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Strong Solutions to SDEs

- An "explosion" result
- A center-example
- A comparison principle

An Explosion Result.

In an existence theorem, we assumed

1) b, σ were globally Lipschitz.

2) $X_0 = \xi$ was square integrable.

We now focus on when b, σ are locally Lipschitz and $\xi = x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, providing a useful characterization of strong existence via non-explosion of the solution.

$$dX_t = b(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t.$$

W : n -dim B.M. $b, \sigma: [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ resp.

② Assume b, σ locally Lipschitz in x ,
uniformly in t :

$$\begin{aligned} \|b(t, x) - b(t, y)\| + \|\sigma(t, x) - \sigma(t, y)\| \\ \leq K_n \|x - y\| \quad \|x\|, \|y\| \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

Now, let ψ^n be a C^∞ function s.t.

$$1) \psi^n(x) = 1 \quad \|x\| \leq n$$

$$2) \psi^n(x) = 0 \quad \|x\| \geq n+1.$$

Set

$$\sigma^n(t, x) = \psi^n(x) \sigma(t, x) + (1 - \psi^n(x)) \mathbb{1}_{d \times n}$$

$$b^n(t, x) = \psi^n(x) b(t, x)$$

$$\mathbb{1}_{d \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{d \times n}.$$

Clearly, σ^n, b^n are globally Lipschitz and

$$\sigma^n = \sigma, \quad b^n = b \quad \text{on } \|x\| \leq n.$$

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Let x^n denote the unique strong solution with σ^n, b^n starting at x .

Claim.

Let $n < m$. Let $k \leq n$ and set

$$\tau_k = \inf\{t \mid \|x_t^n\| \geq k\} \wedge \inf\{t \mid \|x_t^m\| \geq k\}$$

where k is large enough so $\|x\| \leq k$.

Then $x^n = x^m$ on $[0, \tau_k]$ i.p.

$$P(x_{t \wedge \tau_k}^n = x_{t \wedge \tau_k}^m \quad \forall t \geq 0) = 1.$$

pf - essentially the same as for strong uniqueness.

$$E[\|x_{t \wedge \tau_k}^n - x_{t \wedge \tau_k}^m\|^p]$$

$$= E\left[\left\| \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_k} (b^n(u, x_u^n) - b^m(u, x_u^m)) du \right.\right.$$

$$\left. + \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_k} (\sigma^n(u, x_u^n) - \sigma^m(u, x_u^m)) dW_u \right\|^p]$$

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But, $\sigma^n = \sigma^m = \sigma$, $b^n = b^m = b$
on $\|y\| \leq k$ so, repeating the
uniqueness proof.

$$E[\|X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^n - X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^m\|^2]$$

$$\leq K_k^2 (1+t) E\left[\int_0^t \|X_{u \wedge \tau_k}^n - X_{u \wedge \tau_k}^m\|^2\right]$$

so, for $t \leq T$ if $g(t) = E[\|X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^n - X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^m\|^2]$

$$0 \leq g(t) \leq K_k^2 (1+T) \int_0^t g(u) du$$

$$\Rightarrow g(t) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P(X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^n = X_{t \wedge \tau_k}^m) = 1 \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

$\therefore$ result follows by continuity. $\square$

⑤ Denote by X the process taking the common value of $\{X^n\}_{n \geq k}$ on $[0, \tau_k]$

$$\text{i.e.: } X_t = X_t^k \quad \text{on } t \leq \inf\{t \mid \|X_t^k\| \geq k\} \\ = \inf\{t \mid \|X_t\| \geq k\}$$

then ~~$X_t = X_t^k$~~

$$X_{t \wedge \tau_k} = X + \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_k} b(X_s) ds + \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_k} \sigma(X_s) dW_s.$$

So, we have the following result:

Thm.

Define the "explosion" time of X to be

$$\tau = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tau_k = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \inf\{t \mid \|X_t\| \geq k\}$$

If $\tau = \infty$ a.s. then X is the unique strong solution of the SDE.

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pf.

$X_{t \wedge \tau_k}$ is $\mathbb{F}_{t \wedge \tau_k}$ mbl by adaptivity

so by left continuity of $\mathbb{F}$ (since it is augmented version of $\mathbb{F}^W$) and

$\tau_k \rightarrow \infty$ we have the result that

X is $\mathbb{F}$ adapted.

Since $\tau_k \rightarrow \infty$ X satisfies the SDE and all the integrals make sense.

- very useful theorem b/c it replaces

1) globally Lipschitz

with

ii) locally Lipschitz + no explosion.

- often one can use other methods to deduce lack of explosions.

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Cantor - Example:

Consider

$$\star \quad dX_t = 3X_t^{1/3} dt + 3X_t^{2/3} dW_t.$$

$$b(x) = 3x^{1/3}, \quad \sigma(x) = 3x^{2/3}$$

- neither function is globally Lipschitz.
or even locally Lipschitz.

Claim.

$\forall \epsilon > 0$, the process

$$X_t^{(\epsilon)} = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq t \leq B_\epsilon = \inf\{s \geq 0 \mid W_s = \epsilon\} \\ W_t^3 & B_\epsilon \leq t \end{cases}$$

is a strong solution of $\star$ starting at 0.

- strong existence does not imply strong uniqueness.

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for $0 \leq t < B_0$

$$\begin{aligned} X_t = 0 &= \int_0^t 0 \, ds + \int_0^t 0 \, dW_s \\ &= 3 \int_0^t X_s^{1/3} \, ds + 3 \int_0^t X_s^{1/3} \, dW_s. \end{aligned}$$

for $t \geq B_0$

$$\begin{aligned} X_t &= X_t - X_{B_0} \\ &= W_t^3 - W_{B_0}^3 \\ &= \int_{B_0}^t 3W_s^2 \, ds + 3 \int_{B_0}^t W_s^2 \, dW_s \\ &= \int_0^t 3X_s^{1/3} \, ds + 3 \int_0^t X_s^{1/3} \, dW_s. \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

so to go from strong existence
to strong uniqueness we need additional
conditions.

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Comparison Results.

Consider the one-dimensional SDE.

$$dX_t = b(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t.$$

- think of b as the drift of X and σ as the noise
- since the noise heuristically pushes X in arbitrary directions, we are led to conjecture that ~~as long as~~ if the drift increases then so should the process. I.e.

$$b^1(t, x) \leq b^2(t, x)$$

$$\Rightarrow X_t^1 \leq X_t^2.$$

- ~~then~~ for ODE's and the noise should cancel out if it is common to both.

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This in fact true

Thm.

Consider

$$dX_t^1 = b^1(t, X_t^1) dt + \sigma(t, X_t^1) dW_t$$

$$dX_t^2 = b^2(t, X_t^2) dt + \sigma(t, X_t^2) dW_t$$

for the same B.N. Assume

1) b^1, σ globally Lipschitz

- Lipschitz condition on σ can be weakened,

$$2) X_0^1 = X_0^2 = X_0^3 = X_0^4$$

- can also handle X_0^1, X_0^2 i.v.
if appropriate integrability holds.

$$3) b^1(t, x) \leq b^2(t, x) \quad \forall t, x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then

$$P(X_t^1 \leq X_t^2 \quad \forall t \geq 0) = 1.$$

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pf

Easy - But relies on a technical fact from analysis:

$\exists$ a sequence of functions $\{\varphi_n\}$ s.t.

$$1) \varphi_n \in C^1(\mathbb{R}) \quad \forall n, \varphi_n \geq 0$$

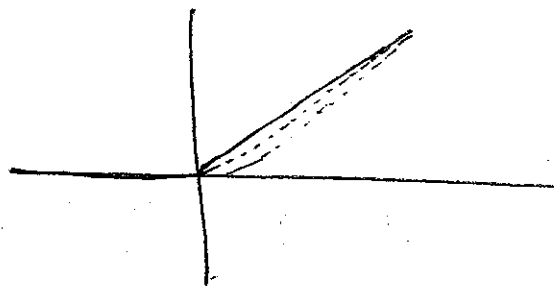
$$2) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(x) = x \quad \forall x > 0$$

$$3) \varphi_n(x) = 0 \quad \text{for } x \leq 0 \quad \forall n$$

$$4) 0 \leq \varphi_n(x) \leq 1 \quad \forall n$$

$$5) 0 \leq \varphi_n(x) \leq \frac{K}{n x^2} \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \quad \forall n.$$

semi-explicit construction in pp 291-294 of the book.



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for this sequence, and assuming by localization that

$$E\left[\int_0^T \sigma(u, x_u^i)^2 du\right] < \infty \quad T \gg 0, \quad i=1,2.$$

we have from Itô that

$$\psi_n(X_t^1 - X_t^2)$$

$$= \int_0^t \psi_n(X_u^1 - X_u^2) \left(b'(u, X_u^1) - b'(u, X_u^2) \right. \\ \left. \pm b'(u, X_u^2) \right) du$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \psi_n(X_u^1 - X_u^2) (\sigma(u, X_u^1) - \sigma(u, X_u^2))^2 du$$

$$+ \int_0^t \psi_n(X_u^1 - X_u^2) (\sigma(u, X_u^1) - \sigma(u, X_u^2)) dW_u.$$

Now.

The local martingale is a martingale since

$$|\psi_n| \leq 1, \quad E\left[\int_0^T \sigma^2(u, x_u^i) du\right] < \infty$$

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By the assumption on ψ_n , σ Lipschitz.

$$\left| \int_0^x \psi_n(x'_0 - x'_0) (\sigma(x'_0) - \sigma(u, x'_0)) du \right|$$

$$\leq \int_0^x \frac{K}{n |x'_0 - x'_0|} \mathbb{1}_{|x'_0 - x'_0| \neq 0} R |x'_0 - x'_0| du$$

$$= \frac{\tilde{K} x}{n}$$

By the assumption on ψ_n , b^1, b^2 :

$$\int_0^x \psi_n(x'_0 - x'_0) (b^1(u, x'_0) - b^1(u, x'_0) + b^1(u, x'_0) - b^2(u, x'_0)) du$$

$$\leq \int_0^x \mathbb{1}_{x'_0 > x'_0} R |x'_0 - x'_0| du$$

$$= R \int_0^x (x'_0 - x'_0)^+ du.$$

Thus

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$$E[\psi_n(X'_x - X''_x)]$$

$$\leq \frac{\tilde{K}x}{n} + R \int_0^x E[(X'_u - X''_u)^+] du$$

taking $n \nearrow \infty$ and using that

$$\psi_n(x) = x^+$$

and Fatou

$$E[(X'_x - X''_x)^+] \leq R \int_0^x E[(X'_u - X''_u)^+] du$$

$\Rightarrow$ By Gronwall

$$P(X'_x > X''_x) = 0 \quad \forall x \geq 0$$

Result follows by continuity.