F_i \in \mathbb{L}^1([0, T])$   $i = 1, 2$ , then

$$d(X_1 X_2) = X_2 dX_1 + X_1 dX_2 + G_1 G_2 dt = (X_2 F_1 + X_1 F_2 + G_1 G_2) dt + (X_2 G_1 + X_1 G_2) dW_t.$$

where the above should be understood as the integral equation.

(1) We prove the case  $F_i, G_i$  are time independent. Assume for simplicity  $X_1(0) = X_2(0)$  then it follows that

$$X_i(t) = F_i t G_i W(t).$$

Then it holds a.s. that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^t (X_2 dX_1 + X_1 dX_2 + G_1 G_2 ds) \\ &= \int_0^t (X_2 F_1 + X_1 F_2) ds + \int_0^t (X_2 G_1 + X_1 G_2) dW_s + \int_0^t G_1 G_2 ds \\ &= \int_0^t (F_1(F_2 s + G_2 W(s)) + F_2(F_1 s + G_1 W(s))) ds + G_1 G_2 t \\ &= \int_0^t (G_1(F_2 s + G_2 W(s)) + G_2(F_1 s + G_1 W(s))) dW_s \\ &= G_1 G_2 t F_1 F_2 t^2 + (F_1 G_2 + F_2 G_1) \left( \int_0^t W(s) ds + \int_0^t s dW_s \right) \\ &\quad + 2G_1 G_2 \int_0^t W(s) dW_s. \end{aligned}$$

using (1) and (2) from Step 1. It continues to hold that

$$G_1 G_2 (W(t))^2 + F_1 F_2 t^2 + (F_1 G_2 + F_2 G_1) t W(t) = X_1(t) + X_2(t).$$

Therefore Itô formula is true when  $F_i, G_i$  are time independent random variables.

(2) If  $F_i, G_i$  are step processes, then we apply the above formula in each sub-interval

(3) For  $F_i \in \mathbb{L}^1([0, T])$  and  $G_i \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$ , we take the step process approximation of them, namely

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |F_i^n - F_i| dt \right] \rightarrow 0 \quad \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |G_i^n - G_i|^2 dt \right] \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty), i = 1, 2.$$

Notice that for each Itô process given by step processes

$$X_i^n(t) = X_i(0) + \int_0^t F_i^n ds + \int_0^t G_i^n dW_s.$$

the product rule holds, i.e.

$$X_1^n(t)X_2^n(t) - X_1(0)X_2(0) = \int_0^t (X_1^n(s)dX_2^n(s) + X_2^n(s)dX_1^n(s) + G_1G_2ds).$$

**Step 3.** If  $u(X) = X^m$  for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  then we claim

$$d(X^m) = mX^{m-1}dX + \frac{1}{2}m(m-1)X^{m-2}G^2dt.$$

We prove this by induction.

**IA** Note that  $m = 2$  is given by the product rule.

**IV** Suppose the formula holds for  $m - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$

**IS**  $m - 1 \rightarrow m$  then

$$\begin{aligned} d(X^m) &= d(XX^{m-1}) = Xd(X^{m-1}) + X^{m-1}dX + (m-1)X^{m-2}G^2dt \\ &\stackrel{\text{IV}}{=} X \left( (m-1)X^{m-2}dX + \frac{1}{2}(m-1)(m-2)X^{m-3}G^2dt \right) \\ &\quad + X^{m-1}dX + (m-1)X^{m-2}G^2dt \\ &= mX^{m-1}dX + (m-1)\left(\frac{m}{2} - 1 + 1\right)X^{m-2}G^2dt. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the statement holds for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$

**Step 4.** If  $u(X, t) = f(X)g(t)$  where  $f$  and  $g$  are polynomials  $f(X) = X^m$ ,  $g(t) = t^n$ . Then by the product rule we have

$$d(u(X, t)) = d(f(X)g(t)) = f(X)dg + gdf(X) + (G_1 \cdot 0)dt.$$

by step 3 this is equal to

$$f(X)g'(t)dt + gf'(X)dX + \frac{1}{2}f''(X)G^2dt = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}dt + \frac{\partial u}{\partial X}dX + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial X^2}G^2dt.$$

Note the Itô formula is also true if  $u(X, t) = \sum_{i=1}^m g_m(t)f_m(X)$  where  $f_m$  and  $g_m$  are polynomials

**Step 5.** For  $u$  continuous such that  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$ ,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  exists and are also continuous, then there exists polynomial sequences  $u^n$  s.t.

$$u^n \rightarrow u, \quad \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial x} \rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u^n}{\partial x^2} \rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}.$$

uniformly on compact  $K \subset \mathbb{R} \times [0, T]$ . Since

$$u^n(X(t), t) - u^n(X(0), 0) = \int_0^t \left( \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial x}F + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 u^n}{\partial x^2}G^2 \right) dr + \int_0^t \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial x}GdW_r \quad \text{a.s..}$$

then by taking the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$  Itô's formula is proven  $\square$

**Remark.** One can get the existence of the polynomial sequence in Step 5, by using Hermetian polynomials

$$H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{\frac{x^2}{2}} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}.$$

**Exercise.** If  $u \in C^\infty$ ,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \in C_b$  then prove Step 4  $\Rightarrow$  Step 5

Use Taylor expansion and use the uniform convergence of the Taylor series on compact support



### 3.2.2 Multi-Dimensional Itô processes and Formula

We shortly extend the definition of Itô processes and the Itô Formula to the multi-dimensional case, we include the dimensionality as a subscript for clearness.

**Definition 3.2.10 (Multi-Dimensional Itô's Integral).** We define the  $n$ -dimensional Itô integral for  $G \in \mathbb{L}_{n,m}^2([0, T])$ ,  $G_{ij} \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$   $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq m$

$$\int_0^T G dW_t = \left( \int_0^T G_{ij} dW_t^j \right)_{n \times 1}.$$

With the Properties

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T G dW_t \right] &= 0 \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \int_0^T G dW_t \right)^2 \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^T |G|^2 dt \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Where  $|G|^2 = \sum_{i,j}^{n,m} |G_{ij}|^2$

**Definition 3.2.11 (Multi-Dimensional Itô process).** We define the  $n$ -dimensional Itô process as

$$\begin{aligned} X(t) &= X(s) + \int_s^t F_{n \times 1}(r) dr + \int_0^t G_{n \times m}(r) dW_{m \times 1}(r) \\ dX^i &= F^i dt + \sum_{j=1}^m G^{ij} dW_t^j \quad 1 \leq i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.2.3 (Multi Dimensional Itô's formula).** We define the  $n$ -dimensional Itô's formula for  $u \in \mathcal{C}^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T], \mathbb{R})$  by

$$\begin{aligned} du(X(t), t) &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(X(t), t) dt + \nabla u(X(t), t) \cdot dX(t) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \sum \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial X_i \partial X_j}(X(t), t) \sum_{l=1}^m G^{il} G^{il} dt. \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 3.2.2.** For real valued processes  $X_1, X_2$

$$\begin{cases} dX_1 = F_1 dt + G_1 dW_1 \\ dX_2 = F_2 dt + G_2 dW_2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow d(X_1, X_2) = X dX_2 + X_2 dX_1 + \sum_{k=1}^m G_1^k G_2^k dt.$$

**Definition 3.2.12 (Multiplication Rules).** Formal multiplication rules for SDEs

$$(dt)^2 = 0, \quad dt dW^k = 0, \quad dW^k dW^l = \delta_{kl} dt$$

**Remark.** Using the above we can simplify Itô's formula as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 du(X, t) &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dt + \nabla_X u \cdot dX + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial X_i \partial X_j} dX^i dX^j \\
 &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dt + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial X^i} F^i dt + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial X_i} \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} dW_k \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial X_i \partial X_j} \left( F^i dt + \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} dW_k \right) \left( F^j dt + \sum_{l=1}^m G^{jl} dW_l \right) \\
 &= \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + F \cdot \nabla u + \frac{1}{2} H \cdot D^2 u \right) dt + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial X_i} \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} dW_k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned}
 dX^i &= F^i dt + \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} dW_k \\
 H_{ij} &= \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} G^{jk}, \quad A \cdot B = \sum_{i,j=1}^m A_{ij} B_{ij}.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** A typical example for  $G$  is

$$G^T G = \sigma I_{n \times n}.$$

**Remark.** If  $F$  and  $G$  are deterministic

$$dX = F(t)dt + GdW_t.$$

Then for arbitrary test function  $u \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  we have by Itô's formula

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x(t)) - u(x(0)) &= \int_0^t \nabla u(x(s)) \cdot F(s) ds + \int_0^t \frac{1}{2} (G^T G) : D^2 u(x(s)) ds \\
 &\quad + \int_0^t \nabla u(x(s)) \cdot G(s) dW_s.
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\mu(s, \cdot)$  be the law of  $X(s)$  then by taking the expectation of the above integral

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u(x) d\mu(s, x) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u(x) d\mu_0(x) &= \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \nabla u(x) \cdot F(s) d\mu(s, x) \\
 &\quad + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} (G^T(s) G(s)) : D^2 u(x) \cdot d\mu(s, x) \\
 &\quad + 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.2.13** (Parabolic Operator).

$$\partial_t u - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n D_{ij} \left( \sum_{k=1}^m G^{ik} G^{kj} \right) \mu + \nabla \cdot (F\mu) = 0.$$

**Example.** If  $F = 0$   $m = n$  and  $G = \sqrt{2}I_{n \times n}$  then

$$dX = \sqrt{2}dW_t.$$

And the law  $\mu$  of  $X$  fulfills the heat equation i.e

$$\dot{\mu}t - \Delta\mu = 0.$$

### 3.3 Relation To The Mean Field Limit

To find out how all this translates to our Mean field Limit we consider the particle system given by

$$\begin{cases} dX_i &= \frac{1}{N} \sum K(x_i, x_j) dt + \sqrt{2} dW_t^1 & 1 \leq i \leq N \quad N \rightarrow \infty \\ X_i(0) &= x_{0,i} \\ \mu_N(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{X_i(t)} \end{cases}.$$

And denote

$$\mathbb{X}_N = F(\mathbb{X}_N)dt + \sqrt{2}dW_t.$$

At time  $t = 0$  the  $X_i$  are independent random variables, at any time  $t > 0$  they are dependent and the particles have joint law

$$(X_1(t), \dots, X_N(t)) \sim u(X_1, \dots, X_n).$$

Where  $u \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^{dN})$ , then by Itô's formula we get for arbitrary test function  $\forall \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{dN})$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\mathbb{X}_N(t)) &= \varphi(\mathbb{X}_N(0)) + \int_0^t \nabla \varphi \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^N K(X_i, X_j) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \Delta \mathbb{X}_N \varphi dt + \int_0^t \sqrt{2} \nabla \varphi dW_t^i. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the expectation on both sides, then the last term disappears by definition of Itô processes

$$\partial_t - \sum_{i=1}^N \Delta_i u + \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{X_i} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N K(X_i, X_j) u \right) = 0.$$

Now consider the Mean-Field-Limit, if the joint particle law can be rewritten as the tensor product of a single  $\bar{u}$

$$u(X_1, \dots, X_N) = \bar{u}^{\otimes N}.$$

the equation simplifies

$$\partial_t - \sum_{i=1}^N \Delta_i u + \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{X_i} (\bar{u}^{\otimes N} \star \bar{u}(X_i)) = 0.$$

### 3.4 Solving Stochastic Differential Equations

The setup of the following section will be the following

**Definition 3.4.1 (Basic Setup).** We consider the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , With a  $m$ - $D$  dimensional Brownian motion  $W(\cdot)$ . Let  $X_0$  be an  $n$ - $D$  dimensional random variable independent of  $W(0)$ , then our Filtration is given by

$$\mathcal{F}_t = \sigma(X_0) \cup \sigma(W(s), 0 \leq s \leq t).$$

**Definition 3.4.2 (SDE).** Given the above basic setup we are trying to solve equations of the type

$$\begin{cases} d \underbrace{X_t}_{n \times 1} &= \underbrace{b}_{n \times 1}(X_t, t)dt + \underbrace{B}_{n \times m}(X_t, t)d \underbrace{W_t}_{m \times 1} & 0 \leq t \leq T \\ X_t|_{t=0} &= X_0 & X : (t, \omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \end{cases}.$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} b &: \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \\ B &: \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T] \rightarrow M^{n \times m}. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark.** The differential equation should always be understood as the Integral equation

$$X_t - X_0 = \int_0^t b(X_s, s)ds + \int_0^t B(X_s, s)dW_s.$$

**Definition 3.4.3 (Solution).** We say an  $\mathbb{R}^n$ -valued stochastic process  $X(\cdot)$  is a solution of the SDE if

1.  $X_t$  is progressively measurable w.r.t  $\mathcal{F}_t$
2. (drift)  $F := b(X_t, t) \in \mathbb{L}_n^1([0, T]) \Leftrightarrow \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[F_s]ds < \infty$
3. (diffusion)  $G := B(X_t, t) \in \mathbb{L}_{n \times m}^2([0, T]) \Leftrightarrow \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[|G_s|^2]ds < \infty$

**Remark.** (1) implies that for any given  $t \in [0, T]$   $X_t$  is random variable measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_t$ .

The goal from now on is to prove the existence and uniqueness of such solutions, for that we first define what it means for a solution to be unique

**Definition 3.4.4.** For two solution  $X, \tilde{X}$  we say they are unique if

$$\mathbb{P}(X(t) = \tilde{X}(t), \forall t \in [0, T]) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| = 0 \text{ a.s..}$$

i.e they are indistinguishable.

**Assumption D.**

Let  $b : \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $B : \mathbb{R}^n \times [0, T] \rightarrow M^{n \times m}$ , be continuous (in  $(t, x)$ ) and Lipschitz continuous with respect to  $x$  for some  $L > 0$ . Furthermore assume they fulfill the

linear growth condition

$$|b(x, t)| + |B(x, t)| \leq L(1 + |x|).$$

**Remark.** Note the Lipschitz continuity from [Assumption D](#) implies that there  $\exists L > 0$  such that

$$|b(x, t) - b(\tilde{x}, t)| + |B(x, t) - B(\tilde{x}, t)| \leq L|x - \tilde{x}|.$$

**Theorem 3.4.1 (Existence and Uniqueness of Solution).** Let [Assumption D](#) hold for an ?? and assume the initial data  $X_0$  is square integrable and independent of  $W^t(0)$ . Then there exists a unique solution  $X \in \mathbb{L}_n^2([0, T])$  of the [SDE](#).

**Proof.** We begin with the uniqueness prove.

Suppose we have two solutions  $X$  and  $\tilde{X}$  of the SDE then the goal is to show that they are indistinguishable, then by using the definition of a solution

$$X_t - \tilde{X}_t = \int_0^t (b(X_s, s) - b(\tilde{X}_s, s))ds + \int_0^t B(X_s, s) - B(\tilde{X}_s, s)dW_s.$$

If the diffusion term were 0 we could use a Grönwall type inequality and get the uniqueness.

Instead we consider the square of the above and apply Itô's isometry. Note that generally  $|a + b|^2 \not\leq (a^2 + b^2)$  but  $|a + b|^2 \leq 2(a^2 + b^2)$

$$|X_t - \tilde{X}_t|^2 \leq 2 \left| \int_0^t (b(X_s, s) - b(\tilde{X}_s, s))ds \right|^2 + \left| \int_0^t B(X_s, s) - B(\tilde{X}_s, s)dW_s \right|^2.$$

Now consider the following

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[|X_t - \tilde{X}_t|^2] &\leq 2\mathbb{E}\left[\left|\int_0^t (b(X_s, s) - b(\tilde{X}_s, s))ds\right|^2\right] \\ &\quad + 2\mathbb{E}\left[\left|\int_0^t B(X_s, s) - B(\tilde{X}_s, s)dW_s\right|^2\right] \\ &\stackrel{\text{Höld.}}{\leq} 2t\mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^t |b(X_s, s) - b(\tilde{X}_s, s)|^2 ds\right] + 2\mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^t |B(X_s, s) - B(\tilde{X}_s, s)|^2 ds\right] \\ &\stackrel{\text{Lip.}}{\leq} 2(t+1)L^2\mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^t |X_s - \tilde{X}_s|^2 ds\right] \\ &= 2(t+1)L^2 \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[|X_s - \tilde{X}_s|^2] ds \end{aligned}$$

Where the following Hölders inequality was used

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_0^t 1|f|ds\right)^2 &\leq \left(\int_0^t 1^2 ds\right)^{\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2} \cdot \left(\int_0^t |f|^2 ds\right)^{\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2} \\ &\leq t \int_0^t |f|^2 ds. \end{aligned}$$

Now by Gronwall's inequality we have

$$\mathbb{E}[|X_t - \tilde{X}_t|^2] = 0.$$

i.e  $X_t$  and  $\tilde{X}_t$  are modifications of each other and it remains to show that they are actually indistinguishable.

Define

$$A_t = \{\omega \in \Omega \mid |X_t - \tilde{X}_t| > 0\} \quad \mathbb{P}(A_t) = 0.$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\max_{t \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, T]} |X_t - \tilde{X}_t| > 0) = \mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_{t_k}) = 0.$$

Now since  $X_t(\omega)$  is continuous in  $t$  we can extend the maximum over the entire interval  $[0, T]$

$$\max_{t \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, T]} |X_t - \tilde{X}_t| = \max_{t \in [0, T]} |X_t - \tilde{X}_t|.$$

Then the probability over the entire interval must also be 0

$$\mathbb{P}(\max_{t \in [0, T]} |X_t - \tilde{X}_t| > 0) = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } X_t = \tilde{X}_t \quad \forall t \text{ a.s..}$$

This concludes the uniqueness proof, for existence similar to the deterministic case we use Picard iteration.

First define the Picard iteration by

$$\begin{aligned} X_t^0 &= X_0 \\ &\vdots \\ X_t^{n+1} &= X_0 + \int_0^t b(X_s^n, s) ds + \int_0^t B(X_s^n, s) dW_s. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $d(t)^n = \mathbb{E}[|X_t^{n+1} - X_t^n|^2]$ , then we claim by induction that  $d^n(t) \leq \frac{(Mt)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$  for some  $M > 0$ .

**IA:** For  $n = 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(t)^0 &= \mathbb{E}[|X_t^1 - X_t^0|^2] \leq \mathbb{E}[2(\int_0^t b(X_0, s) ds)^2 + 2(\int_0^t B(X_0, s) dW_s)^2] \\ &\leq 2t\mathbb{E}[\int_0^t L^2(1 + X_0^2) ds] + 2\mathbb{E}[\int_0^t L^2(1 + X_0) ds] \\ &\leq tM \quad \text{where } M \geq 2L^2(1 + \mathbb{E}[X_0^2]) + 2L^2(1 + T). \end{aligned}$$

**IV:** suppose the assumption holds for  $n - 1 \in \mathbb{N}$

**IS:** Take  $n - 1 \rightarrow n$  then

$$\begin{aligned} d^n(t) &= \mathbb{E}[|X_t^{n+1} - X_t^n|^2] \leq 2L^2T\mathbb{E}[\int_0^t |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds] + 2L^2\mathbb{E}[\int_0^t |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds] \\ &\stackrel{\text{IV}}{\leq} 2L^2(1 + T) \int_0^t \frac{(Ms)^n}{n!} ds \\ &= 2L^2(1 + t) \frac{M^n}{(n+1)!} t^{n+1} \leq \frac{M^{n+1}t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}. \end{aligned}$$

Because of  $\Omega$  we cannot use completeness to argue the convergence and instead are forced

to use a similar argument as in the uniqueness proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^{n+1} - X_t^n|^2] \\
 & \leq \mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} 2 \left| \int_0^t b(X_s^n, s) - b(X_s^{n-1}, s) ds \right|^2 + 2 \left| \int_0^t B(X_s^n, s) - B(X_s^{n-1}, s) dW_s \right|^2] \\
 & \leq 2TL^2 \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds] + 2\mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} \left| \int_0^t B(X_s^n, s) - B(X_s^{n-1}, s) ds W_s \right|^2] \\
 & \leq 2TL^2 \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds] + 8\mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |B(X_s^n, s) - B(X_s^{n-1}, s)|^2 ds] \\
 & \leq C \cdot \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds].
 \end{aligned}$$

Where we used the following Doob's martingales  $L^p$  inequality

$$\mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq s \leq t} |X(s)|^p] \leq \left(\frac{p}{p-1}\right)^p \mathbb{E}[|X(t)|^p].$$

By Picard iteration we know the distance  $d^n(t) = \mathbb{E}[|X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2]$  is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
 C \cdot \mathbb{E}[\int_0^T |X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2 ds] &= C \cdot \int_0^T \mathbb{E}[|X_s^n - X_s^{n-1}|^2] ds \\
 &\leq \int_0^T \frac{(Mt)^n}{(n)!} \\
 &= C \frac{M^n T^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Further more we get with a Markov's inequality

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^{n+1} - X_t^n|^2 > \frac{1}{2^n})}_{A_n} &\leq 2^{2n} \mathbb{E}[\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^{n+1} - X_t^n|^2] \\
 &\leq 2^{2n} \frac{CM^n T^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then by Borel-Cantelli

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_n) \leq C \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{2n} \frac{(MT)^n}{(n+1)!} < \infty \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m) = 0.$$

i.e  $\exists B \subset \Omega$  with  $\mathbb{P}(B) = 1$  s.t  $\forall \omega \in B$ ,  $\exists N(\omega) > 0$  s.t

$$\max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^{n+1}(\omega) - X_t^n(\omega)| \leq 2^{-n}.$$

In fact we can give  $B$  directly by

$$\left( \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m \right)^C = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m^C = B.$$

then for each  $\omega \in B$  we can make a Cauchy sequence argument by

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X_t^{n+k} - X_t^n| &\leq \sum_{j=1}^k \max |X_t^{n+j} - X_t^{n+(j-1)}| \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{2^{n+j-1}} \\ &< \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

By the above we get

$$X_t^n(\omega) \rightarrow X_t(\omega) \quad \text{uniform in } t \in [0, T].$$

Therefore for a.s.  $\omega$ , take the limit in the iteration and obtain

$$X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t b(X_s, s) ds + \int_0^t B(X_s, s) dW_s.$$

It remains to show that  $X_t \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  note that  $X_0 \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  already and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[|X_t^{n+1}|^2] &\leq C(1 + \mathbb{E}[|X_0|^2]) + C \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[|X_s^n|^2] ds \\ &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^n C^{j+1} \frac{t^{j+1}}{(j+1)!} (1 + \mathbb{E}[|X_0|^2]) \\ &\leq C \cdot e^{Ct}. \end{aligned}$$

Where we used  $\mathbb{E}[X_0] = 0$ , the linear growth condition for the first integral and Itô isometry for the second and then again the linear growth condition

Using the above we conclude by Fatous's lemma

$$\mathbb{E}[|X_t|^2] = \mathbb{E}[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |X_t^{n+1}|] \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[|X_t^{n+1}|^2] \leq C \cdot e^{Ct}.$$

Therefore

$$\int_0^T \mathbb{E}[|X(t)|^2] \leq CT \cdot e^{CT}.$$

□

**Remark.** One should remember that if the diffusion term  $B(X_t, t)$  is 0 then we get a unique solution iff  $b(X_t, t)$  is Lipschitz

**Theorem 3.4.2 (Higher Moments Estimate).** Assumptions for  $b$ ,  $B$  and  $X_0$  are the same as before, if in addition

$$\mathbb{E}[|X_0|^{2p}] < \infty.$$

for some  $p \geq 1$  then  $\forall t \in [0, T]$

$$\mathbb{E}[|X_t|^{2p}] \leq C(1 + \mathbb{E}[|X_0|^{2p}])e^{Ct}.$$

and  $\mathbb{E}[|X_t - X_0|^{2p}] \leq C(1 + \mathbb{E}[|X_0|^{2p}])e^{Ct}t^p$

**Proof.** Left as an exercise

□



### 3.5 Stochastic Mean Field Limit

First recall the metric we use to talk about distance between two measures i.e the Wasserstein Distance

**Definition 3.5.1 (Wasserstein Distance).** For all  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , ( $p \geq 1$ ) the Wasserstein Distance of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  is given by

$$W^p(\mu, \nu) = \text{dist}_{MK,p}(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left( \int \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} |x - y|^p \pi(dx dy) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

Where

$$\Pi(\mu, \nu) = \left\{ \pi \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d) : \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times E} \pi(dx, dy) = \nu(E) \right. \\ \left. \int_{E \times \mathbb{R}^d} \pi(dx, dy) = \mu(E) \right\}.$$

**Remark.** Note that

$$W_1(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) \leq W_2(\mu, \tilde{\mu}).$$

follows naturally by Hölders inequality, in fact this holds for all  $p > q$

$$W_q(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) \leq W_p(\mu, \tilde{\mu}).$$

**Remark.** Let  $(\mu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{P}_p(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be a sequence of measures, then following are equivalent

1.  $W_p(\mu_n, \mu) \rightarrow 0$
2. For  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq C(1 + |x|^p)$

$$\int f d\mu_n \rightarrow \int f d\mu.$$

3.  $\mu_n \rightharpoonup \mu$

### 3.5.1 Stochastic Particle System

Let us begin by shortly defining the stochastic particle systems we study.

**Definition 3.5.2 (Empirical Measure (Stochastic version)).** For random variables  $(X_i)_{i \leq N}$  we define the (stochastic) empirical measure by

$$\mu_N(\omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{X_i(\omega)}.$$

Then our stochastic particle system is given by,

**Definition 3.5.3 (Stochastic Particle System ).** For  $N$  interacting particles  $(X^1, \dots, X^N)$  with i.i.d initial data  $(X_i^N(0))_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}} \subset L^2(\Omega)$  and law  $\mu_0$

$$(\text{SDEN}) \begin{cases} dX_i^N(t) &= b(X_i^N(t), \mu_N(t))dt + \sigma(X_i(t)^N, \mu_N(t))dW_t^i \\ X_i^N(0) &= X_{i,0}^N \end{cases}.$$

Where  $\mu_N$  is the stochastic empirical measure and note  $\mathcal{L}(X_0) = \mu_0$

**Remark.** The dimensions for our Stochastic-Particle-System are the same as in [Definition 3.4.2](#)

**Remark.** For our initial measure we already have

$$\mathbb{E}[W_2^2(\mu_N(0), \mu_0)] \rightarrow 0.$$

### 3.5.2 I.I.D Case

Let us shortly consider the convergence of the empirical measure in the case where our random variables are i.i.d, note in the mean field limit this is only the case for our initial data all particles at  $t > 0$  are not i.i.d.

**Corollary.** If  $(X_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}}$  are i.i.d random variables with law  $\mu_X$  then  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds that

$$\mathbb{P}(\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int f d\mu_N = \int f d\mu) = 1.$$

We can actually prove the stronger statement that the choice of  $f \in \mathcal{C}_b$  does not matter for the convergence i.e. we can pull the function selection into the probability similarly to the difference between modification and indistinguishable.

**Corollary.** If  $(X_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}}$  are i.i.d random variables with law  $\mu_X$  then it holds that

$$\mathbb{P}(\mu_N \rightharpoonup \mu) = 1.$$

i.e

$$\mathbb{P}(\forall f \in \mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d) : \int f d\mu_N \rightarrow \int f d\mu) = 1.$$

**Proof.** Needs revision, this should only work for  $\mathcal{C}_b(K)$   $K$  compact in my opinion

The proof relies mainly on showing that  $\mathcal{C}_b(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is separable for compact support we can use the density of the polynomials. Then we can go from arbitrary  $f$  to the union over a countable sequence of  $f$  and then argue through separability that this is equal to the entire space.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.1 (General Dominated Convergence).** Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset L^p$  be a sequence of random variables then the following are equivalent

1.  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  are uniformly integrable and  $X_n \rightarrow X$   $\mathbb{P}$ -a.s.
2.  $\|X_n - X\| \rightarrow 0$  for some  $X \in L^p$

**Proof.** □

**Remark.** In general a sequence  $(X_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is called uniform integrability means that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{E}[|X_i| \cdot \mathbb{1}_{|X_i| \geq r}] = 0.$$

**Lemma 3.5.2 (De la Vallée Poussin Criterion).** A sequence of random variables  $(X_i)$  is uniformly integrable iff there  $\exists \varphi$  convex with

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} = \infty.$$

s.t.

$$\sup_i \mathbb{E}[\varphi(|X_i|)] < \infty.$$

**Proof.** As the construction of  $\varphi$  is heavily technical we refer to xyz □

**Corollary.** If  $(X_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}}$  are i.i.d random variables with law  $\mu_X$  and  $\int |x|^p \mu < \infty$  i.e  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$W_p(\mu_N, \mu) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.s..}$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}[W_p^p(\mu_N, \mu)] \rightarrow 0.$$

Where

$$\mu_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{X_i}.$$

**Proof.** Remember that the following convergences are equivalent

1.  $W_p(\mu_N, \mu) \rightarrow 0$
2.  $\mu_N \rightharpoonup \mu$  and  $\int |x|^p d\mu_N \rightarrow \int |x|^p d\mu$
3.  $\mu_n \rightharpoonup \mu$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_r \int_{|x| \geq r} |x|^p d\mu_N = 0$

Note that if we fix a.s.  $\omega$  then we can treat this as the deterministic case.

We already know that

$$\mu_N \rightharpoonup \mu \text{ a.s..}$$

since  $(X_i)$  are i.i.d then  $|X_i|^p$  is also i.i.d and we use the Law of large numbers

$$\int |x|^p d\mu_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |X_i|^p \xrightarrow{L.L.N.} \mathbb{E}[|X_i|^p] < \infty.$$

And we get a.s. that  $W_p(\mu_N, \mu) \rightarrow 0$

For the stronger statement

$$\mathbb{E}[W^p(\mu_n, \mu)] \rightarrow 0.$$

we first note that

$$\begin{aligned} W_p^p(\mu_N, \mu) &\leq 2^{p-1}(W_p^p(\mu_N, \delta_0) + W_p^p(\delta_0, \mu)) \\ &= 2^{p-1}\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |X_i|^p + W_p^p(\delta_0, \mu)\right). \end{aligned}$$

then it is sufficient to show the uniform integrability of the first part

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |X_i|^p.$$

Since  $|X_i|^p$  is integrable then there exists a convex function  $\varphi$  with  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(x)}{x} = \infty$  and

$$\mathbb{E}[\varphi(|X_i|^p)] < \infty.$$

Since  $\varphi$  is convex we apply Jensen's inequality to get

$$\sup_N \mathbb{E}\left[\varphi\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |X_i|^p\right)\right] \stackrel{\text{Jen.}}{\leq} \sup_N \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}[\varphi(|X_i|^p)] = \mathbb{E}[\varphi(|X_i|^p)] < \infty.$$

Finally [Lemma 3.5.2](#) implies the uniform integrability and we conclude by [Lemma 3.5.1](#)

$$\mathbb{E}[W_p^p(\mu_N, \mu)] \rightarrow 0.$$

□

All the above statement only apply to arbitrary i.i.d sequences of random variables, but in our Mean-Field-Limit we only get the i.i.d property at  $t = 0$  such that we seek to prove that even as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we nonetheless get a convergence.

**Remark.** Formally our goal is to prove the convergence

$$\mathbb{E}[\sup_t W_2^2(\mu_N(t), \mu(t))] \rightarrow 0.$$

### 3.5.3 Toy Example

Let us first consider a simple stochastic particle system given by

**Assumption E.** Assume drift  $b : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{P}^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and diffusion  $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{P}^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$  are Lipschitz continuous i.e.  $\exists L > 0$  s.t.

$$|b(X, \mu) - b(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mu})| + |\sigma(X, \mu) - \sigma(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mu})| \leq L \left( |X - \tilde{X}| + W_2(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) \right).$$

**Example (Stochastic Toy Model).** Let our particle system be given as in [Definition 3.5.3](#) with drift and diffusion for  $\nabla V \in \text{Lip}$

$$\begin{aligned} b(X, \mu) &= \nabla V \star \mu(X) \\ \sigma(X, \mu) &= \sigma_0 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise.** Think about what happens if the initial data is i.i.d but the diffusion term is 0, can you prove a convergence ?

**Theorem 3.5.1 (Convergence Of Toy Model For Fixed  $N$ ).** Let our (SDEN) be given with drift and diffusion as above and assume they fulfill [Assumption E](#), then for fixed  $N$  we get a unique strong solution in  $\mathbb{L}_{dN}^2([0, T])$

**Proof.** First we note that by [Assumption E](#) we get

$$\begin{aligned} |b(X, \mu) - b(\tilde{X}, \tilde{\mu})| &= \left| \int \nabla V(X - y) d\mu(y) - \int \nabla V(\tilde{X} - y) d\tilde{\mu}(y) \right| \\ &\geq \int |\nabla V(X - y) - \nabla V(\tilde{X} - y)| d\mu(y) + \left| \int \nabla V(X - y) (d\mu(y) - d\tilde{\mu}(y)) \right| \\ &\stackrel{\text{Lip.}}{\leq} L \cdot |X - \tilde{X}| + LW_1(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) \\ &\leq L \cdot (|X - \tilde{X}| + W_2(\mu, \tilde{\mu})). \end{aligned}$$

Let use the notation  $\mathbb{X} = (X_1^N, \dots, X_N^N) \in \mathbb{R}^{dn}$  and  $\mathbb{W} = (W^1, \dots, W^N)$  then

$$\begin{aligned} B(\mathbb{X}) &= \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ b(X_i^N, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{X_k}) \end{pmatrix}_{dN} \\ \Sigma(\mathbb{X})_{dN \times mN} &: \text{diag}(\Sigma(\mathbb{X})) = \left( \delta(X_1, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{X_k}), \dots, \delta(X_N, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{X_k}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then our SDE is given by

$$d\mathbb{X}(t) = B(\mathbb{X}(t))dt + \Sigma(\mathbb{X}(t))d\mathbb{W}_t.$$

Now if  $B$  and  $\Sigma$  satisfy [Assumption D](#) we get a solution by [Theorem 3.4.1](#)

$$\begin{aligned} |B(\mathbb{X}) - B(\mathbb{Y})|_{\mathbb{R}^{dn}}^2 &= \sum_{j=1}^N |X_j, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{X_k} - b(Y_j, \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{Y_k})|^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^N 2L^2 (|X_j - Y_j|^2 + W_2^2(\mu_N(X), \mu_N(Y))) \\ &\leq 4L^2 \|\mathbb{X} - \mathbb{Y}\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

For  $\Sigma$  the argument is analog where for the Wasserstein distance we used Then by [Theorem 3.4.1](#) we get a solution  $X \in L^2([0, T])$  for fixed  $N$

□

**Remark.** To get a bound on the Wasserstein Distance we used the following

$$\pi = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \delta_{(X_k, Y_k)} \in \Pi.$$

then the Wasserstein distance is given by

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N |X_k - Y_k|^2.$$

and one can further simplify to get the bound used.

**Remark.** As  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we expect to get the following

$$\begin{cases} dY^i(t) &= b(Y^i(t), \mu(t))dt + \sigma(Y^i(t), \mu(t))dW_t^i \\ Y^i(0) &= X_{i,0}^N \in L^2(\Omega) \text{ i.i.d} \end{cases}.$$

In fact since the above system beyond the initial data is independent of  $N$ , we may consider the simplified equation

$$\begin{cases} dY(t) &= b(Y(t), \mu(t))dt + \sigma(Y(t), \mu(t))dW_t^i \\ Y(0) &= \xi \in L^2(\Omega) \text{ i.i.d} \end{cases}.$$

this equation is called McKean-Vlasov equation which is a non-linear non-local SDE

### 3.5.4 Makean-Vlasov

**Definition 3.5.4 (Makean-Vlasov Equation).** The following non-linear and non-local SDE is called Makean-Vlasov Equation

$$(MVE) \begin{cases} dY(t) &= b(Y(t), \mu(t))dt + \sigma(Y(t), \mu(t))dW_t^i \\ Y(0) &= \xi \in L^2(\Omega) \text{ i.i.d} \end{cases}.$$

Add Space of  $Y$  and dimensions

**Definition 3.5.5 (Space Of Continuous Sample Paths).** The Space  $\mathcal{C}^d = \mathcal{C}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  is called the continuous sample path space with norm

$$\|X\|_t = \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} |X(t)|.$$

this norm  $\|\cdot\|_T$  induces a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathcal{C}^d$

**Definition 3.5.6 (Random Variable).** A random Variable on  $\mathcal{C}^d$  is a map

$$X : \Omega_{a.s.} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^d.$$

**Definition 3.5.7 (Measure).** Since the norm  $\|\cdot\|_T$  induces a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathcal{C}^d$  we can define measures  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  by

$$\mu := (\mu(t))_{t \in [0, T]} \quad \mu(t).$$

and by using the function

$$l_t : \mathcal{C}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \quad X \mapsto X(t).$$

then we get a measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  by using the pushforward

$$\mu_t := \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \quad A \mapsto \mu(l_t^{-1}(A)).$$

**Definition 3.5.8 (Wasserstein Distance).** And we can define for arbitrary measures  $\mu, \tilde{\mu} \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  the Wasserstein distance by

$$\sup_{t \in [0, T]} W_{\mathbb{R}^d, 2}(\mu(t), \tilde{\mu}(t)) \leq W_{\mathcal{C}^d, 2}(\mu, \tilde{\mu}).$$

Where

$$W_{\mathcal{C}^d, 2}(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \tilde{\mu})} \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} \|x - y\|^2 d\pi(x, y).$$

**Corollary.** Let us prove the inequality

We choose concrete  $\pi_t = l_t \# \pi$  for  $\pi \in \Pi_{\mathcal{C}^d}(\mu, \tilde{\mu})$

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sup_{t \in [0, T]} W(\mu_t, \tilde{\mu}_t) &\leq \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^2 d\pi_t(x, y) \\
 &= \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} |x - y|^2 dl_t^2 \# \pi_t(x, y) \\
 &= \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} |\cdot - \cdot|^2 \circ l_t^2(x, y) d\pi(x, y) \\
 &= \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} |x(t) - y(t)|^2 d\pi(x, y) \\
 &\leq \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} \sup_{t \in [0, T]} |x(t) - y(t)|^2 d\pi(x, y) \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} \|x - y\|_\infty^2 d\pi(x, y).
 \end{aligned}$$

It remains to check that  $p_t \in \Pi(\mu_t, \tilde{\mu}_t)$ , let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \pi_t(A \times \mathbb{R}^d) &= \pi(l_t^{-1}(A \times \mathbb{R}^d)) \\
 &= \pi(\{(x, y) \in \mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d : l_t(x) \in A, l_t(y) \in \mathbb{R}^d\}) \\
 &= \pi(\{(x, y) \in \mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d : l_t(x) \in A, y \in \mathcal{C}^d\}) \\
 &= \pi(l_t^{-1}(A) \times \mathcal{C}^d) \\
 &= \mu(l_t^{-1}(A)) \\
 &= l_t \# \mu(A) \\
 &= \mu_t(A).
 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark.** Note that

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}^d} f(x) d\mu(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x(t)) d\mu_t.$$

**Theorem 3.5.2** (Unique and Existence of Solution for McKean-Vlasov). If  $b$  and  $\sigma$  satisfy Assumption E then MVE has a unique and strong solution  $Y \in \mathbb{L}^2([0, T])$  and  $\mu \in \mathcal{L}(Y)$

**Proof.** We use the notation

$$d_t^2 = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \bar{\mu})} \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} \|x - y\|_t^2 d\pi(x, y).$$

For any given  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  we consider the following SDE

$$\begin{cases} dY^\mu(t) &= b(Y^\mu(t), \mu(t))dt + \sigma(Y^\mu(t), \mu(t))dW_t \\ Y(0) &\quad \xi \in L^2(\Omega) \end{cases}.$$

Let  $\varphi(\mu) = \mathcal{L}(Y^\mu)$  be the law of  $Y^\mu$ .

For the existence and the uniqueness of  $Y^\mu$  we need to check

$$|b(x, \mu(t)) - b(\tilde{x}, \mu(t))| + |\sigma(x, \mu(t)) - \sigma(\tilde{x}, \mu(t))| \leq L|x - \tilde{x}|.$$

Since it is the same measure the Wasserstein distance is 0 and the above is true by Assumption E.

If  $\varphi$  has a fixpoint  $\bar{\mu}$ , then  $\bar{\mu}$  is the solution of MVE. We prove this by first bounding the



difference between two measures, let  $\mu, \tilde{\mu}$  be arbitrary given measure in  $\mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$ , first note

$$Y^\mu(t) - \xi = \int_0^t b(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s))ds + \int_0^t \sigma(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s))dW_s \quad \mu = \mu, \tilde{\mu}.$$

then by taking the difference

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} |Y^\mu(t) - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(t)|^2 \\ &= \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \left| \int_0^t b(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - b(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))ds + \int_0^t \sigma(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - \sigma(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))dW_s \right|^2 \\ &\leq \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} 2t \int_0^t |b(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - b(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))|^2 ds \\ &+ \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} 2 \left| \int_0^t \sigma(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - \sigma(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))dW_s \right|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now taking the expectation

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} |Y^\mu(t) - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(t)|^2 \right] \\ &\leq 4\tau L^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^\tau |Y^\mu(s) - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s)|^2 + W_2^2(\mu(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))ds \right] \\ &+ 16L^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^\tau |Y^\mu(s) - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s)|^2 + W_2^2(\mu(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Where we used Doobs- $L^p$  inequality for the second term.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \left| \int_0^t \sigma(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - \sigma(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))dW_s \right|^2 \right] \\ &\leq 8\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^\tau |\sigma(Y^\mu(s), \mu(s)) - \sigma(Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))|^2 ds \right] \\ &\leq 8\mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^\tau |Y^\mu(s) - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}(s)|^2 + W_2^2(\mu(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

All together

$$\mathbb{E}[\|Y^\mu - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}\|_\tau^2] \leq C \int_0^\tau \mathbb{E}[\|Y^\mu - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}\|_s^2]ds + C \int_0^\tau \mathbb{E}[W_2^2(\mu(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))]ds$$

So by Grönwall inequality we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\|Y^\mu - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}\|_\tau^2] &\leq C(\tau) \cdot \int_0^\tau W_2^2(\mu(s), \tilde{\mu}(s))ds \\ &\leq C(\tau) \cdot \int_0^\tau \sup_{0 \leq t \leq s} W_2^2(\mu(t), \tilde{\mu}(t))ds \\ &\leq C(\tau) \int_0^\tau d_s(\mu, \tilde{\mu})ds. \end{aligned}$$

using the inequality [Definition 3.5.8](#)

remember that  $\varphi(\mu) = \mathcal{L}(Y^\mu)$  and  $\varphi(\tilde{\mu}) = \mathcal{L}(Y^{\tilde{\mu}})$ , then

$$d_\tau^2(\varphi(\mu), \varphi(\tilde{\mu})) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\varphi(\mu), \varphi(\tilde{\mu}))} \int_{\mathcal{C}^d \times \mathcal{C}^d} \|x - y\|_\tau^2 d\pi(x, y).$$

now if we take joint distribution of  $Y^\mu$  and  $Y^{\tilde{\mu}}$ .  $\pi_1$  we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\|Y^\mu - Y^{\tilde{\mu}}\|_\tau^2] &= \int_{\mathcal{C}^d, \mathcal{C}^d} \|x - y\|_\tau^2 d\pi_1(x, y) \\ &\leq C(\tau) \int_0^\tau d_s(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) ds.\end{aligned}$$

Lets summarize, for  $\forall \mu, \tilde{\mu} \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  we obtained

$$d_t(\varphi(\mu), \varphi(\tilde{\mu})) \leq C(t) \int_0^t d_s(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) ds. \quad (*)$$

To prove the uniqueness of solutions. If we have two solutions  $\mu, \tilde{\mu}$  i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\mu) &= \mu \\ \varphi(\tilde{\mu}) &= \tilde{\mu}.\end{aligned}$$

then the above estimate (\*) says

$$d(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) \leq C(t) \int_0^t d_s(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) ds \Rightarrow d_t(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) = 0.$$

To prove the existence. Take arbitrary  $\mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$ , (for example  $\mu_0 = \mathcal{L}(\xi)$ )

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\mu_0) &= \mu_1 \\ \varphi(\mu_1) &= \mu_2 \\ &\vdots \\ \varphi(\mu_k) &= \mu_{k+1}.\end{aligned}$$

the estimate means that  $(\mu_k)$  is Cauchy in  $\mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$

$$d_t(\mu_{k+m}, \mu_m) \leq \sum \dots$$

Then there exists a  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  such that

$$W_2^2(\mu_k, \mu) \rightarrow 0.$$

□

**Remark.** That in our case the empirical measure  $\mu_N$  is not exactly the law of  $X^N$  and is stochastic, such that the above proof does not exactly holds for our (SDEN)  
For our initial data we already know that

$$\mathbb{E}[W_2^2(\mu_N(0), \mu_0)] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

and we expect for any  $t > 0$

$$\mathbb{E}[W_{\mathcal{C}^d, 2}^2(\mu_N(t), \mu)] \rightarrow 0.$$

**Theorem 3.5.3 (Mean-Field-Limit).** Let  $b$  and  $\sigma$  fulfill [Assumption E](#) and use  $\mu_N$  the empirical measure, then there exists a measure  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}^2(\mathcal{C}^d)$  s.t.

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[W_{\mathcal{C}^d, 2}^2(\mu_N, \mu)] = 0.$$

and for any fixed  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  it holds

$$(X_1^N, \dots, X_k^N) \xrightarrow{(D)} (Y_1, \dots, Y_k).$$

**Proof.** The proof is similar to what we have done in the [Theorem 3.5.2](#), the critical part is to work with our stochastic empirical measure, we do so by introducing an intermediate empirical measure. We compute

$$\begin{aligned} |X_i^N(t) - Y_i(t)|^2 &\leq 2t \int_0^t |b(X_i^N(s), \mu_N(s)) - b(Y_i(s), \mu(s))| \\ &\quad + 2 \left| \int_0^t \sigma(X_i^N(s), \mu_N(s)) - \sigma(Y_i(s), \mu(s)) dW_s^i \right|^2. \end{aligned}$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{0 \leq r \leq t} |X_i^N(r) - Y_i(r)|^2 \right] &\leq C \mathbb{E} \int_0^t W_2^2(\mu_N(s), \mu(s)) ds \\ &\leq C \cdot \mathbb{E} \left[ \int_0^t d_r^2(\mu_N, \mu) dr \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\bar{\mu}_N$  be the empirical measure of  $Y_i$

$$\bar{\mu}_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{Y_i}.$$

And let  $\mu \sim \mathcal{L}(Y_i)$  for  $\forall t > 0$  then

$$\mathbb{E}[W_2^2(\bar{\mu}_N, \mu)] \rightarrow 0.$$

Now we consider for  $\forall$  a.s.  $\omega \in \Omega$

$$d_t^2(\bar{\mu}_N, \mu_N) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu_N, \bar{\mu}_N)} \int_{C^d \times C^d} \|x - y\|_t^2 d\pi(x, y).$$

By taking  $\pi = \mu_N \otimes \bar{\mu}_N$  we can write the above integral explicitly

$$\leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|X_i^N - Y_i\|_t^2.$$

We continue by taking the expectation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\mu_N, \bar{\mu}_N)] &\leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E} \left[ \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} \|X_i(s) - Y_i(s)\|_t^2 \right] \\ &\leq 2C \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[d_r^2(\mu_N, \mu)] dr. \end{aligned}$$

Goal is to get a Grönwall inequality for

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\mu_N, \mu)] &\leq 2\mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\mu_N, \bar{\mu}_N)] + 2\mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\bar{\mu}_N, \mu)] \\ &\leq C \int_0^t \mathbb{E}[d_r^2(\mu_N, \mu)] dr + C\mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\bar{\mu}_N, \mu)] \end{aligned}$$

Then by Grönwall

$$\mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\mu_N, \mu)] \leq e^{CT} \mathbb{E}[\mu_{N,0}] + e^{CT} \mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\bar{\mu}_N, \mu)] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

and then for  $\forall 1 \leq k < \infty$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \sup_{0 \leq r \leq t} \|X_i^N(r) - Y_i(r)\|^2] &\leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbb{E}[\|X_i^N - Y_i\|_t^2] \\ &\leq C \cdot k \mathbb{E}[d_t^2(\mu_N, \mu)] \\ &\xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0. \end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof. [Add small summary](#)

□

### 3.6 PDE Approach To Solving the Makean-Vlasov Equation

Let us shortly explain the connection between the PDE approach and the SDE approach to solving the Makean-Vlasov equation, from now on assume  $\sigma(Y(t), \mu(t)) = \sqrt{2}$  constant, that means the

$$\begin{aligned} Y(t) &= b(Y(t), \mu(t))dt + \sqrt{2}dW_t \\ Y(0) &= \xi \in L^2(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

and  $\mu_0 = \mathcal{L}(\xi)$ , applying Itô's formula for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(Y(t), t) - \varphi(Y(0), 0) &= \int_0^t \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(Y(s), s) + \nabla \varphi(Y(s), s) \cdot b(Y(s), \mu(s)) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{2}}_{\text{tr}(\sigma \cdot \sigma^T)} \cdot \Delta \varphi(Y(s), s) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \nabla \varphi(Y(s), s) \sqrt{2} dW_s. \end{aligned}$$

We take expectation on both sides (note the last term is 0)

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x, t) d\mu(t) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x, 0) d\mu_0 \\ = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(x, s) + \nabla \varphi(x, s) \cdot b(x, \mu(s)) \cdot \Delta \varphi(x, s) d\mu(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Formally if  $\mu$  is regular enough i.e it has density and the density is good enough, then  $\mu$  should satisfy the weak PDE

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mu - \Delta \mu + \nabla \cdot (b(x, \mu) \cdot \mu) &= 0 \\ \mu(0) &= \mu_0 \end{cases}.$$

[Write out the entire thing with distributions as a middle step between the PDE and the Integral](#)

Next goal is to solve this PDE

**Definition 3.6.1 (Weak PDE).** If  $u$  is the density of  $\mu$  we write

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u + \nabla \cdot (b(x, u) \cdot u) &= 0 \\ u(0) &= u_0 \end{cases}.$$

**Remark.** If we manage to find such  $u$  then we can plug it in to the (MVE) equation

$$(PDE) \begin{cases} dY_t = b(Y_t, u)dt + \sqrt{2}dW_t \\ Y(t) = \xi \in L^2(\Omega) \quad \mathcal{L}(\xi) = u \end{cases}.$$

if  $b$  is bounded and Lipschitz, then we have a solution,  $Y_t$ , let  $\bar{u}$  be the Law of  $Y_t$ . Then we have by Itô formula for  $\forall \varphi$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x, t) d\bar{\mu}(t) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \varphi(x, 0) u_0(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(x, s) + \nabla \varphi(x, s) \cdot b(x, u) - \Delta \varphi(x, s) \right) \bar{u}(x, t) dx ds. \end{aligned}$$

Which means  $\bar{\mu}$  satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \bar{\mu} - \Delta \bar{\mu} + \nabla \cdot (b(x, u) \cdot \bar{\mu}) = 0 \\ \bar{\mu}|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}.$$

This means in order to solve the McKean-Vlasov Equation e.g. we need to prove  $\bar{u} = u$

The Laplacian gives us sufficient regularity, even for bad  $b$  i.e unbounded non Lipschitz, a standard example is

$$b(Y_t, u) = \int K(Y_t - y) u(y) dy = \int K(y) u(Y_t - y) dy.$$

the regularity depends directly on the regularity of  $K$  or rather  $u$  by properties of convolution.

**Definition 3.6.2 (Sobolev Spaces).** We define roughly

$$H^1(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) : \nabla u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)\}.$$

where  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty$ , with norm  $\|u\|_{H^1} = \|u\|_2 + \|\nabla u\|_2$

$$\nabla u = \langle \nabla u, \varphi \rangle = -\langle u, \nabla \varphi \rangle.$$

And

$$H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^d) = (H^1(\mathbb{R}^d))' = \{l : l \text{ is bounded linear functionals of } H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)\}.$$

Then

$$L^2([0, T]; H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)) = \{u : \int_0^T \|u(t)\|_{H^1}^2 dt < \infty\}.$$

**Definition 3.6.3 (Weak Solution).** We say that  $u \in L^2([0, T]; H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)) \cap L^\infty([0, T]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^d))$  and  $\partial_t u \in L^2([0, T]; H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^d))$  is a weak solution of the (PDE) if for  $\forall \varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d)$  it holds

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \langle \partial_t u, \varphi \rangle_{H^{-1}, H^1} dt &= \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla \varphi \cdot b(x, u) u dx dt \\ &\quad - \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla u \cdot \nabla \varphi dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

### 3.6.1 Heat Kernel

**Definition 3.6.4 (Heat Equation).** The following PDE is called Heat Equation (last term is source term)

$$\partial_t u - \Delta u + \nabla \cdot (b(x, u) \cdot u) = 0.$$

If  $K(x, t)$  is the heat kernel, then we can formally rewrite the above equation into

$$u(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x - y, t) u_0(y) dy - \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x - y, t - s) \nabla \cdot (b(y, u(y, s)) u(y, s)) dy ds.$$

This is called Duhamels formula.

For standard heat equation with source term  $f$

$$(HE) := \partial_t u - \Delta u = f \quad u(0) = u_0.$$

$$u(x, t) = \int K(x - y, t) u_0(y) dy + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x - y, t - s) f(y, s) dy ds.$$

gives the solution formula of the Heat Equation (HE).

**Remark.** We say the heat kernel is the density of the Brownian Motion.

**Definition 3.6.5 (Heat equation).** The following PDE is called Heat equation with source  $f$

$$(HE) \begin{cases} \partial_t u - \Delta u &= f \\ u|_{t=0} &= u_0 \end{cases}.$$

Using  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  the Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F} : L^2 \rightarrow L^2 \quad u \mapsto \hat{u}.$$

where

$$\hat{u}(k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u(x) e^{ix \cdot k} dx.$$

**Exercise.** Proof

$$-\widehat{\Delta u} = |k|^2 \hat{u}(k).$$

*Hint*

$$\widehat{\nabla u} = \frac{k}{i} \hat{u}(k).$$

then we get the equivalent HE

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \hat{u} - \Delta \hat{u} &= \hat{f} \\ \hat{u}|_{t=0} &= \hat{u}_0 \end{cases}.$$

With

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \hat{u}(k) + |k|^2 \hat{u}(k) &= \hat{f}(k) \\ \hat{u}_0(k) & \end{cases}.$$

$$\hat{u}(k, t) = e^{-|k|^2 t} \hat{u}_0(k) + \int_0^t e^{-|k|^2 (t-\tau)} \hat{f}(k, \tau) d\tau.$$

inverse transform of the Fourier transformation

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{d}{2}}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}} u_0(y) dy + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{(4\pi(t-\tau))^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4(t-\tau)}} f(y, \tau) dy d\tau.$$

Then we get  $K$  as

**Definition 3.6.6 (Heat Kernel).** The following is called Heat Kernel

$$K(x, t) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{4t}}.$$