

From signature SDEs to affine and polynomial processes and back

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(based on ongoing joint works with Guido Gazzani, Sara Svaluto-Ferro and Josef Teichmann)

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Data driven generative models in finance

- **Generative models** enter mathematical finance, in particular in view of market generation.
- Consider
 - ▶ as input some **standard law** \mathbb{P}_I , e.g. Wiener measure on path space, and
 - ▶ \mathbb{P}_O denote some target output law, deduced from (time-series and option) data and not necessarily fully specified.
- A generative model can be viewed as a map G^θ depending on parameters θ which transports \mathbb{P}_I to \mathbb{P}_O . We denote this push-forward by $G_*^\theta \mathbb{P}_I$.
- The goal is to find $\hat{\theta}$ such that $G_*^{\hat{\theta}} \mathbb{P}_I \approx \mathbb{P}_O$ which crucially depends on the parametrization of the transport map G .

Learning the models' characteristics from data

- Highly parametric and overparametrized models gain in importance: instead of a few parameters, the goal is rather to learn the **model characteristics as a whole**.
- Relying on **different universal approximation theorems** yields then different classes of models. As an example of such a transport map G we consider here..

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 - Relying on **different universal approximation theorems** yields then different classes of models. As an example of such a transport map G we consider here..
- ⇒ **Signature stochastic differential equations (Sig-SDEs)**: the model itself or its characteristics are parameterized as linear functions of the signature of a driving signal
- Compare with I. Perez Arribas, C. Salvi, L. Szpruch, 2020 “Sig-SDEs for quantitative finance”

Part I

Signature models in finance

based on

ongoing joint work with G. Gazzani and S. Svaluto-Ferro

Towards signature SDEs in finance

- Consider a **stochastic volatility model** under a pricing measure \mathbb{Q} of the following form

$$\begin{aligned}dS_t &= \sigma(t, S_t, V_t)dW_t^1, \\dV_t &= \kappa^{\mathbb{Q}}(V_t)dt + \nu(V_t)dW_t^2,\end{aligned}$$

with

- ▶ S the price process, V the volatility or instantaneous variance process,
- ▶ W^1 and W^2 are correlated \mathbb{Q} -Brownian motions and
- ▶ $\sigma, \kappa^{\mathbb{Q}}, \nu$ some functions.

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with

- ▶ S the price process, V the volatility or instantaneous variance process,
 - ▶ W^1 and W^2 are correlated \mathbb{Q} -Brownian motions and
 - ▶ $\sigma, \kappa^{\mathbb{Q}}, \nu$ some functions.
- As well known from the theory of **rough paths** (T. Lyons '98), solutions of such SDEs can be approximated arbitrarily well by **linear maps** of the so-called **signature process** of $t \mapsto (t, W_t^1, W_t^2)$, denoted by $\widehat{\mathbb{W}}$.
- Very briefly, the signature process is the (infinite dimensional tensor algebra valued) **process of iterated integrals** (in the Stratonovich sense).

Signature SDEs (Sig-SDEs) in finance

- In other words **signature** serves as **linear regression basis** that allows to approximate continuous (with respect to a certain p -variation norm for $p \in (2, 3)$) path functionals arbitrarily well.
- We can thus approximate the price process via

$$S_t = S_0 + \ell(\widehat{W}_t) = S_0 + \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle e_I, \widehat{W}_t \rangle,$$

where ℓ denotes a linear map (and $\ell_I \in \mathbb{R}$ the corresponding coefficients with respect to the basis elements e_I of the tensor algebra).

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$$\begin{aligned}
 S_t &= S_0 + \ell(\widehat{\mathbb{W}}_t) = S_0 + \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle e_I, \widehat{\mathbb{W}}_t \rangle, \\
 &= S_0 + \int_0^t \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle \tilde{e}_I, \widehat{\mathbb{W}}_s \rangle dW_s^1, \quad (\text{Price-Sig-SDE})
 \end{aligned}$$

where ℓ denotes a linear map (and $\ell_I \in \mathbb{R}$ the corresponding coefficients with respect to the basis elements e_I and \tilde{e}_I respectively of the tensor algebra).

- Note that this covers also **models with path dependent characteristics**.
- Similar Sig-SDE models have been considered by [I. Perez Arribas](#), [C. Salvi](#), [L. Szpruch](#) ('20).

Properties of Sig-SDEs

- **Advantages:**

- ▶ **Universality:** any classical model (with path dependent characteristics) can be arbitrarily well approximated
- ▶ Classical requirements from mathematical finance, like no arbitrage, can be easily solved, e.g. the price is a martingale due to (Price-Sig-SDE).
- ▶ Appropriate to account for high dimensional option and time series data
- ▶ **Tractability:** Sig-SDEs are projections of infinite dimensional affine and polynomial processes

- **Disadvantages:**

- ▶ Parameters are no longer interpretable
- ▶ Robustness of solutions? Ranges of exotic option prices?

Signature of a path

Signature, first studied by K. Chen ('57, '77), plays a prominent role in rough path theory (T. Lyons ('98), P. Friz & M. Hairer ('14)). It owes its relevance to the following three key facts:

- The signature of a (geometric) rough path **uniquely determines the path** up to tree-like equivalences (see H. Boedihardjo, X. Geng, T. Lyons, & D. Yang ('16)).
- Under certain conditions, **the expected signature of a stochastic process determines its law**. (see I. Chevyrev & T. Lyons ('16), I. Chevyrev & H. Oberhauser ('18)).
- **Continuous path functional can be approximated by a linear function of the time extended signature** arbitrarily well.
⇒ **Universal approximation theorem (UAT)**.

Definition of the signature

The signature of a continuous path X with values in \mathbb{R}^d is defined via iterated integrals of the path as follows.

Definition

Let X be a path of finite p -variation such that the following integration makes sense. Then the signature \mathbb{X}_T of X over the time interval $[0, T]$ is given by

$$\mathbb{X}_T = (1, X_T^{(1)}, \dots, X_T^{(n)}, \dots),$$

where for each integer $n \geq 1$,

$$X_T^{(n)} := \int_{0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n < T} dX_{t_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dX_{t_n} \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

When X is a path of a continuous semimartingale we shall always define it in the sense of the [Stratonovich integral](#) (which is a first order calculus).

Tensor algebra

- The signature is an element of the tensor algebra space $T((\mathbb{R}^d))$ given by

$$T((\mathbb{R}^d)) := \{(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n, \dots) \mid \text{for all } n \geq 0, a_n \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}\},$$

where by convention $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes 0} = \mathbb{R}$.

- Generic elements of $T((\mathbb{R}^d))$ are always denoted in bold face, e.g.

$$\mathbf{a} = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n, \dots).$$

- Notation:

- ▶ \mathcal{I}_d : set of multi-indexes with entries in $\{1, \dots, d\}$. The length of an index I is denoted by $|I|$.
- ▶ (e_1, \dots, e_d) is the canonical basis of \mathbb{R}^d .
- ▶ For any positive integer n , $(e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_n})_{(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \{1, \dots, d\}^n}$ form a basis of $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$.
- ▶ We write $e_I = e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_n}$ for $I = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$.

Coordinate signature

Definition

The coordinate signature of X indexed by $I = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$ denoted by $C_{I,T}(X)$ is defined to be

$$C_{I,T}(X) := \int_{0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n < T} \circ dX_{t_1}^{i_1} \cdots \circ dX_{t_n}^{i_n},$$

where \circ stands here for a first order calculus, in particular to indicate the Stratonovic integral in the case of a semimartingale. Thus it follows that

$$\mathbb{X}_T = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{|I|=n} C_{I,T}(X) e_I \in T((\mathbb{R}^d)).$$

Notationwise, we often write for linear functionals $\langle e_I, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ as well as $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ for \mathbf{u} of the form $\mathbf{u} = \sum_{k \geq 0} u_k e_{I_k}$ (also infinite sums), where $u_k \in \mathbb{R}$ and I_k denotes some multi-index (formal dual space).

Example

- Let X be a one-dimensional path of finite variation. Then, for every $n \geq 1$, the iterated integrals are given by

$$C_{(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n \text{ times}}, T)}(X) = \frac{(X_T - X_0)^n}{n!}$$

and thus correspond to polynomials. This form translates one to one to semimartingales due to the Stratonovich integral.

- In higher dimension these expressions become more involved. Consider the two dimensional path $t \mapsto (t, B_t)$ for B a standard Brownian motion. Then

$$C_{(1), T} = T, \quad C_{(2), T} = B_T,$$

$$C_{(1,1), T} = \frac{T^2}{2}, \quad C_{(1,2), T} = TB_T - \int_0^T B_t dt, \quad C_{(2,1), T} = \int_0^T B_t dt, \quad C_{(2,2), T} = \frac{B_T^2}{2}$$

...

so that we get expressions that depend on the whole path of the Brownian motion.

Shuffle product

- The crucial and remarkable property is that the pointwise product of two linear functionals (which is clearly a quadratic functional) is still a linear functional when restricted to the space of signatures.
- In other words every polynomial on signatures may be realized as a linear functional which is a consequence of the following theorem (Ree ('58)).

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Theorem

Fix two multi-indices $I = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$ and $J = (j_1, \dots, j_m)$. Then

$$\langle e_I, \mathbb{X}_T \rangle \langle e_J, \mathbb{X}_T \rangle = \langle e_I \sqcup e_J, \mathbb{X}_T \rangle,$$

where the shuffle product \sqcup is recursively defined as

$$e_I \sqcup e_J = e_{i_1} \otimes ((e_{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_n}) \sqcup e_J) + e_{j_1} \otimes (e_I \sqcup (e_{j_2} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{j_m})),$$

with $e_i \sqcup 1 := e_i$ and $1 \sqcup e_i := e_i$.

Towards data driven Sig-SDEs

- Suppose that we are given the trajectory of the price process S under \mathbb{P} in line with a stochastic volatility model of the form

$$\begin{aligned}dS_t &= \mu(S_t, V_t)dt + S_t \sqrt{V_t} dW_t^{\mathbb{P},1} \\dV_t &= \kappa^{\mathbb{P}}(V_t)dt + \nu(V_t)dW_t^{\mathbb{P},2}.\end{aligned}$$

with correlated Brownian motions $(W_t^{\mathbb{P},1}, W_t^{\mathbb{P},2})$.

- Then we can infer from pathwise covariance estimation $t \mapsto V_t$ and in turn $t \mapsto \nu^2(V_t) = \langle V_t, V_t \rangle$.
- From this we can recover estimates of correlated \mathbb{Q} -Brownian motions

$$\begin{aligned}W_t^1 &= \int_0^t \frac{\mu(S_s, V_s)}{S_s V_s} dt + W_t^{\mathbb{P},1} \\W_t^2 &= \int_0^t \frac{\kappa^{\mathbb{P}}(V_s)}{\nu(V_s)} dt + W_t^{\mathbb{P},2},\end{aligned}$$

which would lead to a stochastic volatility model under \mathbb{Q} with $\mu = \kappa^{\mathbb{Q}} = 0$.

Calibration to time-series data

- With these Brownian motions obtained from market data, we compute the signature process $\widehat{\mathbb{W}}$.
- The first goal is now to find coefficients ℓ_I such that the Sig-SDE model

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_t &= S_0 + \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle e_I, \widehat{\mathbb{W}}_t \rangle \\
 &= S_0 + \int_0^t \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle \tilde{e}_I, \widehat{\mathbb{W}}_s \rangle dW_s^1 \\
 &= S_0 + \int_0^t \sum_{0 < |I| \leq n} \ell_I \langle \tilde{e}_I, \widehat{\mathbb{W}}_s \rangle \left(\frac{\mu(S_s, V_s)}{S_s V_s} ds + dW_s^{\mathbb{P},1} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

matches say N observed market prices $(S_{t_1}^M, \dots, S_{t_N}^M)$.

Calibration to time-series data

- This means either matching directly the prices

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\ell} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\sum_I \ell_I \langle e_I, \widehat{W}_{t_i} \rangle - (S_{t_i}^M - S_0) \right)^2$$

or the volatility

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\ell} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\sum_I \ell_I \langle \tilde{e}_I, \widehat{W}_{t_i} \rangle - (S_{t_i}^M \sqrt{V_{t_i}^M}) \right)^2$$

- In both cases is just a **linear regression** on the components of the signature.

First results

- Learn a Black-Scholes market (using the signature computed from the estimated Brownian motion)
- Compare the learned Sig-SDE model with a new Black Scholes trajectory.

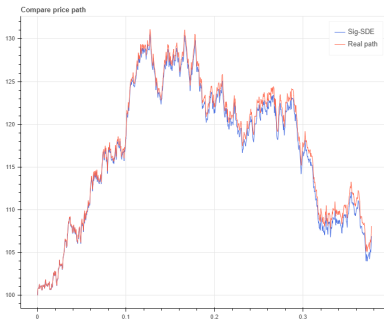
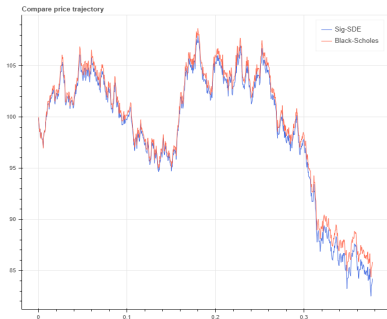


Figure: Out of sample comparison using regression on the price (left) and regression on the volatility (right)

Towards calibration to option data

- We say that F is a **signature payoff** if it is a linear function of the signature of $t \mapsto (t, S_t)$, i.e.

$$F(\widehat{S}_T) = \sum_{|I| \leq m} f_I \langle e_I, \widehat{S}_T \rangle.$$

- Since linear functions on the signature are dense in the space continuous path functionals, we can approximate any (exotic) payoff (here on S) by signature payoffs.
- Asian forwards are for instance signature payoffs.
- **The price of a signature payoff is given by $\sum_{|I| \leq m} f_I \langle e_I, \mathbb{E}[\widehat{S}_T] \rangle$ provided that $\mathbb{E}[\widehat{S}_T] < \infty$ for all relevant components.**

Pricing of signature payoffs

Proposition (C.C, G. Gazzani, S.Svaluto-Ferro ('21))

In a Sig-SDE model of the form

$$S_t = S_0 + \int_0^t \sum_{0 < |\ell| \leq n} \ell_\ell \langle \tilde{e}_\ell, \widehat{W}_s \rangle dW_s^1$$

the price of a signature payoff $F(\widehat{S}_T) = \sum_{|\ell| \leq m} f_\ell \langle e_\ell, \widehat{S}_T \rangle$ can be expressed as

$$\mathbb{E}_Q[F(\widehat{S}_T)] = \sum_J \widehat{f}_J p_J(\ell) \langle \widehat{e}_J, \mathbb{E}_Q[\widehat{W}_T] \rangle,$$

where $p_J(\ell)$ are polynomials in the coefficients of ℓ and where \widehat{f}_J only depends on F .

Calibration to option data

- The calibration to N options with signature payoffs and market prices (π^1, \dots, π^N) can thus be formalized via

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\ell} \sum_{i=1}^N w^i \left(\sum_J \hat{f}_J^i p_J^i(\ell) \langle \hat{e}_J, \mathbb{E}[\widehat{\mathbb{W}}_T] \rangle - \pi^i \right)^2,$$

where w^i are certain weights.

- Advantages**

- ▶ The crucial point is here that $\mathbb{E}[\widehat{\mathbb{W}}_T]$ only needs to be computed once! (No Monte Carlo integration in each optimization step!)
- ▶ This criterion can be easily combined with the time series criterion.

- Disadvantages**

- ▶ Approximation of general payoffs is comparable with one-dimensional approximation by polynomials.

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- ▶ How can we compute $\mathbb{E}[\widehat{\mathbb{W}}_T]$?

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- How can we compute $\mathbb{E}[\widehat{\mathbb{W}}_T]$? see e.g. Friz & Hairer ('14)
- An affine and polynomial process point view helps generically...

Part II

An affine and polynomial perspective on signature SDEs

based on

- Universality of affine and polynomial processes (ongoing joint work with S. Svaluto-Ferro and J. Teichmann)
- Infinite dimensional polynomial processes (joint work with S. Svaluto-Ferro)

Motivation

A plethora of stochastic models stem from the class of **affine and polynomial processes**, even though this is not always visible at first sight.

- **Finite dimensional examples:** Lévy processes, Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes, Feller diffusion, Wishart processes, Black-Scholes model, Wright-Fisher diffusion (Jacobi process), ...
- **Infinite dimensional examples:**
 - ▶ **measure valued processes:** Dawson-Watanabe process, Fleming-Viot process, Markovian lifts of Volterra processes
 - ▶ **Hilbert space valued processes:** (forward) curve models, lifts of rough volatility models (rough Heston, rough Wishart or rough Bergomi)
 - ▶ **sequence space valued processes:** signature of Brownian motion

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 - ▶ **sequence space valued processes:** signature of Brownian motion

⇒ **Universal model classes?**

⇒ **Mathematically precise statements for this universality?**

⇒ **Can we embed signature SDEs in this framework?**

⇒ **Method: linearize certain classes of SDEs via signature methods**

Definition of affine and polynomial processes

Simplest setting (for illustrative purposes): Itô diffusion in one dimension with state space S , some (bounded or unbounded) interval of \mathbb{R} :

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sqrt{a(X_t)}dB_t, \quad X_0 = x, \quad (*)$$

with $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ and $b : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous functions and B a Brownian motion.

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Definition

A weak solution X of $(*)$ is called **polynomial process** if

- b is an affine function, i.e. $b(x) = b + \beta x$ for some constants b and β and
- a is a quadratic function, i.e. $a(x) = a + \alpha x + Ax^2$ for some constants a , α and A .

If additionally $A = 0$, then the process is called **affine**.

We denote by \mathcal{A} the **infinitesimal generator** of a diffusion of form $(*)$, given by $\mathcal{A}f(x) = f'(x)b(x) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)a(x)$.

Key properties of affine and polynomial processes

From this definition, ...

- ... they appear as a narrow class, whose universal character is at this stage by no means visible.
- ... follow some remarkable implications.
 - ▶ All marginal **moments of a polynomial process**, i.e. $\mathbb{E}[X_t^n]$ can be computed by solving a system of **linear ODEs**.
 - ▶ Additionally, **exponential moments of affine processes**, i.e. $\mathbb{E}[\exp(uX_t)]$ for $u \in \mathbb{C}$ can be expressed in terms of solutions of **Riccati ODEs** whenever $\mathbb{E}[|\exp(uX_t)|] < \infty$.

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We here briefly present these implications from the point of view of **dual processes**. This differs from the original papers

- D. Duffie, D. Filipović & W. Schachermayer ('03); D. Filipović & E. Mayerhofer ('09);
- C., M. Keller-Ressel & J. Teichmann ('12); D. Filipovic & M. Larsson ('16).

Methods to compute expected values

We can distinguish three different ways how to compute $\mathbb{E}_x[f(X_t)]$.

- ① **Kolmogorov backward equation:** $\mathbb{E}_x[f(X_t)] = g(t, x)$, where

$$\partial_t g(t, x) = \mathcal{A}g(t, x), \quad g(0, x) = f(x).$$

- ② **Duality method:** Let $(U_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be an independent Markov process with state space U and infinitesimal generator \mathcal{B} . Assume that there is some $f : S \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\mathcal{A}f(\cdot, u)|_x = \mathcal{B}f(x, \cdot)|_u, \quad \text{for all } x \in S, u \in U,$$

then (modulo technicalities) $\mathbb{E}_x[f(X_t, u)] = \mathbb{E}_u[f(x, U_t)]$.

- ③ **Kolmogorov backward equation for the dual:** $\mathbb{E}_x[f(X_t, u)] = v(t, u, x)$, where

$$\partial_t v(t, u, x) = \mathcal{B}v(t, u, x), \quad v(0, u, x) = f(x, u).$$

Moment formula for polynomial processes

- For a polynomial of degree k with coefficients vector $c = (c_0, \dots, c_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{k+1}$ we write $p(x, c) := \langle c, \bar{x} \rangle_k = \sum_{i=0}^k c_i x^i$.
- **Dual polynomial operator \mathcal{B}** : acting on $c \mapsto p(x, c)$ s.t. $\mathcal{A}p(\cdot, c)|_x = \mathcal{B}p(x, \cdot)|_c$. We can identify \mathcal{B} with a linear map L_k from \mathbb{R}^{k+1} to \mathbb{R}^{k+1} such that $\mathcal{A}p(\cdot, c)|_x = \langle L_k c, \bar{x} \rangle_k = p(x, L_k c)$ for all $x \in S$.

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Theorem (C.C., M. Keller-Ressel, J. Teichmann ('12))

Let $T > 0$ be fixed and let X be a polynomial process. Denote by $c(t) = (c_0(t), \dots, c_k(t))^{\top}$ the solution of the following linear ODE

$$\partial_t c(t) = L_k c(t), \quad c(0) = c \in \mathbb{R}^{k+1}.$$

Then its moments are given by

$$\mathbb{E}_x \left[\sum_{i=0}^k c_i X_T^i \right] = \sum_{i=0}^k c_i(T) x^i = \langle \exp(L_k T) c, \bar{x} \rangle_k.$$

Affine case

- In the affine case, the function family of interest are exponentials.
- For notational convenience we set $b = 0$ and $a = 0$ in the definition of the affine process so that we deal with purely **linear processes**.
- **Dual affine operator \mathcal{B}** : acting on $u \mapsto \exp(ux)$ such that

$$\mathcal{A} \exp(u \cdot) |_x = \mathcal{B} \exp(\cdot x) |_u, \quad x \in S.$$

- To explicitly compute the form of \mathcal{B} , define the function

$$R(u) := \frac{1}{2} \alpha u^2 + \beta u.$$

Then, by definition $\mathcal{B} \exp(ux) = \mathcal{A} \exp(ux) = (R(u)x) \exp(ux)$.

- Therefrom we can guess that \mathcal{B} is the restriction of the following transport operator applied to function $g \in C^1(\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C})$:

$$\mathcal{B}g(u) = R(u)g'(u).$$

Affine transform formula - transport PDE

Applying the third method, i.e. computing the Kolmogorov equation for the dual process, yields...

Theorem (D. Duffie, Filipović, Schachermayer ('03), C.C. and J. Teichmann ('18))

Let $T > 0$ be fixed and let X be an affine process. Let $u \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $\mathbb{E}[|\exp(uX_T)|] < \infty$. Then,

$$\mathbb{E}_x [\exp(uX_T)] = v(T, u, x),$$

where $v(t, u, x)$ solves the following linear PDE of transport type

$$\partial_t v(t, u, x) = \mathcal{B}v(t, u, x) = R(u)\partial_u v(t, u, x), \quad v(0, u, x) = \exp(ux), \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Affine transform formula - Riccati ODE

Applying the duality method now to the deterministic dual process $\psi(t, u)$, given as solution of the Riccati ODE $\partial_t \psi(t, u) = R(\psi(t, u))$, yields ...

Theorem (cont.)

The unique solution to this transport equation can be expressed by

$$v(t, u, x) = \exp(\psi(t, u)x),$$

where ψ (the dual process here) solves the following Riccati differential equation

$$\partial_t \psi(t, u) = R(\psi(t, u)), \quad \psi(0, u) = u.$$

Hence, $\mathbb{E}_x [\exp(uX_T)] = \exp(\psi(T, u)x)$.

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Hence, $\mathbb{E}_x [\exp(uX_T)] = \exp(\psi(T, u)x)$.

We have here treated the one-dimensional diffusion setting, mainly to ease notation and technicalities. This is over now ...

Affine processes on the extended tensor algebra

- State space $\mathcal{S} \subseteq T((\mathbb{R}^d))$
- $\mathcal{S}^* = \{\mathbf{u} \in T((\mathbb{R}^d)) + iT((\mathbb{R}^d)) \mid |\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle| < \infty \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}\}$
- $\widehat{\mathcal{U}} := \{\mathbf{u} \in T((\mathbb{R}^d)) + iT((\mathbb{R}^d)) \mid \mathbf{x} \mapsto |\exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle)| \text{ is bounded on } \mathcal{S}\}$

Definition

We call a linear operator \mathcal{L} of **affine type** if there exists a distribution determining subset $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \widehat{\mathcal{U}}$ and a map $R : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^*$, $\mathbf{u} \mapsto R(\mathbf{u})$ such that

$$\mathcal{L} \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle) = \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle) \langle R(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{x} \rangle$$

on the family of functions $\{\mathbf{x} \mapsto \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle) \mid \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}\}$.

Affine processes on the tensor algebra space

An \mathcal{S} -valued process $(\mathbb{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ defined on some filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}, \mathbb{P})$ is called a **solution to the martingale problem for \mathcal{L}** if

- 1 $\mathbb{X}_0 = \mathbf{x}_0$ \mathbb{P} -a.s. for some initial value $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathcal{S}$,
- 2 for every $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$ there exists a càdlàg version of $(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle)_{t \geq 0}$ and $(\langle R(\mathbf{u}), \mathbb{X}_t \rangle)_{t \geq 0}$ and
- 3 the process

$$M_t^{\mathbf{u}} := \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle) - \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle) - \int_0^t \mathcal{L} \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_s \rangle) ds$$

defines a local martingale for every $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$.

Definition

Suppose that \mathcal{L} is of affine type and that the corresponding martingale problem admits a unique solution $(\mathbb{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$. Then $(\mathbb{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is called \mathcal{S} -valued **affine process**.

Affine transform formula

Theorem (C.C., S. Svaluto-Ferro, J. Teichmann ('21))

Let $(\mathbb{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be an \mathcal{S} -valued affine process with initial value \mathbf{x}_0 . Set

$$g(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}) := \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |\langle R(\mathbf{u})^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}^{(n)} \rangle|, \quad \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}$$

and suppose that for each $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$ and $I \in \mathcal{I}_d$

$$\mathbb{E}[\sup_{t \leq T} g(\mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_t) | \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle)] < \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}[\sup_{t \leq T} (1 + |\langle e_I, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle|) | \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle)] < \infty.$$

Then for all $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0}[\exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_T \rangle)] = v(T, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0),$$

where $v(t, \mathbf{u})$ is a solution to the following transport equation

$$\partial_t v(t, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \langle R(\mathbf{u}), \nabla_{\mathbf{u}} v(t, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle, \quad v(0, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0) = \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle).$$

Affine transform formula

Theorem (cont.)

Suppose that there exists a solution of the tensor algebra valued Riccati equation up to time T with values in \mathcal{U} such that

$$\partial_t \langle \psi(t, \mathbf{u}), \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle R(\psi(t, \mathbf{u})), \mathbf{x} \rangle, \quad \psi(0, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}.$$

Then, if $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{s,t \leq T} |\langle R(\psi(s, \mathbf{u})), \mathbb{X}_t \rangle \exp(\langle \psi(s, \mathbf{u}), \mathbb{X}_t \rangle)] < \infty$, it holds that

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbb{X}_T \rangle)] = \exp(\langle \psi(T, \mathbf{u}), \mathbf{x}_0 \rangle).$$

Back to Sig-SDE models

- Consider a generalization of the previous Sig SDE model with state space $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ given by

$$dX_t = \mathbf{b}(\widehat{X}_t)dt + \sqrt{\mathbf{a}(\widehat{X}_t)}dB_t, \quad (\text{SigSDE})$$

where B is a $d - 1$ dimensional standard Brownian motion B and $(\widehat{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ denotes the signature of $t \mapsto (X_t, t)$.

- Here, \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{a} are linear functions, more precisely $\mathbf{b} : T((\mathbb{R}^d)) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ with $b_i(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} : T((\mathbb{R}^d)) \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_+^{d-1}$ with $a_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{a}_{ij}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$, where $\mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{a}_{ij} \in T((\mathbb{R}^d))$.
- \Rightarrow Truly general class of diffusions whose coefficients can depend on the whole path.
- We suppose that a solution to (SigSDE) exists uniquely on an appropriate state space S .
 - Note the PriceSigSDE model from before can be embedded in this framework by considering the process $X = (W^1, W^2, S)$.

Sig-SDEs are (formally) affine processes

Lemma

Consider the signature process $\widehat{\mathbb{X}}_t$ of $t \mapsto (X_t, t)$ with X given by (SigSDE). Suppose that for some $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \widehat{\mathcal{U}}$ the map $R : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow T((\mathbb{R}^d))$ given by

$$R(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_{I \in \mathcal{I}_d} \left(\frac{1}{2} (e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_{|I|-2}}) \sqcup \mathbf{a}_{i_{|I|-1} i_{|I|}} + (e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_{|I|-1}}) \sqcup \mathbf{b}_{i_{|I|}} \right) \mathbf{u}_I \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I, J \in \mathcal{I}_d} ((e_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{i_{|I|-1}}) \sqcup (e_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes e_{j_{|J|-1}}) \sqcup \mathbf{a}_{i_{|I|} j_{|J|}}) \mathbf{u}_I \mathbf{u}_J,$$

satisfies $R(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ for each $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$. Fix then $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$ and set $\mathcal{L} \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle) = \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x} \rangle) \langle R(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{x} \rangle$ for each $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}$. Then

$$\exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \widehat{\mathbb{X}}_t \rangle) - \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, 1 \rangle) - \int_0^t \mathcal{L} \exp(\langle \mathbf{u}, \widehat{\mathbb{X}}_s \rangle) ds$$

is a local martingale and \mathcal{L} is of affine type.

Sig-SDEs are (formally) affine processes

Corollary

Let X be given by (SigSDE) and R as of the previous lemma. Suppose there exists a distribution determining set $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \widehat{\mathcal{U}}$ such that $R(\mathcal{U}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}^*$. Then

- the signature process $(\widehat{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ of $t \mapsto (X_t, t)$ is an affine process taking values in $T((\mathbb{R}^d))$;
 - X is the projection of an affine process.
-
- Difficulty: Determine the set \mathcal{U} and verify the conditions on R , which are needed to guarantee that the affine transform formula holds.
 - Generic methodology, to obtain power series expansions of the logarithm of the characteristic function/Laplace transform with coefficients solving an infinite dimensional Riccati equation.
 - The corresponding convergence radii have to be determined.

Sig-SDEs as polynomial processes and expected signature

Note that in this framework affine and polynomial processes coincide, and we can therefore also apply polynomial technology.

Theorem (C.C., S. Svaluto-Ferro, J. Teichmann ('21))

Consider the signature process $\widehat{\mathbb{X}}_t$ of $t \mapsto (X_t, t)$ with X given by (SigSDE). Fix some multi-index $l = (i_1, \dots, i_{|l|})$ and define an operator L (corresponding to the dual polynomial operator) by

$$Le_l = \frac{1}{2}(e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_{|l|-2}}) \sqcup \mathbf{a}_{i_{|l|-1}i_{|l|}} + (e_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{i_{|l|-1}}) \sqcup \mathbf{b}_{i_{|l|}}.$$

Consider $\exp(TL)e_l = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{T^k}{k!} L^k e_l$ and suppose that $\langle \exp(TL)e_l, \underbrace{\widehat{\mathbb{X}}_0}_{(1,0,0,\dots)} \rangle < \infty$.

If $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{s,t \leq T} |\langle \exp(tL)e_l, \widehat{\mathbb{X}}_s \rangle|] < \infty$ and $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{s,t \leq T} |\langle L \exp(tL)e_l, \widehat{\mathbb{X}}_s \rangle|] < \infty$, then

$$\mathbb{E}[\langle e_l, \widehat{\mathbb{X}}_T \rangle] = \langle \exp(TL)e_l, \underbrace{\widehat{\mathbb{X}}_0}_{(1,0,0,\dots)} \rangle.$$

One dimensional diffusions with analytic characteristics ...

- Consider a one-dimensional diffusion process X on $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+$ of the form

$$dX_t = \langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle dt + \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbb{X}_t \rangle} dB_t, \quad X_0 = x_0,$$

where $(\mathbb{X}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ denotes its signature (without t part here) and \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{a} are such that $\langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \rangle < \infty$ and $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} \rangle < \infty$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in S$.

- Since $\mathbb{X}_t = (1, X_t - x, \frac{(X_t - x)^2}{2}, \dots, \frac{(X_t - x)^n}{n!}, \dots)$, we can reparametrize and write

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sqrt{a(X_t)}dB_t, \quad X_0 = x, \quad (\text{SDE - 1d})$$

where the above conditions translate to b and a being analytic functions, i.e.

$$b(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n, \quad a(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n,$$

converging on an open neighborhood of S .

... are projections of affine processes

Assumption

- Let X be specified by (SDE - 1d) and let $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq C_0(S) \rightarrow C_0(S)$. Set $\mathcal{U} = \{\mathbf{u} = (u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mid x \mapsto \exp(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n x^n) \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A})\}$.
- For fixed T , all $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}$, $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{t \leq T} |X_t|^n \exp(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n X_t^n)] < \infty$.

Theorem (C.C, S. Svaluto-Ferro, J. Teichmann ('21))

Under the above assumption, the process $(1, X_t, X_t^2, \dots, X_t^n, \dots)$ is affine.

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Under the above assumption, the process $(1, X_t, X_t^2, \dots, X_t^n, \dots)$ is affine. By further strengthening the conditions, the affine transform formula holds

$$\mathbb{E}_x[\exp(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n X_t^n)] = \exp(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \psi_n(t, \mathbf{u}) x^n), \quad \text{with } \partial_t \psi(t, \mathbf{u}) = R(\psi(t, \mathbf{u})),$$

where ψ solves an sequence valued Riccati equation.

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where ψ solves an sequence valued Riccati equation.

Some recent related literature on expansions of moment generating functions:

- E. Alos, J. Gatheral & R. Radoicic ('20); P. Friz, J. Gatheral & R. Radoicic ('20): "Forests, cumulants, martingales"

Relation to polynomial technology

Theorem (C.C, S. Svaluto-Ferro, J.Teichmann ('21))

Let X be specified by (SDE - 1d) and consider the following infinite matrix

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b_0 & a_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b_1 & a_1 + 2b_0 & 3a_0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & b_n & a_n + 2b_{n-1} & 3a_{n-1} + 3b_{n-2} & \dots & \dots & \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} a_0 & \dots \\ 0 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

Suppose that the linear ODE $\partial_t \langle \mathbf{c}(t), \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle L\mathbf{c}(t), \mathbf{x} \rangle$ with $\mathbf{c}(0) = \mathbf{c}$ admits a solution on $[0, T]$ such that $\langle \mathbf{c}(t), \mathbf{x} \rangle < \infty$ for every $\mathbf{x} \in S$ and $t \in [0, T]$. Suppose furthermore that $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{s,t \leq T} |\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(t) X_s^n|] < \infty$ and $\mathbb{E}[\sup_{s,t \leq T} |\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (L\mathbf{c}(t))_n X_s^n|] < \infty$. Then

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_0} \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n X_T^n \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(T) x_0^n.$$

Examples

For the following examples we can for instance compute the moment generating function

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_0}[\exp(uX_T)] = \sum c_n(T)x_0^n$$

for appropriate u by solving the above infinite dimensional linear ODE with initial value $\mathbf{c} = (1, u, \frac{u}{2}, \dots, \frac{u^k}{k!}, \dots)$.

- Classically non-polynomial examples:

- ▶ $dX_t = \sqrt{X_t}(1 - X_t)dB_t$ on $[0, 1]$

- ▶ $dX_t = \kappa \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \pi(X_t^i - X_t)dt + \sqrt{X_t(1 - X_t)}dB_t$ on $[0, 1]$

- Affine Feller diffusion: $dX_t = \sqrt{a_1 X_t}dB_t$ on \mathbb{R}_+ . For $u < 0$ we get the well known expression for the Laplace transform

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_0}[\exp(uX_T)] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\frac{u^n}{(1 - \frac{a_1}{2}uT)^n n!}}_{c_n(T)} x_0^n = \exp\left(\frac{ux_0}{1 - \frac{a_1}{2}uT}\right).$$

Conclusion

- Generic classes of SDEs can be proved to be (formally) affine by lifting them to the signature space where polynomials are linear functionals.
 - Power series expansions for the Laplace transform/characteristic function and moments via affine and polynomial technology
 - Signature SDEs can be embedded in an affine and polynomial framework which in particular allows to compute expected signature via polynomial technology.
- ⇒ Sig-SDEs models thus distinguish themselves in
- ▶ universality, since the dynamics of all classical models can be arbitrarily well approximated
 - ▶ efficient pricing, hedging and calibration (through expected signature).

Thank you for your attention!