

**Quasi-invariant measures on the
path space of a diffusion**

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Admissible Vector fields and quasi-invariance

Let N be a manifold, equipped with a finite Borel measure γ and let Z be a vector field on N .

Definition. The vector field Z is *admissible* (with respect to γ) if there exists an L^1 function $Div(Z)$ such that for all test functions Φ on N

$$\int_N Z(\Phi) d\gamma = \int_N \Phi Div(Z) d\gamma.$$

Example

γ is Gaussian measure on \mathbf{R}^n , $d\gamma/dx = e^{-\|x\|^2}$ and $Z \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is constant vector. If Φ is a test function, then integration by parts gives

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{R}^n} Z(\Phi) d\gamma &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} Z(\Phi) e^{-\|x\|^2} dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \Phi(x) \langle Z, x \rangle e^{-\|x\|^2} dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \Phi(x) \langle Z, x \rangle d\gamma.\end{aligned}$$

Thus Z is admissible and $Div(Z)(x) = \langle Z, x \rangle$.

Returning to the general case, let Z be a vector field on N .

Consider the flow on N associated to Z , i.e. the map $x \mapsto x^s$, where

$$\dot{x}^s = Z(x^s).$$

$$x^0 = x.$$

How does the measure γ transform under the flow?

Suppose x is a random variable with law γ and let γ_s denote the law of x^s . How are the measures γ_s related to γ ?

Definition. Say γ is *quasi-invariant* under the flow of Z if, for all s , the measures γ_s and γ are equivalent (i.e. γ_s and γ have the same class of null-sets).

This implies there exist positive random variables ρ_s (*Radon-Nikodym derivatives*, denoted $\frac{d\gamma_s}{d\gamma}$) such that

$$\gamma_s(B) = \int_B \rho_s d\gamma.$$

Relationship between admissibility and quasi-invariance

Suppose the quasi-invariance property holds, i.e. γ_s and γ are equivalent measures for all s and write $\rho_s = d\gamma_s/d\gamma$. Then for a test function Φ on N , we have

$$\int_N \Phi(x_s) d\gamma = \int_N \Phi(x) d\gamma_s = \int_N \Phi \rho_s d\gamma.$$

Differentiating wrt s and setting $s = 0$

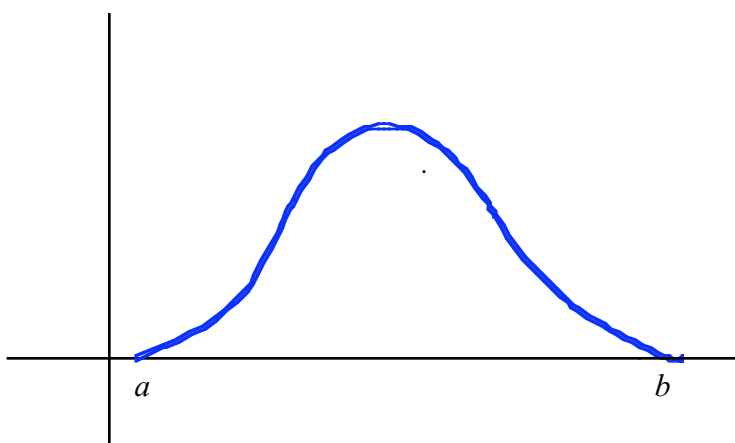
$$\int_N Z(\Phi) d\gamma = \int_N \Phi \left\{ \frac{d\rho_s}{ds} \Big|_{s=0} \right\} d\gamma.$$

Thus Z is admissible and

$$\text{Div}(Z) = \frac{d\rho_s}{ds} \Big|_{s=0}.$$

Does admissibility imply quasi-invariance?

Not necessarily. For example, let γ be a measure on \mathbf{R}^n with a smooth compactly supported density F :

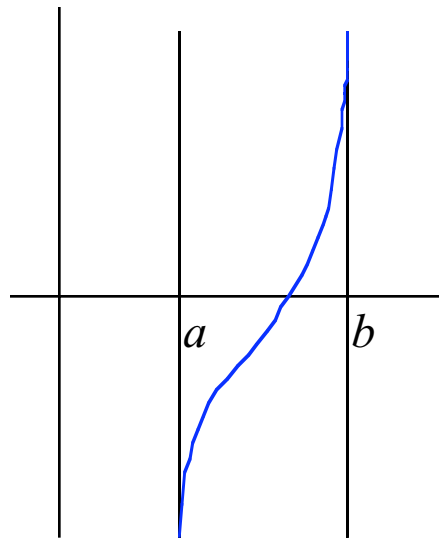


Let $Z \in \mathbf{R}^n$ be constant. Then integration by parts gives

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^n} Z(\Phi) d\gamma = - \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \Phi \frac{Z(F)}{F} d\gamma.$$

Z is admissible, however γ is not quasi-invariant under the flow of Z , translations $x \mapsto x + tZ$.

Note that in this case $Div(Z) = -Z(F)/F$ blows up as $x \rightarrow a$ and $x \rightarrow b$ from within $support(F)$.



In particular for fixed $s > 0$, the function

$$x \mapsto Div(Z)(x + uZ), u \in [0, s]$$

is singular for x in a set of positive γ -measure.

Theorem 1. *Suppose Z be an admissible vector field on N . Let x^s denote the flow generated by Z such that x^0 has law γ and let ν^s denote the law of x^s . Suppose the following conditions are satisfied*

(i) There exists a set $B \subseteq N$ with $\gamma_s(B) = 1$ for all s , such that $\text{Div}(Z)$ is defined and Z -differentiable on B .

(ii) The function $s \mapsto \text{Div}(Z)(x^s)$ is absolutely continuous for $x^0 \in B$.

Then γ is quasi-invariant under the flow of Z and

$$\frac{d\gamma_s}{d\gamma} = \exp \int_0^s \text{Div}(Z)(x^{-u}) du.$$

Example (The classical Wiener space). Let C_0 denote the space of continuous paths $\{\sigma : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbf{R} / \sigma(0) = 0\}$ and γ the *Wiener measure* (the law of Brownian motion). Let h be a path in C_0 such that $\int_0^T h'^2(t) dt < \infty$. It can be shown that the constant vector field $Z \equiv h$ is admissible and

$$\text{Div}(Z)(w) = \int_0^T h' dw.$$

Note that the flow of Z is the map $w \mapsto w + sh$. Theorem 1 shows that the measures γ and $\gamma_s \equiv \gamma(\cdot + sh)$ are equivalent and

$$\frac{d\gamma_s}{d\gamma}(w) = \exp\left(s \int_0^T h dw - \frac{s^2}{2} \int_0^T h^2 dt\right).$$

This is the *Cameron-Martin* theorem.

Theorem (Dichotomy Theorem for Wiener measure). *Let h be a path in C_0 not in the Cameron-Martin space i.e. a path of infinite-energy*

$$\int_0^T h'^2 dt = \infty.$$

Then the measures γ and $\gamma(\cdot + h)$ are mutually singular, i.e. supported on disjoint sets!

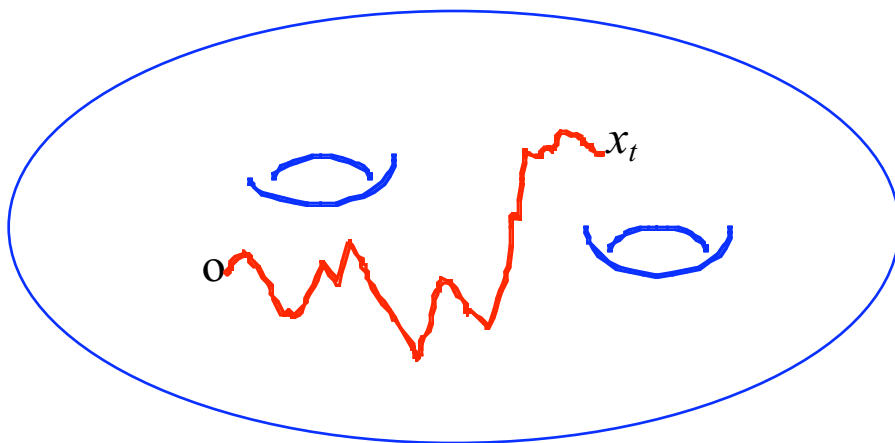
Measures Induced by Stochastic Differential Equations

Let M denote a closed compact manifold and X_1, \dots, X_n and Y be smooth vector fields on M . Let o be a fixed point in M .

Consider the Stratonovich SDE

$$dx_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(x_t) \circ dw_i + Y(x_t)dt, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

with initial point $x_0 = o$, where (w_1, \dots, w_n) is a Euclidean Wiener process.



Note: Formally, the above SDE can be thought of as an ODE driven by *white noise*

$$x_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(x_t)w_i + Y(x_t).$$

Define N be the space of paths $\{\sigma : [0, T] \mapsto M/\sigma(0) = o\}$ and γ the law of the process x (denote N by $C_o(M)$).

The objective is to construct a class of admissible vector fields on $C_o(M)$ and an associated class of quasi-invariant measures.

We are considering the manifold

$$C_o(M) = \{\sigma : [0, T] \mapsto M/\sigma(0) = o\}$$

equipped with the measure γ , where γ is the law of the process x defined by the SDE

$$dx_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(x_t) \circ dw_i + Y(x_t)dt, \quad t \in [0, T] \quad (*)$$

Define the *tangent space* $T_x X$ to be the set of paths $V : [0, T] \mapsto TM$ such that $V_0 = 0$ and

$$V_t \in T_{x_t} M, \quad \forall t \in [0, T].$$

We will construct vector fields Z on $C_o(M)$ of the form

$$Z(x)_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(x_t) h_t^i$$

where h^1, \dots, h^n are real-valued processes, adapted to the filtration of x , i.e. $h_t^i = f(x_u, 0 \leq u \leq t)$.

In order to define the processes h^i , we need to introduce some geometric structure on M associated with the diffusion process (*). This requires the following assumption:

Assume x is *elliptic* i.e. The vector fields X_1, \dots, X_n span TM at each point of M .

Associated Geometric Structure

Denote by $[g_{jk}]_{j,k=1}^d$ the Riemannian metric on M defined by $g^{jk} = a_{ij}a_{ik}$ where $X_i = a_{ir}\partial/\partial x_r$ is a local representation of X_i , $1 \leq i \leq n$ (note: here and elsewhere, we use the summation convention: repeated indices are assumed to be summed on).

Let ∇ denote the corresponding Levi-Civita covariant derivative (this is the unique connection on M that has the following two properties:

(a) *metric compatible*, i.e. for any vector fields X , Y and Z on M , $Z(\langle X, Y \rangle) = \langle \nabla_Z X, Y \rangle + \langle X, \nabla_Z Y \rangle$

(b) *torsion-free*, i.e. $\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X = [X, Y]$.

The *Riemann curvature tensor* is defined by

$$R(X, Y) = \nabla_X \nabla_Y - \nabla_Y \nabla_X - \nabla_{[X, Y]}$$

and the *Ricci tensor*

$$Ric(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n R(X, e_i) e_i$$

where $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$ is a (locally defined) orthonormal frame on M .

Define a set of 1-forms $\omega^{jk}, 1 \leq j, k \leq n$ on M by

$$\omega^{jk}(\cdot) = \langle \nabla_{X_j} X_k, \cdot \rangle - \langle \nabla_{\cdot} X_j, X_k \rangle$$

and functions $B^{jk}, 1 \leq j, k \leq n$ on M by

$$B^{jk} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle L_{ji} X_i, X_k \rangle - \langle L_{ij} \nabla_{X_k} X_i \rangle - \langle \nabla_{X_j} X_k, \nabla_{X_i} X_i \rangle + \langle \nabla_{X_p} X_i, X_k \rangle \langle \nabla_{X_j} X_p, X_i \rangle \right)$$

where L_{ij} denotes the differential operator

$$\nabla_{X_i} \nabla_{X_j} - \nabla_{\nabla_{X_i} X_j}$$

(Recall: summation convention).

Define also the *Cameron-Martin* space $H(\mathbf{R}^n)$ of paths

$$\left\{ r : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbf{R}^n : r_0 = 0, \int_0^T \|r_t\|^2 dt < \infty \right\}.$$

Statements of Theorems

Theorem 2. Let $r = (r^1, \dots, r^n)$ be any path in $H(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and define $h^i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ by the following system of SDE s

$$dh_t^i = \omega^{ji}(\circ dx_t)h_t^j + \left[B^{ji} + \langle \nabla_{X_j} Y, X_i \rangle \right](x_t)h_t^j dt + r_t^i dt$$

$$h_0^i = 0.$$

Then the vector field $Z(x)_t \equiv X_i(x_t)h_t^i, t \in [0, T]$ on $C_o(M)$ is admissible and

$$\text{Div}(Z) = \int_0^T \left(r_t^i + \frac{1}{2} \langle \text{Ric}(Z_t), X_i(x_t) \rangle \right) dw_i.$$

Theorem 3. Let T^{ij} and f^{ij} , $1 \leq j \leq n$ denote, respectively, smooth 1-forms and real-valued functions on M and suppose $g^i \in L^2[0, T]$, $1 \leq i \leq n$ are deterministic functions. Define a vector field V on $C_0(M)$ by $V_t = X_i(x_t)\eta_t^i$, where η_1, \dots, η_n satisfy the system of SDEs

$$d\eta_t^i = T^{ij}(\circ dx_t)\eta_t^j + [f^{ij}(x_t)\eta_t^j + g^i(t)]dt, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

with $\eta^i(0) = 0$. Then there exists a solution x^s in $C_0(M)$ to the flow equation

$$\frac{dx^s}{ds} = V(x^s), \quad s \in \mathbf{R}$$

where x is as in equation (*). Furthermore, the paths x^s are semimartingales of the form

$$dx_t^s = X_i(s, t) \circ dw_i + X_0(s, t)dt$$

where $X_j(s, \cdot)$, $0 \leq j \leq n$ are adapted processes (with respect to w) in TM such that, on a set of full Wiener measure, $s \mapsto X_j(s, \cdot)$ is continuous into the space $L^2[0, T]$.

The Main Result

Recall, we are considering the SDE on M

$$dx_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i(x_t) \circ dw_i + Y(x_t)dt, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

$$x_0 = o.$$

In Theorem 2, we constructed a class of admissible vector fields Z defined on the solution space $C_o(M)$ of this equation ($Z(x) \in T_x C_o(M)$).

By Theorem 3, Z generates a flow x^s satisfying

$$x^s = Z(x^s)$$

$$x^0 = x.$$

Denote by γ the law of x and by γ_s the law of x^s .

Combining Theorems 1, 2 and 3 we obtain

Theorem 4. *The measures γ_s and γ are equivalent for all s and*

$$\frac{d\gamma_s}{d\gamma}(x) = \exp \int_0^s \text{Div}(Z)(x^{-u}) du.$$

This result is a generalization of the Cameron-Martin theorem to non-constant vector fields and to the manifold setting.

History of the problem

The problem addressed in this talk (i.e. the construction of quasi-invariant measures on the path space of a diffusion process defined on a manifold) was first successfully treated by Bruce Driver in 1992 (Cameron-Martin type quasi-invariance theorem for Brownian motion on a compact manifold, *J. Funct. Anal.* 272-376). Partial results had previously been obtained by Bismut and by Shigekawa.

Since 1992, this problem has been studied extensively, e.g. by Driver, Malliavin, Cruzeiro, Hsu, Leandre, Lyons & Qian, Stroock & Enchev, Elworthy, Le Jan & Li, and others. The vector fields studied in Driver's 1992 paper and in these later works are those obtained from Cameron-Martin paths h in T_oM by stochastic parallel transport along the paths of the diffusion process x , i.e. vector fields V on $C_o(M)$ of the form

$$V_t = //_0^t(x)h_t.$$

The stochastic development (*rolling map*) plays a central role in these works.

The work outlined here offers a new approach to the problem. This approach differs from the previous one in the class of admissible vector fields constructed and in the method whereby the quasi-invariance property is established.