

Rough paths and the Gap Between Deterministic and Stochastic Differential Equations

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Donsker's invariance principle

- Let (ξ_i) be an IID sequence of zero-mean, unit-variance random variables. **[Donsker '52]** shows that the rescaled, piecewise-linearly-connected, random-walk

$$W_t^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \left(\xi_1 + \cdots + \xi_{[tn]} + (nt - [nt]) \xi_{[nt]+1} \right)$$

converges weakly in the space of continuous functions on $[0, 1]$.

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- Straight-forward extension to \mathbb{R}^d -valued case
- In particular, a d -dimensional Brownian motion is just an ensemble of d independent Brownian motions, say

$$B_t = \left(B_t^1, \dots, B_t^d \right).$$

Brownian motion: alternative characterizations

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- (iii): Markov process with generator $L = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$ in the sense that

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Itô integration

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$$\int_0^1 f(t, \omega) dB_t(\omega)$$

can be defined for reasonable non-anticipating f : start with simple integrands and complete with isometry

$$E \left[\left(\int_0^1 f(t, \omega) dB_t(\omega) \right)^2 \right] = E \left[\int_0^1 f^2(t, \omega) dt \right].$$

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- Fact: Itô-integrals have left-point Riemann-sum approximations.
- Define Stratonovich-integration via mid-point Riemann-sum approximations $\implies \int_0^t B_s \partial B_s = \frac{1}{2} B_t^2$ (1st order calculus!)

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- For simplicity only: from here on $V_0 = 0$.

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- Let (e^{tV}) be the solution flow to the ODE $\dot{z} = V(z)$. Then

$$y(t, \omega) := e^{B_t(\omega)V} y_0$$

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- Benefit: solution depends in a robust way on B and y_0 .
- A drift $V_0(y)dt$ can be incorporated (flow decomposition)
- ... but this method fails when $d > 1$.

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- Let us now look at such differential equations when B is replaced by some path $x \in C^1([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$; that is

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- How would one simulate (*) on a computer?

- More precisely: $x \in C^1([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$, $V_1, \dots, V_d \in C^{2,b}(\mathbb{R}^e, \mathbb{R}^e)$

$$dy = V(y) dx \iff \dot{y} = V_i(y) \dot{x}^i$$

(Summation over repeated indices!) Usual Euler-scheme:

$$y_t - y_s \approx V_i(y_s) \int_s^t dx^i$$

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with

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}_{s,t} = \left(\int_s^t dx, \int_s^t \int_s^r dx \otimes dx \right) \in \mathbb{R}^d \oplus \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}.$$

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- Natural scaling assumption. For some $\alpha \in (0, 1]$,

$$\left| \int_s^t dx^i \right| \vee \left| \int_s^t \int_s^r dx^i dx^j \right|^{1/2} \leq c_1 |t - s|^\alpha.$$

[Okay for BM with $\alpha < 1/2$ but keep $x \in C^1$ for now ...]

- *Davie's Lemma*: Error estimate on Step-2 Euler scheme

$$|y_t - y_s - \mathcal{E}(y_s, \underline{\mathbf{x}}_{s,t})| \leq c_2 |t - s|^\theta$$

with $\theta = 3\alpha > 1 \implies$ need $\alpha > 1/3$ [Okay for BM ...]. The catch is *uniformity*

$$c_2 = c_2(c_1) \quad \dots \quad \underline{\text{not}} \quad c_2(|\dot{x}|_\infty) \quad \text{or} \quad c_2(|x|_{Lip})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(y_s, \underline{\mathbf{x}}_{s,t}) &\leq c_3 |t - s|^\alpha, & c_3 &= c_3(c_1) \\ |y_t - y_s| &\leq c_4 |t - s|^\alpha, & c_4 &= c_4(c_1). \end{aligned}$$

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- Take $x_n \in C^1([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$ with *uniform bounds*

$$\sup_n \left| \int_s^t dx_n^i \right| \vee \left| \int_s^t \int_s^r dx_n^i dx_n^j \right|^{1/2} \leq c_1 |t - s|^\alpha$$

s.t. x_n + iterated integrals converge (pointwise) to

$$\underline{x}_t = \left(\underline{x}_t^{(1)}, \underline{x}_t^{(2)} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^d \oplus \mathbb{R}^{d \times d};$$

then call $t \mapsto \underline{x}_t$ a (*geometric*) *rough path*.

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- More regularity + a bit work $\implies \exists!$ RDE solution $y \equiv \Phi(\underline{x}; y_0)$
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... and this "*Itô-Lyons*" map Φ is continuous in the above sense [Lyons 98].

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 - Rough partial differential equations [Caruana-F-Oberhauser ...]

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- As example, consider

$$\dot{y} = V_1(y) + V_2(y) \iff dy = V_1(y) dt + V_2(y) dt;$$

we immediately get the (splitting) result

$$e^{\frac{1}{n}V_2} \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_1} \circ \dots \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_2} \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_1} \rightarrow e^{V_1+V_2}$$

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- Indeed, it suffices to approximate the diagonal $t \mapsto (t, t)$ by a $1/n$ -step function

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$$\dot{y} = V_1(y) + V_2(y) \iff dy = V_1(y) dt + V_2(y) dt;$$

we immediately get the (splitting) result

$$e^{\frac{1}{n}V_2} \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_1} \circ \dots \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_2} \circ e^{\frac{1}{n}V_1} \rightarrow e^{V_1+V_2}$$

where e^{tW} denotes the solution flow to $\dot{z} = W(z)$.

- Indeed, it suffices to approximate the diagonal $t \mapsto (t, t)$ by a $1/n$ -step function
- This approximation converges with uniform 1-Hölder (i.e. Lipschitz) bounds

- **Differential equations driven by pure area:**

$$t \mapsto \underline{x}_t \equiv \left(\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \end{array}, \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & t \\ -t & 0 \end{array} \right) \right)$$

is the limit (with uniform 1/2-Hölder bounds ...) of the highly oscillatory

$$x_n(t) = n^{-1} \exp(2\pi i n^2 t) \in \mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Given two vector fields $V = (V_1, V_2)$ the RDE solution

$$dy = V(y) d\underline{x} \tag{1}$$

models the effective behaviour of the highly oscillatory ODE

$$dy^n = V(y^n) dx^n \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

In fact, the RDE solution of (1) solves the ODE

$$\dot{y} = [V_1, V_2](y)$$

where $[V_1, V_2]$ is the Lie bracket of V_1 and V_2 .

- **Stochastic differential equations:** Let B be d -dimensional Brownian motion. Since $B(\omega) \notin C^1$ careful interpretation of the *stochastic* differential equation

$$dy = V(y) \partial B$$

is necessary (Itô-theory). Define *enhanced Brownian motion*

$$\underline{\mathbf{B}}_t(\omega) = \left(B_t, \int_0^t B_s \otimes \partial B_s \right)$$

where ∂ indicates (Stratonovich) stochastic integration. Then

$$\mathbb{P}[\underline{\mathbf{B}} \text{ is a geometric rough path}] = 1.$$

In fact, martingale arguments shows that $\underline{\mathbf{B}}(\omega)$ is the limit of piecewise linear approximations (with uniform $(1/2 - \varepsilon)$ -Hölder bounds ...).

- RDE solution to $dy = V(y) d\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ is solved for fixed ω , depends continuously on $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ and yields a (classical) Stratonovich SDE solution ...

- **Caution:** topology matters. Possible that, uniformly in t ,

$$\left(B_t^{(n)}, \int_0^t B_s^{(n)} \otimes dB_s^{(n)} \right) \rightarrow \left(B_t, \int_0^t B_s \otimes \partial B_s \right)$$

while DE solutions converge to the "wrong" limit.

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- Key to understanding: view \mathbf{B} as level- N rough path; [F-Oberhauser, JFA 09]
- By rough path continuity, this would *not* happen if, for some $\alpha \in (1/3, 1/2]$,

$$\left| \int_s^t dB_t^{(n)} \right| \vee \left| \int_s^t \int_s^r dB_s^{(n)} \otimes dB_s^{(n)} \right|^{1/2} \leq C(\omega) |t - s|^\alpha.$$

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- SDE theory with Markovian noise: previous to rough path theory, hardly anything
- **Thanks to rough path theory:** large and natural classes of the above processes can be lifted to rough paths with resulting path-by-path stochastic differential equations.

Rough path spaces

- For $x \in C^1([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$, $x_0 = 0$, define generalized increments

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}_{s,t} = \left(1, \int_s^t dx, \int_s^t \int_s^r dx \otimes dx \right) \in \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^d \oplus \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}, \quad 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1$$

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- The (vector) space $\mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}^d \oplus \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ with basis $(1, b^i, b^{jk}; 1 \leq i, j, k \leq d)$ has (truncated tensor) algebra structure; e.g.

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- Non-linear key identity [**Chen '37**]

$$\underline{x}_{s,t} \otimes \underline{x}_{t,u} = \underline{x}_{s,u}, \quad 0 \leq s \leq t \leq u \leq 1.$$

- Actually, $\underline{x}_{s,t} \in G := \exp(\mathbb{R}^d \oplus \mathfrak{so}(d))$ since (1st order calculus!)

$$\text{Sym} \left(\int_s^t \int_s^r dx \otimes dx \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\int_s^t dx \right) \otimes \left(\int_s^t dx \right)$$

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$$\left| \int_s^t dx \right| \vee \left| \int_s^t \int_s^r dx \otimes dx \right|^{1/2} \leq c_1 |t - s|^\alpha$$

... this says precisely that $t \mapsto \underline{\mathbf{x}}_t$ is a Hölder continuous path, with exponent α , in the space G with Carnot-Caratheodory metric

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- The space of all (α -Hölder, geometric) rough paths [previously introduced as pointwise limits of C^1 -paths + iterated integrals subject to uniform α -Hölder bounds] is precisely

$$\left\{ \underline{x} \in C([0, 1], G) : \sup_{0 \leq s < t \leq 1} \frac{d_{CC}(\underline{x}_s, \underline{x}_t)}{|t - s|^\alpha} < \infty \right\}$$

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- Very convenient! E.g. to show rough path regularity of $\underline{\mathbf{B}}_t(\omega)$...

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- **Corollary:** Universal limit theorem for Markov chain approximations to stochastic differential equations.

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- Boils down to showing

$$\forall p < \infty : \mathbb{E} \left[\|\xi_1 * \dots * \xi_k\|_{CC}^{4p} \right] = O(k^{2p}) .$$

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