

We are concerned with the variance of standard normal random variables transformed by the sine. Therefore we consider a mean of a particular transformed Wiener process

$$f(t) = \mathbb{E} [\sin^2(W_t)] .$$

Knowing the derivatives

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin^2(x) = 2 \sin(x) \cos(x) = \sin(2x)$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin(x)^2 = 2 \cos(2x),$$

we may apply Itô's lemma

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^2(W_t) &= \int_0^t \sin(2W_s) dW_s + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t 2 \cos(2W_s) ds = \\ &= \int_0^t \sin(2W_s) dW_s + \int_0^t \cos(2W_s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$f(t) = \int_0^t \mathbb{E} [\cos(2W_s)] ds.$$

Now, consider

$$g(t, u) = \mathbb{E} [\cos(uW_t)] .$$

Applying Itô's lemma we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} g(t, u) &= \mathbb{E} [\cos(uW_t)] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t -u^2 \cos(uW_s) ds \right] = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} u^2 \int_0^t \mathbb{E} [\cos(uW_s)] ds = -\frac{1}{2} u^2 \int_0^t g(s, u) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial t}(t, u) = -\frac{1}{2} u^2 g(t, u)$$

and

$$g(t, u) = C(u)e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2t}$$

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Since

$$g(0, u) = 1$$

We have

$$C(u) = 1$$

and thus that

$$g(t, u) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2t}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \int_0^t \mathbb{E} [\cos(2W_s)] ds = \int_0^t g(t, 2) = \int_0^t e^{-\frac{1}{2}4t} = \int_0^t e^{-2t} = \frac{e^{-2t} - 1}{-2} = \\ &= \frac{1 - e^{-2t}}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

We can conclude that

$$\mathbb{E} [\sin(Z)^2] = \frac{1 - e^{-2}}{2} \approx 0.43233235.$$