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Exercises

Exercise 13.1 (Points)

Let $(B_t)_{t\geq 0}$ be a Brownian motion. Our aim is to construct the *local time* $(L_t)_{t\geq 0}$ which measures how much time B spends in 0.

a) Consider $g \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ such that g' is continuously differentiable on $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{x_1, \ldots, x_k\}$ for some $x_1, \ldots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}$. Further assume that $|g''(x)| \leq M$ for $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{x_1, \ldots, x_k\}$. Show that Itô's formula is still valid for g, i.e. that

$$g(B_t) = g(B_0) + \int_0^t g'(B_s) dB_s + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t g''(B_s) \mathbb{1}_{\mathbb{R} \setminus \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}}(B_s) ds.$$

Now define for $\epsilon > 0$

$$g_{\epsilon}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(\epsilon + \frac{x^2}{\epsilon}), & x \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \\ |x|, & x \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)^c. \end{cases}$$

Show that:

b)
$$g_{\epsilon}(B_t) = g_{\epsilon}(B_0) + \int_0^t g'_{\epsilon}(B_s) dB_s + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \lambda(\{s \in [0, t] : B_s \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)\}), \text{ where } \lambda \text{ is Lebesgue measure;}$$

c)
$$\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \int_0^t g'_{\epsilon}(B_s) \mathbb{1}_{(-\epsilon,\epsilon)}(B_s) dB_s = 0$$
 in $L^2(\mathbb{P});$

d)
$$|B_t| = |B_0| + \int_0^t \operatorname{sgn}(B_s) dB_s + L_t$$
, where $\operatorname{sgn}(x) = 1$ if $x \ge 0$ and $\operatorname{sgn}(x) = -1$ if $x < 0$, and

$$L_t = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \lambda(\{s \in [0, t] : B_s \in (-\epsilon, \epsilon)\}) \text{ in } L^2(\mathbb{P}).$$

Exercise 13.2 (Points)

The aim of this exercise is to construct a *pathwise* solution to the one-dimensional SDE

$$X_{t} = x + \int_{0}^{t} \left(b(X_{s}) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma(X_{s})\sigma'(X_{s}) \right) ds + \int_{0}^{t} \sigma(X_{s})dB_{s} = x + \int_{0}^{t} b(X_{s})ds + \int_{0}^{t} \sigma(X_{s}) \circ dB_{s}, \quad (1)$$

where $\int_0^t \sigma(X_s) \circ dB_s = \int_0^t \sigma(X_s) dB_s + \frac{1}{2} \langle \sigma(X), B \rangle_t$ denotes the Stratonovich integral of Exercise 10.1 and where $\sigma \in C_b^2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$, i.e. $\sigma \in C^2$ and σ as well as its derivatives up to order 2 are bounded, and $b \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ is Lipschitz continuous. The following method is called *Doss-Sussmann transformation*.

Let $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ be the solution to the ODE

$$\partial_x u(x,y) = \sigma(u(x,y)), \quad u(0,y) = y.$$

Let B be a Brownian motion, let $x \in \mathbb{R}$, and write $D_t(\omega)$ for the solution to the ODE

$$\frac{dD_t(\omega)}{dt} = b(u(B_t(\omega), D_t(\omega))) \exp\left(-\int_0^{B_t(\omega)} \sigma'(u(z, D_t(\omega)))dz\right), \qquad D_0(\omega) = x.$$

Prove that the pathwise defined $X_t(\omega) := u(B_t(\omega), D_t(\omega))$ is the unique solution to (??).

Hint: Use your knowledge about u to derive an ODE for $\partial_y u(x, y)$ which can be solved explicitly.

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Exercise 13.3 (Points)

Let B be a Brownian motion on \mathbb{R} and let $b, \sigma \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ be bounded and Lipschitz continuous and such that $\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\sigma(x)| > 0$. Consider the solution X to

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t b(X_s)ds + \int_0^t \sigma(X_s)dB_s,$$

and find a function $s : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ such that s(X) is a local martingale. We call s a scale function of X.

Bonus: For solutions to multidimensional SDEs it is usually not possible to find a scale function explicitly. Intuitively, why is that?