Markus Reiß

Stochastic Analysis / Stochastic Processes II
Summer 2024
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Exercises: sheet 1

1. For a Brownian motion $(B_t, t \geqslant 0)$ and $h > 0$ consider the process of difference quotients $X_t^{(h)} := (B_{t+h} - B_t)/h$, $t \geqslant 0$.

   (a) Show that $X^{(h)}$ is a centred Gaussian process and determine its covariance function.

   (b) For $h \downarrow 0$ show that the covariance function becomes a δ-function in the sense that
   $$\lim_{h\downarrow 0} \mathbb{E}\Big[\int_0^1 f(t)X_t^{(h)}dt \int_0^1 g(s)X_s^{(h)}ds\Big] = \int_0^1 f(t)g(t)\,dt$$
   for test functions $f, g : [0,1] \to \mathbb{R}$ (you may assume any regularity first, then try to find minimal assumptions).

2. A *Brownian bridge* $(B_t^0, t \in [0,1])$ is a Gaussian process with mean zero and covariance function $\operatorname{Cov}(B_t^0, B_s^0) = t \wedge s - ts$, $t, s \in [0,1]$. Prove that there is a γ-Hölder continuous version of a Brownian bridge for any $\gamma \in (0, 1/2)$.

3. Let $(\varphi_k)_{k\geqslant 1}$ be an orthonormal basis of $L^2([0,1])$, i.e. $\langle \varphi_k, \varphi_l \rangle_{L^2} = \delta_{k,l}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^n \langle f, \varphi_k\rangle_{L^2}\varphi_k$ converges in L^2 for $n \to \infty$ to f for $f \in L^2([0,1])$. For a sequence $(Y_k)_{k\geqslant 1}$ of independent $N(0,1)$-random variables put
   $$B_t := \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Y_k \Phi_k(t), \quad t \in [0,1],$$
   with antiderivatives $\Phi_k(t) = \int_0^t \varphi_k(s)ds$. Prove:

   (a) For fixed $t \in [0,1]$ the process $M_n^{(t)} := \sum_{k=1}^n Y_k\Phi_k(t)$ converges almost surely and in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ to some $M_\infty^{(t)} \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$ (use martingale convergence, $\Phi_k(t) = \langle \mathbf{1}_{[0,t]}, \varphi_k\rangle_{L^2}$ plus *Parseval identity*) and B_t is well defined as limit.

   (b) For $0 \leqslant t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_m$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ show that the m-dimensional random vector $(M_n^{(t_1)} - M_n^{(t_0)}, \cdots, M_n^{(t_m)} - M_n^{(t_{m-1})})$ is centred Gaussian. Conclude from (a) convergence in distribution as $n \to \infty$. By calculating the covariance matrices deduce that $B_t \sim N(0,t)$ and $(B_t)_{t\in[0,1]}$ has stationary and independent Gaussian increments like Brownian motion.

Remark: One can show that B is indeed a Brownian motion on $[0,1]$ (has a.s. continuous sample paths) for any choice of $(\varphi_k)_{k\geqslant 1}$. The next problem gives a proof for the Haar basis.

4. Introduce the *Haar basis* $\varphi_0(t) = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}(t)$, $\psi_{0,0}(t) = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1/2)}(t) - \mathbf{1}_{[1/2,1)}(t)$ and generally $\psi_{j,k}(t) = 2^{j/2}\psi_{0,1}(2^j t - k)$ for $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $k = 0, \dots, 2^j - 1$, which forms an orthonormal basis in $L^2([0,1])$.

   (a) Define the *Schauder functions* $\Phi_0(t) = \int_0^t \varphi_0(s)\,ds$, $\Psi_{j,k}(t) = \int_0^t \psi_{j,k}(s)\,ds$ and draw them for the first (j,k). Sketch also realisations of

   $$B_t^{(J)} := Y_0\Phi_0(t) + \sum_{0\leqslant j\leqslant J, 0\leqslant k\leqslant 2^j-1} Y_{j,k}\Psi_{j,k}(t), \quad t \in [0,1],$$

   for independent $N(0,1)$-random variables $Y_0, (Y_{j,k})_{j,k}$ and some (small) values of $J \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

   (b) Verify for $j \geqslant 0$

   $$\Delta_j := \sup_{t\in[0,1]} \Big|\sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} Y_{j,k}\Psi_{j,k}(t)\Big| = 2^{-(j+1)/2} \max_{0\leqslant k\leqslant 2^j-1} |Y_{j,k}|$$

   and deduce $\mathbb{P}(\Delta_j \geqslant \eta_j) \leqslant \sum_{k=0}^{2^j-1} \mathbb{P}(|Y_{j,k}| \geqslant 2^{(j+1)/2}\eta_j) \leqslant 2^j \exp(-2^j\eta_j^2)$ for $\eta_j > 0$.

   (c) Use (b) with a good choice of the η_j to prove for any $\varepsilon > 0$

   $$\lim_{J\to\infty} \mathbb{P}\Big(\sum_{j\geqslant J} \Delta_j > \varepsilon\Big) = 0.$$

   Deduce $\sup_{t\in[0,1]}|B_t^{(J)} - B_t| \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} 0$ for $J \to \infty$ and $B_t = B_t^{(\infty)}$ defined analogously to Problem 3. Conclude for a subsequence $(J_m)_{m\geqslant 1}$ that $B_t^{(J_m)} \to B_t$ uniformly on $[0,1]$ with probability one, whence B_t is a.s. continuous and thus a Brownian motion.

Submit the solutions *before* the lecture on Thursday, 25 April 2024.