

# FIN 920: Continuous-Time Diffusion Models Notes

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## 1 Part I

### (Discrete) Random Walks

- Random walk:  $z_t = z_{t-1} + e_t = z_0 + \sum_{s=1}^t e_s$  (often  $z_0 = 0$ ) with  $E[e_t] = 0, \forall t$  and  $e_t \perp e_s, t \neq s$ .
- Random walk with drift:  $z_t = \mu + z_{t-1} + e_t$ .
- Geometric random walk with drift:  $\ln(z_t) = \mu + \ln(z_{t-1}) + e_t$  or  $z_t = z_{t-1} \exp(\mu + e_t)$ .
- Normally distributed increments  $e_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ .

### Standard Brownian Motion

- A Brownian motion is a process  $\{z_t\}_{t \geq 0}$  such that
  - $P(z_0 = 0) = 1$
  - $z_t - z_s \sim N(0, t - s), t > s \geq 0$
  - $\lim_{e \rightarrow 0} z_{t-e} = z_t, t \geq 0$
  - $z_t - z_s \perp z_u - z_v, t > s > u > v \geq 0$
- Brownian motion is Markov:  $E[f(z_t) | \{z_v\}_{v=0}^s] = E[f(z_t) | z_s] =: E_s[f(z_t)]$  for  $t \geq s$ .
- Paths are nowhere differentiable:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow s} \frac{z_t - z_s}{t - s}$  is not defined.
- Paths have unbounded total variation:  $\sum_{v=1}^N |z_{tv/N} - z_{t(v-1)/N}| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Paths have bounded quadratic variation:  $\sum_{v=1}^N (z_{tv/N} - z_{t(v-1)/N})^2 \rightarrow t$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Conventional expressions:
  - $z_t - z_0 = \sum_{v=1}^N z_{tv/N} - z_{t(v-1)/N} \rightarrow \int_{v=0}^t dz_v$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  where  $dz_t \sim N(0, dt)$ .
  - Rules for the product of  $dz$  and  $dt$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} & dz & dt \\ dz & dt & 0 \\ dt & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For example,  $\sum_{v=1}^N (z_{Tv/N} - z_{T(v-1)/N})(T/N) \rightarrow \int_{t=0}^T dz_t dt = 0$  when  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Formal Construction of Brownian Motion

- Probability Space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  with set of states  $\Omega = \{\omega\}$ , tribe  $\mathcal{F}$ , probability measure  $P : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- A Brownian motion is a measurable function  $z(\omega, t) : \Omega \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $\forall \omega \in \Omega$ ,
  - $z(\omega, 0) = 0$  almost surely,
  - $z(\omega, t) - z(\omega, s) \sim N(0, t - s)$  for  $t > s$ ,
  - $z(\omega, t) - z(\omega, s) \perp z(\omega, u) - z(\omega, v), t > s > u > v \geq 0$
  - $\lim_{t \rightarrow s} z(\omega, t) = z(\omega, s)$
- The standard filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \in [0, \infty)}$  is defined by the paths of the process together with the null sets of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

## Scalar Diffusion Processes

- A diffusion (or Ito process) is an adapted process  $x_t$  with continuous paths,

$$x_t = x_0 + \int_{v=0}^t \mu(x_v, v) dv + \int_{v=0}^t \sigma(x_v, v) dz_v$$

$$\iff dx_t = \mu(x_t, t) dt + \sigma(x_t, t) dz_t$$

where  $\mu(x_v, v)$  is a drift coefficient,  $\sigma(x_v, v)$  is a diffusion coefficient, and  $z_t$  is a Brownian motion.

- The Ito integral is defined as

$$\int_{v=0}^t \sigma(x_v, v) dz_v := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{v=1}^N \sigma(x_{(v-1)t/N}, (v-1)t/N) (z_{tv/N} - z_{t(v-1)/N})$$

- $E_t(dx_t) = E_t(\mu(x_t, t)dt + \sigma(x_t, t)dz_t) = \mu(x_t, t)dt + \sigma(x_t, t)E_t(dz_t) = \mu(x_t, t)dt = \mu_t dt$
- $E_t((dx_t)^2) = E_t(\mu(x_t, t)^2(dt)^2 + 2\mu(x_t, t)\sigma(x_t, t)dtdz_t + \sigma(x_t, t)^2(dz_t)^2) = E_t(\sigma(x_t, t)^2(dz_t)^2) = \sigma_t^2 dt$

## Examples of Scalar Diffusion Processes

- Brownian motion with drift:
  - $Y_t = Y_0 + \mu t + \sigma z_t$
  - $dY_t = \mu dt + \sigma dz_t$
  - $Y_t - Y_s \sim N(\mu(t - s), \sigma^2(t - s))$  for  $t > s$ .
- Geometric Brownian Motion:
  - $dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dz_t$ , with constants  $\mu, \sigma$ .
  - For example, stock price in Black and Scholes (JPE 1973).
- Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process (mean-reverting):
  - $dr_t = \kappa(\theta - r_t)dt + \sigma dz_t$  with constants  $\kappa, \theta, \sigma > 0$ .
  - Risk-free rate in Vasicek (JFE, 1977)
- Square root process (mean-reverting):
  - $dr_t = \kappa(\theta - r_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{r_t}dz_t$ .
  - Risk-free rate in Cox, Ingersoll and Ross (ECTA, 1985)

## Vector Diffusion Processes

- A vector of Brownian motions  $\mathbf{z}_t$  is independent iff  $z_{it} - z_{is} \perp z_{ju} - z_{jv}$  for all  $i \neq j$  and all intervals  $[t, s]$  and  $[u, v]$ .
- A diffusion (or Ito process) is an adapted random vector process  $\mathbf{x}_t$  with continuous paths,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_t &= \mathbf{x}_0 + \int_{v=0}^t \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_v, v) dv + \int_{v=0}^t \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_v, v) d\mathbf{z}_v \\ \iff d\mathbf{x}_t &= \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t \end{aligned}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a vector of drift coefficients,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a diffusion coefficient, and  $\mathbf{z}_t$  is a vector of independent Brownian motions.

- The Ito integral is defined as

$$\int_{v=0}^t \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_v, v) d\mathbf{z}_v := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{v=1}^N \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_{(v-1)t/N}, (v-1)t/N) (\mathbf{z}_{tv/N} - \mathbf{z}_{t(v-1)/N})$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_t(d\mathbf{x}_t) &= E_t(\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t) = \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) E_t(d\mathbf{z}_t) = \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt \\ E_t(d\mathbf{x}_t d\mathbf{x}_t^T) &= E_t((\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t)(\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t)^T) \\ &= E_t((dt)^2 \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) (\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t))^T + 2\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) (dt d\mathbf{z}_t^T) \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)^T + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) (d\mathbf{z}_t d\mathbf{z}_t^T) \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)^T) \\ &= \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) E_t(d\mathbf{z}_t d\mathbf{z}_t^T) \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)^T \\ &= \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) (dt \times I) \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)^T \\ &= \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)^T dt \end{aligned}$$

## Examples of Vector Diffusion Processes

- Two Brownian motions with drift and correlation  $\rho \in [-1, 1]$ .

$$d \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_x \\ \mu_y \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \rho & \sqrt{1-\rho^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} dz_1 \\ dz_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Multiperiod consumption-savings-portfolio choice in Merton (various 1970s)

$$\begin{aligned} dW_t &= W_t(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_t \cdot (\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{X}_t, t) - r(\mathbf{X}_t, t)\mathbf{1}) + r(\mathbf{X}_t, t)) dt + W_t \boldsymbol{\alpha}_t^T \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{X}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t - c_t dt + y_t dt \\ d\mathbf{X}_t &= \boldsymbol{\mu}_x(\mathbf{X}_t, t) dt + \sigma_x(\mathbf{X}_t, t) d\mathbf{z}_t \end{aligned}$$

where  $W_t \geq 0$  and  $W_0$  and  $\mathbf{X}_0$  is given.

- Constant returns-to-scale production and productivity in Ai (JF 2010).

$$\begin{aligned} dK_t &= x_t K_t dt - C_t dt + \sigma_c K_t dz_t^c \\ dx_t &= \kappa(\mu - x_t) dt + \sigma_x dz_t^x \\ dz_t^c dz_t^x &= \rho dt \end{aligned}$$

## Convenient Facts

- For an adapted process  $\gamma_t$  (vector), we can express some functions of the expectation of the adapted process in terms of a change in time instead of a change in the Brownian motion value.
- For example, expectation of quadratic:

$$\begin{aligned}
E_t \left( \left( \int_t^T \gamma_s d\mathbf{z}_s \right)^2 \right) &= E_t \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N K_i K_j \\
&= E_t \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} 2 \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{i < j}^N K_j E_{(T-t)(i-1)/N} K_i + \sum_{j=1}^N E_{(T-t)(j-1)/N} K_j^2 \\
&= E_t \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T-t}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \gamma_{(T-t)(j-1)/N} \cdot \gamma_{(T-t)(j-1)/N} \\
&= \int_t^T E_t(\gamma_s \cdot \gamma_s) ds
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $K_j = \gamma_{T(j-1)/N} \cdot (\mathbf{z}_{(T-t)j/N} - \mathbf{z}_{(T-t)(j-1)/N})$ .

- For example, expectation of exponential:

$$E_t \left( \exp \left( \int_t^T \gamma_s d\mathbf{z}_s \right) \right) = E_t \left( \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T (\gamma_s \cdot \gamma_s) ds \right) \right) \tag{2}$$

- Consider the square-root process,

$$\begin{aligned}
dr_t &= \kappa(\theta - r_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{r_t}dz_t \\
\implies e^{\kappa t}dr_t &= e^{\kappa t}\kappa\theta dt - e^{\kappa t}\kappa r_t dt + e^{\kappa t}\sigma\sqrt{r_t}dz_t \\
\implies e^{\kappa t}dr_t + e^{\kappa t}\kappa r_t dt &= e^{\kappa t}\kappa\theta dt + e^{\kappa t}\sigma\sqrt{r_t}dz_t \\
\implies d(e^{\kappa t}r_t) &= e^{\kappa t}\kappa\theta dt + e^{\kappa t}\sigma\sqrt{r_t}dz_t \\
\implies \int_{-\infty}^t d(e^{\kappa s}r_s) &= \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa s}\kappa\theta ds + \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa s}\sigma\sqrt{r_s}dz_s \\
\implies e^{\kappa t}r_t &= e^{\kappa t}\theta + \sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa s}\sqrt{r_s}dz_s \\
\implies r_t &= \theta + \sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa(s-t)}\sqrt{r_s}dz_s
\end{aligned}$$

- Using (1), we can find the unconditional variance (based on the unconditional expectation):

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow E[r_t] &= \theta + E\left[\sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \sqrt{r_s} dz_s\right] \\
&= \theta \\
\Rightarrow \text{Var}(r_t) &= E[r_t^2] - E[r_t]^2 \\
&= E\left[\left(\theta + \sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \sqrt{r_s} dz_s\right)^2\right] - \theta^2 \\
&= E\left[2\theta\sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \sqrt{r_s} dz_s\right] + E\left[\left(\sigma \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\kappa(s-t)} \sqrt{r_s} dz_s\right)^2\right] \\
&= \sigma^2 \int_{-\infty}^t e^{2\kappa(s-t)} E[r_s] dz_s \\
&= \sigma^2 \theta e^{-2\kappa t} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{2\kappa s} dz_s \\
&= \sigma^2 \theta e^{-2\kappa t} \left[\frac{1}{2\kappa} e^{2\kappa s}\right]_{-\infty}^t \\
&= \frac{\sigma^2 \theta}{2\kappa}
\end{aligned}$$

## Black and Scholes Structure

- Stock with price  $S_t$ :  $dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dz_t$ ,  $\mu > 0, \sigma > 0$ .
- Risk-free bond:  $dB_t = B_t r dt$ ,  $\mu > r > 0$ .
- Option with strike price  $k$ : At the exercise date  $T$ , the payoff is  $C(S_T, T) = \max\{0, S_T - K\}$
- Assumptions:
  - No dividend payments on stock.
  - Infinite depth in the stock and bond markets.
  - Constant drift and volatility in the stock return.
  - Constant rate of interest.
  - Frictionless markets (i.e. no transaction costs).
  - European call option (i.e. can only exercise at maturity date  $T$ ).
- Goal is to find equation for  $C(S_t, t)$ ,  $t < T$ .

## Future Values

- To get  $d \ln B_t$  use Ito's lemma [where  $\mu(B_t, t) = B_t r$ ,  $\sigma = 0$  and  $f(x) = \ln x \implies f_x(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ ,  $f_{xx}(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$ ,  $f_t(x) = 0$ ]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d \ln B_t &= \frac{1}{B_t}(0)dz_t + \frac{1}{B_t}B_t r dt + \frac{1}{2} \frac{-1}{x^2}(0)^2 dt + 0 dt \\
 &= r dt \\
 \implies \int_0^t d \ln B_s &= \int_0^t r ds \\
 \implies \ln B_t - \ln B_0 &= r(t - 0) \\
 \implies B_t &= B_0 \exp(rt)
 \end{aligned}$$

- To get  $d \ln S_t$  use Ito's lemma [where  $\mu(S_t, t) = \mu S_t$ ,  $\sigma(S_t, t) = \sigma S_t$ , and  $f(x) = \ln x \implies f_x(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ ,  $f_{xx}(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$ ,  $f_t(x) = 0$ ]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d \ln S_t &= \frac{1}{S_t} \mu S_t dt + \frac{1}{S_t} \sigma S_t dz_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{-1}{S_t^2} (\sigma S_t)^2 dt + (0) dt \\
 &= \mu dt + \sigma dz_t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 dt \\
 \implies \int_0^t d \ln S_s &= \mu \int_0^t ds + \sigma \int_0^t dz_s - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \int_0^t dt \\
 \implies \ln S_t - \ln S_0 &= \mu t + \sigma z_t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t \\
 \implies S_t &= S_0 \exp(\mu t + \sigma z_t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $z_0 \equiv 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[\ln S_t | \ln S_0] &= E[\ln S_0 + \mu t + \sigma z_t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t | \ln S_0] \\
 &= \ln S_0 + \mu t + \sigma E[z_t | \ln S_0] - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t \\
 &= \ln S_0 + \mu t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t
 \end{aligned}$$

Using (2),

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[S_t | S_0] &= E[S_0 \exp(\mu t + \sigma z_t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t)] \\
 &= S_0 \exp(\mu t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t) E \left[ \exp \left( \int_{v=0}^t \sigma dz_v \right) \right] \\
 &= S_0 \exp(\mu t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t) E \left[ \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \int_{v=0}^t \sigma^2 dv \right) \right] \\
 &= S_0 \exp(\mu t - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t) \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 t \right) \\
 &= S_0 \exp(\mu t)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Ito's Lemma (Scalar)

- Let  $f(x, t)$  be twice differentiable in  $x$  and once in  $t$ . Let  $x$  be a (scalar) diffusion with  $dx_t = \mu(x_t, t)dt + \sigma(x_t, t)dz_t$ , then

$$f(x_t, t) - f(x_0, 0) = \int_{s=0}^t f_x(x_s, s)dx_s + \frac{1}{2} \int_{s=0}^t f_{xx}(x_s, s)\sigma(x_s, s)^2 ds + \int_{s=0}^t f_t(x_s, s)ds$$

$$df = f_x \mu dt + f_x \sigma dz_t + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx} \sigma^2 dt + f_t dt$$

where  $f_x = \frac{\partial f(x, s)}{\partial x}$  ( $f_{xx}$  and  $f_t$  similar).

- Examples

- Consider  $d(z_t^2)$ . Mapping to Ito's lemma notation above:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x_t, t) &= 0, \sigma(x_t, t) = 1 \quad \forall x_t, t \\ \implies dx_t &= 0 * dt + 1 * dz_t = dz_t \\ f(x, t) &= x^2 \\ \implies f_x(x, t) &= 2x, f_{xx} = 2, f_t = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies d(z_t^2) = df = (2z_t)(1)dz_t + (2z_t)(0)dt + \frac{1}{2}(2)(1)^2 dt + (0)dt = 2z_t dz_t + dt$$

- Consider  $d \exp(z_t)$ . Mapping to Ito's lemma notation above:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x_t, t) &= 0, \sigma(x_t, t) = 1 \quad \forall x_t, t \\ \implies dx_t &= 0 * dt + 1 * dz_t = dz_t \\ f(x, t) &= \exp(x) \\ \implies f_x(x, t) &= \exp(x), f_{xx} = \exp(x), f_t = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies d \exp(z_t) &= df = \exp(z_t)(0)dt + \exp(z_t)(1)dz_t + \frac{1}{2} \exp(z_t)(1)^2 dt + (0)dt \\ &= \exp(z_t)dz_t + \frac{1}{2} \exp(z_t)dt \end{aligned}$$

- Consider  $dx_t = \mu dt + \sigma dz_t$  and  $d \exp(x_t)$ . Mapping to Ito's lemma notation above:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x_t, t) &= \mu, \sigma(x_t, t) = \sigma \quad \forall x_t, t \\ \implies dx_t &= \mu dt + \sigma dz_t \\ f(x, t) &= \exp(x) \\ \implies f_x(x, t) &= \exp(x), f_{xx} = \exp(x), f_t = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies d \exp(z_t) &= df = \exp(x_t)\mu dt + \exp(z_t)\sigma dz_t + \frac{1}{2} \exp(z_t)\sigma^2 dt + (0)dt \\ &= \exp(x_t)\mu dt + \exp(z_t)\sigma dz_t + \frac{1}{2} \exp(z_t)\sigma^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

## No Instantaneous Arbitrage

- Bond increment is  $dB_t = B_t r dt$
- Stock price increment is  $dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dz_t$
- Option price increment is [by Ito's Lemma where  $\mu(S_t, t) = S_t \mu$ ,  $\sigma(S_t, t) = \sigma S_t$ ,  $f = C$ ,  $f_x = C_s$ , etc.]

$$\begin{aligned} dC(S_t, t) &= C_s S_t \mu dt + C_s \sigma S_t dz_t + \frac{1}{2} C_{ss} (\sigma S_t)^2 dt + C_t dt \\ &= C_s (S_t \mu dt + \sigma S_t dz_t) + \frac{1}{2} C_{ss} (\sigma S_t)^2 dt + C_t dt \\ &= C_s dS_t + \frac{1}{2} C_{ss} (\sigma S_t)^2 dt + C_t dt \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_t = \frac{\partial C(S_t, t)}{\partial t}$  and similar for  $C_s$  and  $C_{ss}$ .

- Portfolio (value) increment:  $dP_t = -dC(S_t, t) + C_s dS_t + (C - C_s S_t) r dt$

This portfolio is where you sell one option (inflow of  $C(S_t, t)$ ), buy  $C_s$  shares of stock at price  $S_t$  (outflow of  $C_s S_t$ ), and invest  $C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t$  dollars in the bond (outflow of  $C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t$ ).

Portfolio cost is zero [i.e.  $C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t - (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) = 0$ ] and it is risk-free:

No arbitrage  $\implies dP_t = 0 \implies 0 = -dC(S_t, t) + C_s dS_t + (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) r dt$

Substituting in option increment:

$$\begin{aligned} \implies 0 &= -[C_s dS_t + \frac{1}{2} C_{ss} \sigma^2 S_t^2 dt + C_t dt] + C_s dS_t + (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) r dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} C_{ss} \sigma^2 S_t^2 dt - C_t dt + (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) r dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} C_{ss} \sigma^2 S_t^2 - C_t + (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) r \end{aligned}$$

## Black-Scholes Call Option Price

- The price of a European call option for  $0 \leq t \leq T, 0 \leq S_t$  satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{1}{2} C_{ss} \sigma^2 S_t^2 + C_t - (C(S_t, t) - C_s S_t) r && \text{[differential equation]} \\ C(S_T, T) &= \max[S_T - K, 0] && \text{[boundary condition]} \\ C(0, t) &= 0, && \forall 0 \leq t < T \end{aligned}$$

- A solution is:

$$\begin{aligned} C(S_t, t) &= S_t \Phi(d_1(S_t)) - K \exp(-r(T-t)) \Phi(d_2(S_t)) \\ d_1(S) &:= \frac{\ln(S/K) + (r + \sigma^2/2)(T-t)}{\sigma \sqrt{T-t}} \\ d_2(S) &:= d_1(S) - \sigma \sqrt{T-t} \\ \Phi(x) &:= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x \exp(-\frac{v^2}{2}) dv && \text{[standard normal cdf]} \end{aligned}$$



## Ito's Lemma (Vector)

- Let scalar function  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$  be twice differentiable in vector  $\mathbf{x}$  and once in  $t$ .
- Let  $\mathbf{x}_t$  be a vector diffusion with increment:

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)dt + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)d\mathbf{z}_t$$

where  $\mathbf{z}_t$  is a Brownian Motion vector. Then<sup>1</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - f(\mathbf{x}_0, 0) &= \int_{s=0}^t f_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_s, s)d\mathbf{x}_s + \frac{1}{2} \int_{s=0}^t \text{tr}[f_{\mathbf{xx}}(\mathbf{x}_s, s)\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_s, s)\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}_s, s)^T]ds + \int_{s=0}^t f_t(\mathbf{x}_s, s)ds \\ \iff df &= f_{\mathbf{x}}^T \boldsymbol{\mu}_x dt + f_{\mathbf{x}}^T \boldsymbol{\sigma}_x d\mathbf{z}_t + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}[f_{\mathbf{xx}} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^T]dt + f_t dt \end{aligned}$$

## Ito's Lemma Examples

$$d \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_x \\ \mu_y \end{bmatrix} dt + \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \rho & \sqrt{1-\rho^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} dz_1 \\ dz_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Consider  $d(x^2)$ . We know that  $dx = \mu_x dt + \sigma_x dz_1$ . Mapping to Ito's Lemma notation,  $f(x) = x^2, f_x = 2x, f_{xx} = 2, f_t = 0$ :

$$d(x^2) = 2x\mu_x dt + 2x\sigma_x dz_1 + (0)dt + \frac{1}{2}(2)\sigma_x^2 dt = 2x\mu_x dt + 2x\sigma_x dz_1 + \sigma_x^2 dt$$

- Consider  $d(xy)$ . We know that  $dy = \mu_y dt + \sigma_y \rho dz_1 + \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2$

$$\begin{aligned} d(xy) &= xdy + ydx + dxdy \\ &= x[\mu_y dt + \sigma_y \rho dz_1 + \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2] + y[\mu_x dt + \sigma_x dz_1] \\ &\quad + [\mu_x dt + \sigma_x dz_1][\mu_y dt + \sigma_y \rho dz_1 + \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2] \\ &= x\mu_y dt + x\sigma_y \rho dz_1 + x\sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2 + y\mu_x dt + y\sigma_x dz_1 \\ &\quad + \mu_x dt \mu_y dt + \mu_x dt \sigma_y \rho dz_1 + \mu_x dt \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2 \\ &\quad + \sigma_x dz_1 \mu_y dt + \sigma_x dz_1 \sigma_y \rho dz_1 + \sigma_x dz_1 \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2 \\ &= x\mu_y dt + x\sigma_y \rho dz_1 + x\sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2 \\ &\quad + y\mu_x dt + y\sigma_x dz_1 + \sigma_x \sigma_y \rho dt + \sigma_x \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dt \\ &= (x\mu_y + y\mu_x + \sigma_x \sigma_y \rho + \sigma_x \sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2})dt + (x\sigma_y \rho + y\sigma_x)dz_1 + x\sigma_y \sqrt{1-\rho^2} dz_2 \end{aligned}$$

## Application of the Martingale Property

- Suppose  $X$  is Brownian motion,  $dX = dz$ .
- We know  $X_T | X_t \sim N(X_t, T-t)$ :

$$h(X_t, t) := \Pr(X_T \leq A | X_t) = \Phi\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T-t}}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\frac{A-X_t}{\sqrt{T-t}}} \exp\left(-\frac{u^2}{2}\right) du$$

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<sup>1</sup> $\text{tr}[\mathbf{B}]$  denotes the trace of matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  i.e. the elements of the diagonal.

- By Ito's lemma,  $dh = h_x dX + \frac{1}{2}h_{xx}dt + h_t dt$

Notice that  $E[dh] = h_x E[dX] + \frac{1}{2}h_{xx}dt + h_t dt = \frac{1}{2}h_{xx}dt + h_t dt$

- Also, probabilities are martingales:

$$\frac{1}{v}E_t(h(X_{t+v}, t+v) - h(X_t, t)) = \frac{1}{v}E_t(E_{t+v}(\mathbb{1}_{X_T \leq A}) - E_t(\mathbb{1}_{X_T \leq A})) = 0$$

Taking  $v$  small, so  $dt = v$ :

$$\implies 0 = E_t(dh)/dt = \frac{1}{2}h_{xx} + h_t, \text{ subject to } h(X_T, T) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X_T \leq A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Show that  $0 = \frac{1}{2}h_{xx} + h_t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi'(x) &= \phi(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \\ \phi'(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)(-x) \\ &= -x * \phi(x) \\ h_t &= \frac{\partial h(X_t, t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \phi\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T - t}}\right) \frac{(A - X_t)\frac{1}{2}(T - t)^{-1/2} - (0)\sqrt{T - t}}{T - t} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\phi\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T - t}}\right) \frac{A - X_t}{(T - t)^{3/2}} \\ h_x &= \frac{\partial h(X_t, t)}{\partial X_t} \\ &= \phi\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T - t}}\right) \frac{-1}{\sqrt{T - t}} \\ h_{xx} &= \frac{\partial^2 h(X_t, t)}{\partial^2 X_t} \\ &= \phi'\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T - t}}\right) \frac{1}{T - t} \\ &= \phi\left(\frac{A - X_t}{\sqrt{T - t}}\right) \frac{X_t - A}{(T - t)^{3/2}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\frac{1}{2}h_{xx} + h_t = 0$ .

Feynman-Kac I

Black-Scholes and Feynman-Kac

Feynman-Kac II

## **2 Part II**

- To do

## **3 Part III**

- To do

## **4 Part IV**

- To do