

Sewing and Reconstruction, from Deterministic to Stochastic

Lorenzo Zambotti (Sorbonne U, Paris)

18-19 May 2026

IMS Singapore

These slides can be downloaded from my home page

Over the last 25 years there has been a growing activity on a new approach to **stochastic analysis**, said **pathwise**,

- first in finite dimension (**T. Lyons**, **M. Gubinelli**, ...) \rightarrow ODEs, SDEs
- then in infinite dimension (**M. Hairer**, **M. Gubinelli**, ...) \rightarrow PDEs, SPDEs

The 2014 Fields Medal awarded to M. Hairer has given unprecedented visibility to this topic, which however remains largely obscure to the wide mathematical community, because of its complexity.

With **F. Caravenna**, and then also with **L. Broux**, **A. Bonicelli**, **L. Agabiti** ..., I have a (rather long-term) project of re-understanding and re-formulating this theory in an accessible way.

Lecture notes and papers in collaboration with **F. Caravenna** and **L. Broux**, see my [web page](#).

Chapter 1: Deterministic sewing

The Itô integral

Hopefully everyone in this room knows the construction of the **Itô integral**:

$$\int_0^t h_s \, dM_s, \quad t \geq 0,$$

where $(M_s)_{s \geq 0}$ is a **continuous local martingale** and $(h_s)_{s \geq 0}$ is a **continuous adapted** process.

The main example for us is $M = B$, a **Brownian motion**.

Itô integration is crucial for the theory of **stochastic differential equations (SDEs)**:

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t \sigma(X_s) \, dB_s, \quad t \geq 0.$$

The Itô integral is constructed as a **limit in $L^2(\Omega)$** or **in probability** of Riemann sums

$$\int_0^t h_s dB_s = \lim_{|\mathcal{P}| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} h_{t_{i-1}} (B_{t_i} - B_{t_{i-1}}),$$

where $\mathcal{P} := \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{k_{\mathcal{P}}} = t\}$ is called a **partition** of $[0, t]$ and $|\mathcal{P}| := \max\{t_i - t_{i-1} : i = 1, \dots, k_{\mathcal{P}}\}$ is the **mesh** of the partition.

In general, this limit in $L^2(\Omega)$ or **in probability** can **not** be improved, for example to an **a.s.** limit (namely for **fixed** $\omega \in \Omega$).

Analogously, the Itô map $B \mapsto X$, solution to the SDE, is **only measurable**.

Lack of pathwise definition

This means that if one has for a **fixed** $\omega \in \Omega$

- a **trajectory** $(h_s(\omega))_{s \in [0,t]}$ of h
- a **trajectory** $(B_s(\omega))_{s \in [0,t]}$ of B

then the value of

$$\int_0^t h_s(\omega) dB_s(\omega)$$

is **ill-defined**.

In a **pathwise** construction, it should be possible to compute $\int_0^t h_s(\omega) dB_s(\omega)$ knowing only $(h_s(\omega))_{s \in [0,t]}$ and $(B_s(\omega))_{s \in [0,t]}$.

Riemann sums

Let us note that

$$\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} h_s dB_s - h_{t_{i-1}}(B_{t_i} - B_{t_{i-1}}) = \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} (h_s - h_{t_{i-1}}) dB_s$$

Then

$$\int_0^t h_s dB_s - \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} h_{t_{i-1}}(B_{t_i} - B_{t_{i-1}}) = \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} (h_s - h_{t_{i-1}}) dB_s.$$

From a **pathwise** perspective, it is natural to ask:

- how large/small are these two quantities?

Let us set for $0 \leq s \leq t$

$$R_{st} := \int_s^t (h_r - h_s) dB_r.$$

A pathwise estimate

Note: if $|R_{st}(\omega)| \lesssim |t - s|^\eta$ with $\eta > 1$, for all $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$, then

$$\left| \int_0^t h_s dB_s - \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} h_{t_{i-1}} (B_{t_i} - B_{t_{i-1}}) \right| (\omega) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} |R_{t_{i-1}, t_i}(\omega)| \lesssim |\mathcal{P}|^{\eta-1} t.$$

With a **modified Kolmogorov-type result** we can **prove** that

$$|R_{st}(\omega)| = \left| \int_s^t (h_r - h_s) dB_r \right| (\omega) \lesssim |t - s|^{\alpha+\beta}, \quad \text{a.s.}$$

if $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, and h a.s. of class C^β , namely

$$|h_t - h_s|(\omega) \lesssim |t - s|^\beta, \quad 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T.$$

Here $\eta = \alpha + \beta$ may not be > 1 . If $\beta = \alpha$ then $\eta = 2\alpha < 1$. Let us consider this case from now on.

On the **positive side**, we have learnt that, for all $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, if h is adapted and a.s. of class C^α , then we have the **a.s. estimate**

$$|I_t - I_s - h_s(B_t - B_s)| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}, \quad I_t := \int_0^t h_r dB_r.$$

Now **suppose** that h satisfies a **similar property**, namely

$$|h_t - h_s - h_s^1(B_t - B_s)| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha},$$

with some adapted $h^1 : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, a.s. of class C^α .

This is after all natural if we think of **iterating** the stochastic integral, for example in the case of **Picard** iterations for **SDEs**.

A new idea

We want to **continue the expansion** of $t \mapsto I_t$:

$$I_t - I_s - h_s(B_t - B_s) - h_s^1 \frac{(B_t - B_s)^2 - (t - s)}{2} = \int_s^t (h_r - h_s - h_s^1(B_r - B_s)) dB_r$$

since by the **Itô formula**

$$\frac{(B_t - B_s)^2 - (t - s)}{2} = \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) dB_r.$$

Let us introduce some **notation**:

$$\mathbb{B}_{st}^1 := B_t - B_s, \quad \mathbb{B}_{st}^2 := \frac{(B_t - B_s)^2 - (t - s)}{2}.$$

Note that for any $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$ a.s.

$$|\mathbb{B}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^\alpha, \quad |\mathbb{B}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}.$$

A pathwise estimate

We are assuming that $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, that h^1 is a.s. of class C^α and h satisfies

$$|h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}.$$

We write

$$I_t - I_s - h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2 = \int_s^t (h_r - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{sr}^1) dB_r =: R_{st}.$$

Now we can prove (again with a modified Kolmogorov-type result)

$$|R_{st}| \lesssim |t - s|^{3\alpha}, \quad \text{a.s.}$$

and we obtain

$$\left| I_t - \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} \left[h_{t_{i-1}} \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^1 + h_{t_{i-1}}^1 \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^2 \right] \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} |R_{t_{i-1}, t_i}| \lesssim |\mathcal{P}|^{3\alpha-1} t.$$

If $\alpha > \frac{1}{3}$, this tends to 0 a.s. as $|\mathcal{P}| \rightarrow 0$.

A pathwise construction

Theorem (M. Gubinelli)

Let $\mathbb{B} = (\mathbb{B}^1, \mathbb{B}^2)$ as above and $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$. Let $h, h^1 : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (random) such that a.s. h^1 is of class C^α and

$$|h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}.$$

Then there exists a *unique* $I : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $I_0 = 0$ and

$$|I_t - I_s - h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^{3\alpha}.$$

Moreover

$$I_t = \lim_{|\mathcal{P}| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} \left[h_{t_{i-1}} \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^1 + h_{t_{i-1}}^1 \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^2 \right] \quad a.s.$$

where $\mathcal{P} := \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{k_{\mathcal{P}}} = t\}$.

A pathwise construction

Theorem (M. Gubinelli)

Let $\mathbb{B} = (\mathbb{B}^1, \mathbb{B}^2)$ as above and $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$. Let $h, h^1 : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (random) such that a.s. h^1 is of class C^α and

$$|h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}.$$

Then there exists a *unique* $I : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $I_0 = 0$ and

$$|I_t - I_s - h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^{3\alpha}.$$

Moreover

$$I_t = \lim_{|\mathcal{P}| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^{k_{\mathcal{P}}} \left[h_{t_{i-1}} \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^1 + h_{t_{i-1}}^1 \mathbb{B}_{t_{i-1}, t_i}^2 \right] \quad a.s.$$

where $\mathcal{P} := \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{k_{\mathcal{P}}} = t\}$.

Finally, if h, h^1 are adapted, then a.s. $I_t = \int_0^t h_s dB_s$ (Itô integral).

- The characterisation $|I_t - I_s - h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^{3\alpha}$ is a **Taylor expansion** with respect to the (random) **generalised monomials** $\mathbb{B}^1, \mathbb{B}^2$.
- In this context, h, h^1 are the **(Gubinelli) derivatives** of I with respect to $\mathbb{B}^1, \mathbb{B}^2$.
- If the expansion is long enough to obtain a **remainder** of order $|t - s|^\eta$ with $\eta > 1$, then we have uniqueness.
- The condition $|h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}$ is restrictive and can not cover all possible stochastic integrals.
- For example, for two independent Brownian motions B^1, B^2 , the Itô integral $\int_0^t B_s^1 dB_s^2$ can **not** have a pathwise construction (at least not with the above method).
- We can now define the **product** $h \dot{B} := \dot{I}$. It is unique if \mathbb{B}^2 is fixed (discuss).
- We define the **germ** $A_{st} := h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 + h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2$. **Sewing** is the application $A \mapsto I$.

Sewing: germs, integrals, remainders

Let us denote $[0, T]_{\leq}^2 := \{(s, t) : 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$.

- A **continuous** $A : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a **germ**.
- Given a germ A , a **continuous** $I : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called an **integral of A** if, setting

$$R_{st} := I_t - I_s - A_{st}, \quad R : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

we have $R_{st} = o(t - s)$. In this case, R is called the **remainder**.

Easy: given a germ A , there can be **at most one** (I, R) with $I_0 = 0$.

If $\mathcal{P} = \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = t\}$ is a partition of $[0, t]$ and $|\mathcal{P}| := \sup_i |t_i - t_{i-1}|$, then

$$I_t = \lim_{|\mathcal{P}| \rightarrow 0} \sum_i A_{t_{i-1}t_i}.$$

Sewing is the application $A \mapsto I$.

Sewing bound

Given $I : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we set $\delta I : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\delta I_{st} := I_t - I_s, \quad 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$$

Given $A : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we set $\delta A : [0, T]_{\leq}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\delta A_{sut} := A_{st} - A_{su} - A_{ut}, \quad 0 \leq s \leq u \leq t \leq T.$$

Note: $\delta \circ \delta = 0$. For $\eta > 0$ let

$$\|R\|_{\eta} := \sup_{s < t} \frac{|R_{st}|}{|t - s|^{\eta}}, \quad \|\delta R\|_{\eta} := \sup_{s < u < t} \frac{|\delta R_{sut}|}{|t - s|^{\eta}}.$$

Theorem (Sewing bound)

Let $(R_{st})_{0 \leq s \leq t \leq T}$ be continuous. If $R_{st} = o(t - s)$ and $\eta > 1$ then

$$\|R\|_{\eta} \leq K_{\eta} \|\delta R\|_{\eta}.$$

Proof of the sewing bound

For a partition $\mathcal{P} = \{a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = b\}$ of $[a, b]$ we define the Riemann sum

$$I_{\mathcal{P}}(R) := \sum_{i=1}^{\#\mathcal{P}} R_{t_{i-1}t_i}, \quad (1)$$

We consider for $n \geq 0$ the dyadic partitions $\mathcal{P}_n := \{t_i^n := a + \frac{i}{2^n}(b-a) : 0 \leq i \leq 2^n\}$ of $[a, b]$. Since $\mathcal{P}_0 = \{a, b\}$, from $R_{st} = o(t-s)$ we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} I_{\mathcal{P}_n}(R) = 0$$

and

$$|R_{ab}| \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |I_{\mathcal{P}_n}(R) - I_{\mathcal{P}_{n+1}}(R)|.$$

Proof of the sewing bound

If $\mathcal{P} = \{t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m\}$ and $\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{P} \setminus \{t_i\}$ then

$$I_{\mathcal{P}'}(R) - I_{\mathcal{P}}(R) = R_{t_{i-1}t_{i+1}} - R_{t_{i-1}t_i} - R_{t_it_{i+1}} = \delta R_{t_{i-1}t_it_{i+1}}. \quad (2)$$

and for $\eta > 0$:

$$|I_{\mathcal{P}'}(R) - I_{\mathcal{P}}(R)| \leq \|\delta R\|_{\eta} |t_{i+1} - t_{i-1}|^{\eta}. \quad (3)$$

We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |I_{\mathcal{P}_n}(R) - I_{\mathcal{P}_{n+1}}(R)| &\leq 2^n \|\delta R\|_{\eta} \left(\frac{2(b-a)}{2^{n+1}} \right)^{\eta} \\ &= 2^{-(\eta-1)n} \|\delta R\|_{\eta} (b-a)^{\eta}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|R_{ab}| \leq (1 - 2^{1-\eta})^{-1} \|\delta R\|_{\eta} (b-a)^{\eta}, \quad 0 \leq a < b \leq T. \quad \square$$

Theorem (Sewing Lemma, (Gubinelli, Feyel - de la Pradelle))

Let $A : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. If $\exists \eta > 1$ and $\|\delta A\|_{\eta} < +\infty$, then $\exists!(I, R)$.

If $f \in C^{\alpha}, g \in C^{\beta}$, with $\alpha, \beta \in (0, 1), \alpha + \beta > 1$, we set $A_{st} := f_s(g_t - g_s)$.

Then

$$\delta A_{sut} = -\delta f_{su} \delta g_{ut}, \quad \|\delta A\|_{\alpha+\beta} \leq \|\delta f\|_{\alpha} \|\delta g\|_{\beta} < +\infty.$$

Then there exists a unique $I : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\delta I_{st} - A_{st} = o(t - s).$$

We note $I_t = \int_0^t f_s dg_s$ and we call it the **Young integral**.

We can define **canonically** the **Young product** $f \dot{g} := \dot{I}$

Rough integral

Let us recall what we saw in the case of the **integral**: for $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$

$$A_{st} = h_s \mathbb{B}_{st}^1 + h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^2,$$

$$\mathbb{B}_{st}^1 = B_t - B_s, \quad \mathbb{B}_{st}^2 = \int_s^t \mathbb{B}_{sr}^1 dB_r,$$

$$h_{st}^{[2]} := h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{st}^1,$$

$$\left| h_{st}^{[2]} \right| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}, \quad \left| \delta h_{st}^1 \right| \lesssim |t - s|^\alpha$$

An explicit computation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \delta A_{sut} &= A_{st} - A_{su} - A_{ut} \\ &= -h_{su}^{[2]} \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 - \delta h_{ut}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\delta A_{sut}| \lesssim |u - s|^{2\alpha} |t - u|^\alpha + |u - s|^\alpha |t - u|^{2\alpha} \lesssim |t - s|^{3\alpha}.$$

Therefore this germ A is in the domain of application of the Sewing bound/lemma.

Rough integral

Let us make the previous computation more explicit:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta A_{sut} &= A_{st} - A_{su} - A_{ut} \\ &= h_s (\mathbb{B}_{st}^1 - \mathbb{B}_{su}^1) - h_u \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 \\ &\quad + h_s^1 (\mathbb{B}_{st}^2 - \mathbb{B}_{su}^2) - h_u^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^2 \\ &= - (h_u - h_s) \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 + h_s^1 \delta \mathbb{B}_{sut}^2 - \delta h_{su}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^2\end{aligned}$$

Now a crucial formula is:

$$\delta \mathbb{B}_{sut}^2 = \int_s^t \mathbb{B}_{sr}^1 dB_r - \int_s^u \mathbb{B}_{sr}^1 dB_r - \int_u^t \mathbb{B}_{ur}^1 dB_r = \mathbb{B}_{su}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1$$

and therefore we can conclude

$$\begin{aligned}\delta A_{sut} &= - (h_u - h_s) \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 + h_s^1 \mathbb{B}_{su}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 - \delta h_{su}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^2 \\ &= -h_{su}^{[2]} \mathbb{B}_{ut}^1 - \delta h_{ut}^1 \mathbb{B}_{ut}^2.\end{aligned}$$

From this example, one can extract a possible more general setting: we need

- $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$
- functions $\mathbb{X}^1 : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{X}^2 : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbb{X}_{st}^1| &\lesssim |t-s|^\alpha, & |\mathbb{X}_{st}^2| &\lesssim |t-s|^{2\alpha}, \\ \mathbb{X}_{st}^1 &= X_t - X_s, & \delta\mathbb{X}_{sut}^2 &= \mathbb{X}_{su}^1 \mathbb{X}_{ut}^1 \end{aligned}$$

- functions $h, h^1 : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$|h_t^1 - h_s^1| \lesssim |t-s|^\alpha, \quad h_{st}^{[2]} := h_t - h_s - h_s^1 \mathbb{X}_{st}^1, \quad |h_{st}^{[2]}| \lesssim |t-s|^{2\alpha}$$

- the germ $A_{st} := h_s \mathbb{X}_{st}^1 + h_s^1 \mathbb{X}_{st}^2$.

Then $\delta A_{sut} = -h_{su}^{[2]} \mathbb{X}_{ut}^1 - \delta h_{ut}^1 \mathbb{X}_{ut}^2$ and $|\delta A_{sut}| \lesssim |t-s|^{3\alpha}$.

Rough paths

- In fact one can and must consider the **vector-valued** case: $d \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mathbb{X}^1 : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mathbb{X}^2 : [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \otimes \mathbb{R}^d$, etc.
- The pair $(\mathbb{X}^1, \mathbb{X}^2)$ is called a **rough path**
- The pair (h, h^1) is called a **controlled path**
- The (unique) **I rough integral** is determined by:

$$I_t - I_s - h_s \mathbb{X}_{st}^1 - h_s^1 \mathbb{X}_{st}^2 = o(t - s).$$

- $(\mathbb{X}^1, \mathbb{X}^2)$ are **generalized monomials**, (h, h^1) are **generalized derivatives**
- The above expression is a **generalized Taylor expansion** of I

This construction gives a **robust definition** of the **product**

$$h \dot{X} := \dot{I},$$

where $X_t - X_s = \mathbb{X}_{st}^1$.

Controlled differential equations

Let $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ of class C^1 and $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \otimes (\mathbb{R}^d)^*$ be smooth so that the ODE

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) \dot{X}_s ds$$

has a unique solution for all $Z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

We want to give a meaning to this equation for X only Hölder and cover the Itô and Stratonovich cases. Note that we have the generalized expansion

$$Z_t - Z_s - \sigma(Z_s)(X_t - X_s) = \int_s^t (\sigma(Z_r) - \sigma(Z_s)) \dot{X}_r dr,$$

which is at least $o(t - s)$. If we want to continue the expansion then we note that:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(Z_t) - \sigma(Z_s) &= \int_s^t \frac{d}{dr} \sigma(Z_r) dr = \int_s^t \nabla \sigma(Z_r) \frac{d}{dr} Z_r dr \\ &= \int_s^t \nabla \sigma(Z_r) \sigma(Z_r) \dot{X}_r dr = \int_s^t \sigma_2(Z_r) \dot{X}_r dr,\end{aligned}$$

where $\sigma_2 := \nabla \sigma \sigma$, and therefore

$$\sigma(Z_t) - \sigma(Z_s) - \sigma_2(Z_s)(X_t - X_s) = \int_s^t (\sigma_2(Z_r) - \sigma_2(Z_s)) \dot{X}_r dr.$$

Finally this suggests:

$$\begin{aligned}Z_t - Z_s - \sigma(Z_s)(X_t - X_s) - \sigma_2(Z_s) \int_s^t (X_r - X_s) \otimes \dot{X}_r dr \\ = \int_s^t (\sigma(Z_r) - \sigma(Z_s) - \sigma_2(Z_s)(X_r - X_s)) \dot{X}_r dr.\end{aligned}$$

Taylor expansion

If we introduce the family of **generalised monomials**

$$\mathbb{X}_{st}^1 := X_t - X_s, \quad \mathbb{X}_{st}^2 := \int_s^t (X_r - X_s) \otimes \dot{X}_r dr,$$

then the controlled equation implies the **generalised Taylor expansion**

$$Z_t - Z_s = \sigma(Z_s) \mathbb{X}_{st}^1 + \sigma_2(Z_s) \mathbb{X}_{st}^2 + o(t - s).$$

The pair $(\mathbb{X}^1, \mathbb{X}^2)$ satisfies for $s \leq u \leq t$

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{X}_{st}^2 - \mathbb{X}_{su}^2 - \mathbb{X}_{ut}^2}_{\text{Chen relation}} = \mathbb{X}_{su}^1 \otimes \mathbb{X}_{ut}^1, \quad |\mathbb{X}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|, \quad |\mathbb{X}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^2.$$

If X is **not differentiable**, one can **choose** a \mathbb{X}^2 .

Rough paths

We fix a **Rough path** $\mathbb{X} = (\mathbb{X}^1, \mathbb{X}^2)$ where

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{X}_{st}^2 - \mathbb{X}_{su}^2 - \mathbb{X}_{ut}^2 = \mathbb{X}_{su}^1 \otimes \mathbb{X}_{ut}^1}_{\text{Chen relation}}, \quad |\mathbb{X}_{st}^1| \lesssim |t - s|^\alpha, \quad |\mathbb{X}_{st}^2| \lesssim |t - s|^{2\alpha}$$

and we study (following **Davie**) the finite difference equation

$$Z_t - Z_s = \sigma(Z_s) \mathbb{X}_{st}^1 + \sigma_2(Z_s) \mathbb{X}_{st}^2 + o(t - s), \quad \sigma_2 := \nabla \sigma \sigma.$$

With the **Sewing Bound** one can prove

- A priori estimates on Z
- Uniqueness of Z
- Local / global existence of Z
- **Continuity** of the map $(Z_0, \mathbb{X}^1, \mathbb{X}^2) \mapsto Z$.
- **Continuous** extension of the map $C^1 \ni X \mapsto Z$ to include the **Itô SDE** $(\mathbb{B}^1, \mathbb{B}^2) \mapsto Z$.

Let $(B_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a Brownian motion in \mathbb{R}^d and $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \otimes (\mathbb{R}^d)^*$ be smooth, so that the SDE

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) dB_s}_{\text{Itô integral}}$$

has a **unique** solution for all $Z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

If we differentiate both sides of the equation, we realize that it can be written as

$$\dot{Z}_t = \sigma(Z_t) \dot{B}_t$$

where however the product $\sigma(Z_t) \dot{B}_t$ is **ill-defined**.

Classically, one needs that the sum of the regularities of the factors in a product to be **positive** in order for the product to be well-defined. Here we have $\frac{1}{2} - \kappa - \frac{1}{2} - \kappa = -2\kappa < 0$.

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) dB_s}_{\text{Itô integral}}$$

Theorem (Lyons 98, Davie 07)

A.s. $(Z_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is the *only* continuous function $Y : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ such that $Y_0 = Z_0$ and

$$Y_t - Y_s - \sigma(Y_s)(B_t - B_s) - \underbrace{\sigma_2(Y_s) \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) \otimes dB_r}_{\text{Itô integral}} = o(t - s)$$

(where $\sigma_2 := \nabla \sigma \cdot \sigma$) uniformly over $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ for any $T \geq 0$.

Pathwise Stratonovich SDEs

Let $(B_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a Brownian motion in \mathbb{R}^d and $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \otimes (\mathbb{R}^d)^*$ smooth, so that the SDE

$$\bar{Z}_t = \bar{Z}_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(\bar{Z}_s) \circ dB_s}_{\text{Stratonovich integral}}$$

has a **unique** solution for all $\bar{Z}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$.

Theorem (Lyons 98, Davie 07)

A.s. $(\bar{Z}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ is the **only** continuous function $\bar{Y} : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ such that $\bar{Y}_0 = \bar{Z}_0$ and

$$\bar{Y}_t - \bar{Y}_s - \sigma(\bar{Y}_s)(B_t - B_s) - \underbrace{\sigma_2(\bar{Y}_s) \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) \otimes \circ dB_r}_{\text{Stratonovich integral}} = o(t - s)$$

uniformly over $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$ for any $T \geq 0$.

Itô vs Stratonovich

Note that

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) dB_s}_{\text{Itô integral}},$$

$$\bar{Z}_t = \bar{Z}_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(\bar{Z}_s) \circ dB_s}_{\text{Stratonovich integral}} = \bar{Z}_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^t \sigma(\bar{Z}_s) dB_s}_{\text{Itô integral}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \text{Tr}[\sigma_2(\bar{Z}_s)] ds}_{\text{Itô-Stratonovich correction}}$$

but

$$Z_t - Z_s - \sigma(Z_s)(B_t - B_s) - \sigma_2(Z_s) \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) \otimes dB_r = o(t-s),$$

$$\bar{Z}_t - \bar{Z}_s - \sigma(\bar{Z}_s)(B_t - B_s) - \sigma_2(\bar{Z}_s) \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) \otimes \circ dB_r = o(t-s).$$

We have a map Λ_σ s.t. $Z = \Lambda_\sigma(\mathbb{B}^{\text{Itô}})$, $\bar{Z} = \Lambda_\sigma(\mathbb{B}^{\text{Strato}})$.

Let us mollify B setting $B^\varepsilon := \rho_\varepsilon \star B$ with $(\rho_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon>0}$ a family of mollifiers, and let us set

$$Z_t^\varepsilon = Z_0 + \int_0^t \sigma(Z_s^\varepsilon) \dot{B}_s^\varepsilon ds.$$

Then Z^ε converges (in probability) to the solution Z of the **Stratonovich** SDE

$$Z_t = Z_0 + \int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) \circ dB_s = Z_0 + \int_0^t \sigma(Z_s) dB_s + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \text{Tr}[\sigma_2(Z_s)] ds,$$

the famous **Itô-Stratonovich correction**.

This convergence can be proved and explained with the above theory, showing that

$$\int_s^t (B_r^\varepsilon - B_s^\varepsilon) \otimes \dot{B}_r^\varepsilon dr \rightarrow \int_s^t (B_r - B_s) \otimes \circ dB_r.$$

Chapter 2: Stochastic sewing

Sewing and stochastic processes

Until now we have worked **pathwise**, namely fixing $\omega \in \Omega$.

The Sewing bound/lemma hold also for germs/integrals/remainers taking values in a Banach space, for example $L^p(\Omega)$.

However there is a more interesting idea, contained in the **Stochastic Sewing Lemma** by **Khoa Lê** (2020).

We fix a filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t), \mathbb{P})$ and we denote $\mathbb{E}^s := \mathbb{E}(\cdot | \mathcal{F}_t)$.

We use the heat semigroup $(P_t)_{t \geq 0}$ on \mathbb{R}^d : for a bounded measurable $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$P_t f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(y) \mathcal{N}(x, t \text{Id})(dy), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d, t \geq 0,$$

and **Hölder-Besov** spaces C^γ for $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$, such that for $\gamma < \alpha$

$$\|P_t f\|_{C^\alpha} \lesssim t^{\frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2}} \|f\|_{C^\gamma}, \quad t > 0.$$

The stochastic sewing lemma

Theorem

Let $p \geq 2$. Suppose $A : \Omega \times [0, T]_{\leq}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies

- 1 A_{st} is \mathcal{F}_t -adapted and in L^p for all $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$
- 2 $\|\delta A_{sut}\|_{L^p} \leq \Gamma_1 |t - s|^{\gamma_1}$, $\gamma_1 \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$
- 3 $\|\mathbb{E}^s \delta A_{sut}\|_{L^p} \leq \Gamma_2 |t - s|^{\gamma_2}$, $\gamma_2 > 1$

Then among the *infinitely many* adapted processes $I : \Omega \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in L^p such that

$$\|I_t - I_s - A_{st}\|_{L^p} \lesssim |t - s|^{\gamma_1},$$

there is *one and only one* choice satisfying moreover

$$\|\mathbb{E}^s(I_t - I_s - A_{st})\|_{L^p} \lesssim |t - s|^{\gamma_2}.$$

Moreover

$$\|I_t - I_s\|_{L^p} \lesssim \|A_{st}\|_{L^p} + \Gamma_1 |t - s|^{\gamma_1} + \Gamma_2 |t - s|^{\gamma_2}.$$

An example

Let us consider $A_{st} = h_s(B_t - B_s)$ where B is a BM and h is adapted, with

$$\|h\|_{C^\alpha([0,T];L^p)} := \sup_{0 \leq s < t \leq T} \frac{\|h_t - h_s\|_{L^p}}{|t - s|^\alpha} < +\infty,$$

for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. We know that

$$\delta A_{sut} = -\delta h_{su} \delta B_{ut}$$

so that by independence of δB_{ut} and δh_{su}

$$\|\delta A_{sut}\|_{L^p} = \|\delta h_{su}\|_{L^p} \|\delta B_{ut}\|_{L^p} \lesssim |u - s|^\alpha |t - u|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq |t - s|^{\frac{1}{2} + \alpha},$$

$$\mathbb{E}^s(\delta A_{sut}) = 0.$$

Therefore $\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{2} + \alpha$ and $\gamma_2 = +\infty$. Then $\mathbb{E}^s(I_t - I_s - A_{st}) = 0$, and

$$\mathbb{E}^s(I_t - I_s) = \mathbb{E}^s(A_{st}) = 0,$$

namely I is a martingale. The **stochastic rough integral** is equal to the **Itô integral**.

An application

Let B be a BM with values in \mathbb{R}^d and f a distribution on \mathbb{R}^d . We want to give a meaning to the process

$$\int_0^t f(B_s) ds, \quad t \geq 0.$$

By differentiating with respect to time, this allows to give a meaning to the random distribution $(f(B_t))_{t \geq 0}$.

The essential property is that the **conditional variance** of B_t given \mathcal{F}_s is positive for all $s < t$. It is crucial that noise is injected in the system all along the trajectory of B .

Now we can **set**

$$A_{st} = \int_s^t \mathbb{E}^s(f(B_r)) dr = \int_s^t P_{r-s}f(B_s) dr$$

where P is the heat semigroup. Then

$$\delta A_{sut} = \int_u^t (P_{r-s}f(B_s) - P_{r-u}f(B_u)) dr.$$

An application

Recall the estimate

$$\|P_t f\|_{C^\alpha} \lesssim t^{\frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2}} \|f\|_{C^\gamma}, \quad t > 0.$$

Then we have for $\alpha = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} |\delta A_{sut}| &\lesssim \int_u^t \left[(r-s)^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} + (r-u)^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \right] dr \|f\|_{C^\gamma} \\ &\lesssim (t-s)^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}} \|f\|_{C^\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

while

$$(\delta A_{sut}) = \int_u^t \mathbb{E}^s [\mathbb{E}^s(f(B_r)) - \mathbb{E}^u(f(B_r))] dr = 0.$$

If $\gamma > -1$, then $\gamma_1 := 1 + \frac{\gamma}{2} > \frac{1}{2}$. Moreover $\gamma_2 = +\infty$.

Note that for $d = 1$, $\gamma > -1$ does not cover $f = \delta_0$, which would lead to **local times**. On the other hand, this construction holds for any dimension d .

SDEs with distributional coefficients

The previous construction can be used to solve SDEs with **distributional coefficients** and **additive noise**. Again, B is a BM in \mathbb{R}^d and b is a distribution on \mathbb{R}^d .

$$X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t b(X_s) ds + B_t.$$

Note that without noise the equation makes no sense.

Again, the essential property is that the **conditional variance** of B_t given \mathcal{F}_s is positive for all $s < t$. It is crucial that noise is injected in the system all along the trajectory of B .

This phenomenon is called **regularisation by noise**.

Noise is your **friend**.

SDEs with distributional coefficients

$$X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t b(X_s) ds + B_t.$$

Setting $Y_t := X_t - B_t$

$$Y_t = X_0 + \int_0^t b(B_s + Y_s) ds.$$

We define the germ

$$A_{st} = \int_s^t \mathbb{E}^S b(B_r + Y_s) dr = \int_s^t P_{r-s} b(B_s + Y_s) dr,$$

and we compute

$$\delta A_{sut} = \int_u^t [P_{r-s} b(B_s + Y_s) - P_{r-u} b(B_u + Y_u)] dr,$$

$$\mathbb{E}^S \delta A_{sut} = \int_u^t \mathbb{E}^S [\mathbb{E}^u b(B_r + Y_s) - \mathbb{E}^u b(B_r + Y_u)] dr.$$

SDEs with distributional coefficients

Now we must estimate: since $A_{st} = \int_s^t P_{r-s} b(B_s + Y_s) \, dr$,

$$\begin{aligned}\|A_{st}\|_{L^p} &\lesssim \int_s^t \|P_{r-s} b(B_s + Y_s)\|_{C^0} \, dr \\ &\lesssim \int_s^t |r-s|^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \, dr \|b\|_{C^\gamma} \\ &\lesssim |t-s|^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}} \|b\|_{C^\gamma}.\end{aligned}$$

Analogously, since

$$\begin{aligned}\delta A_{sut} &= \int_u^t [P_{r-s} b(B_s + Y_s) - P_{r-u} b(B_u + Y_u)] \, dr, \\ \|\delta A_{sut}\|_{L^p} &\lesssim \int_s^t |r-s|^{\frac{\gamma}{2}} \, dr \|b\|_{C^\gamma} \lesssim |t-s|^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}} \|b\|_{C^\gamma},\end{aligned}$$

at least if $\gamma > -2$. Here $\gamma_1 = 1 + \frac{\gamma}{2}$.

SDEs with distributional coefficients

Since

$$\mathbb{E}^S \delta A_{sut} = \int_u^t \mathbb{E}^S [P_{r-u} b(B_u + Y_s) - P_{r-u} b(B_u + Y_u)] dr,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbb{E}^S \delta A_{sut}| &\lesssim \int_u^t \|P_{r-u} b\|_{C^1} dr \mathbb{E}^S |Y_u - Y_s| \\ &\lesssim |t - u|^{1 + \frac{\gamma-1}{2}} \mathbb{E}^S |Y_u - Y_s|, \end{aligned}$$

and for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ to be chosen later,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbb{E}^S \delta A_{sut}\|_{L^p} &\lesssim |t - u|^{1 + \frac{\gamma-1}{2}} \|Y_u - Y_s\|_{L^p} \\ &\leq |t - u|^{1 + \frac{\gamma-1}{2}} |u - s|^\alpha \frac{\|Y_u - Y_s\|_{L^p}}{|u - s|^\alpha} \\ &\lesssim |t - s|^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \|Y\|_{C^\alpha([0, T]; L^p)}. \end{aligned}$$

In this case $\gamma_2 = \frac{1+\gamma}{2} + \alpha < +\infty$.

Now we need $\gamma_1 = 1 + \frac{\gamma}{2} > \frac{1}{2}$ and $\gamma_2 = \frac{1+\gamma}{2} + \alpha > 1$, namely $\gamma > -1$ and $\alpha > \frac{1-\gamma}{2}$.

Then by the Stochastic Sewing Lemma:

$$\|I_t - I_s\|_{L^p} \lesssim \|A_{st}\|_{L^p} + \Gamma_1 |t - s|^{\gamma_1} + \Gamma_2 |t - s|^{\gamma_2},$$

which gives

$$\|Y_t - Y_s\|_{L^p} \leq \Gamma \left(|t - s|^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}} + |t - s|^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2} + \alpha} \|Y\|_{C^\alpha([0,T];L^p)} \right).$$

In particular

$$\|Y\|_{C^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}}([0,T];L^p)} \leq \Gamma \left(1 + T^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2}} \|Y\|_{C^\alpha([0,T];L^p)} \right).$$

$$\|Y\|_{C^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}}([0,T];L^p)} \leq \Gamma \left(1 + T^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2}} \|Y\|_{C^\alpha([0,T];L^p)} \right).$$

Now we choose $\alpha = 1 + \frac{\gamma}{2}$. Note that $1 + \frac{\gamma}{2} > \frac{1-\gamma}{2}$ is equivalent to $\gamma > -\frac{1}{2}$, a further restriction which is needed.

Then

$$\|Y\|_{C^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}}([0,T];L^p)} \leq \Gamma \left(1 + T^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2}} \|Y\|_{C^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}}([0,T];L^p)} \right).$$

If $\Gamma T^{\frac{1+\gamma}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{2}$, we obtain the **(local) a priori estimate**

$$\|Y\|_{C^{1+\frac{\gamma}{2}}([0,T];L^p)} \leq 2\Gamma.$$