

CE 607: Random Vibration

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Introduction to Stochastic Differential Equations

Stochastic Differential Equations: Intro

- At first, we have an **ordinary differential equation (ODE)**:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t).$$

- Then we add **white noise** to the right hand side:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{w}(t).$$

- Generalize a bit by adding a **multiplier matrix** on the right:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{w}(t).$$

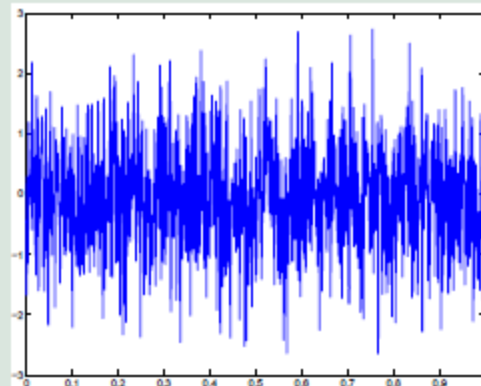
- Now we have a **stochastic differential equation (SDE)**.
- $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the **drift function** and $\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the **dispersion matrix**.

Stochastic Differential Equations: Intro

White noise

- 1 $\mathbf{w}(t_1)$ and $\mathbf{w}(t_2)$ are independent if $t_1 \neq t_2$.
- 2 $t \mapsto \mathbf{w}(t)$ is a Gaussian process with the mean and covariance:

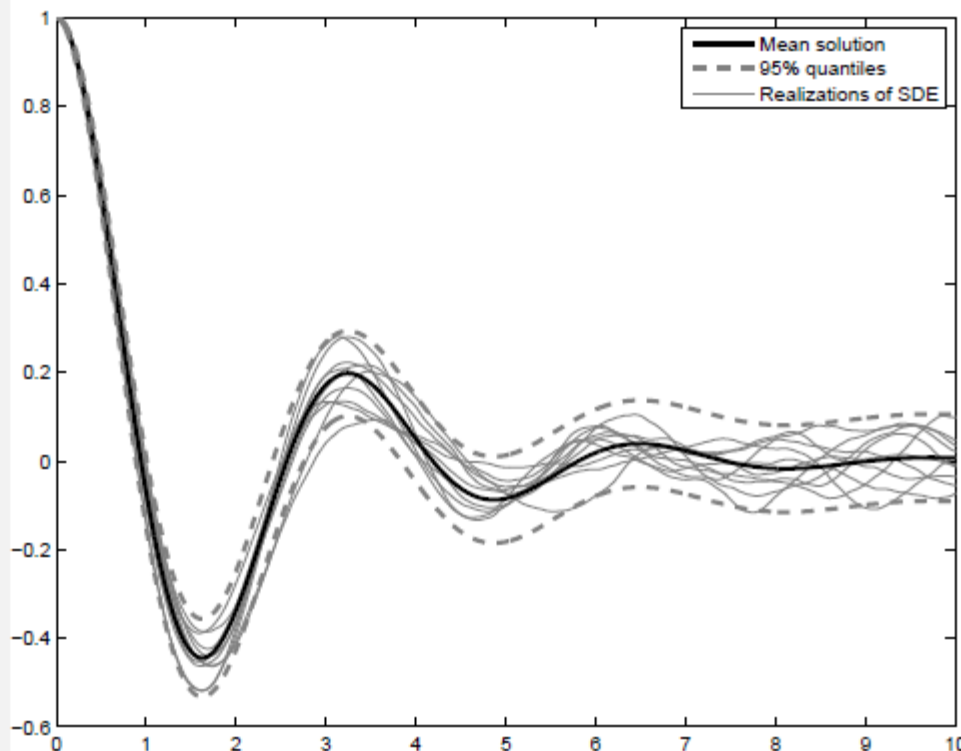
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{w}(t)] &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{w}(t) \mathbf{w}^T(s)] &= \delta(t - s) \mathbf{Q}. \end{aligned}$$



- \mathbf{Q} is the **spectral density** of the process.
- The sample path $t \mapsto \mathbf{w}(t)$ is **discontinuous almost everywhere**.
- White noise is **unbounded** and it takes arbitrarily large positive and negative values at any finite interval.

Stochastic Differential Equations: Intro

What does a solution of SDE look like?



Paths of stochastic spring model

$$\frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + \nu^2 x(t) = w(t).$$

Attempts to Solution

- Linear time-invariant stochastic differential equation (LTI SDE):

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{L} \mathbf{w}(t), \quad \mathbf{x}(t_0) \sim N(\mathbf{m}_0, \mathbf{P}_0).$$

- We can now take a “leap of faith” and solve this as if it was a deterministic ODE:

- 1 Move $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}(t)$ to left and multiply by integrating factor $\exp(-\mathbf{F} t)$:

$$\exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} - \exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}(t) = \exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \mathbf{L} \mathbf{w}(t).$$

- 2 Rewrite this as

$$\frac{d}{dt} [\exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \mathbf{x}(t)] = \exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \mathbf{L} \mathbf{w}(t).$$

- 3 Integrate from t_0 to t :

$$\exp(-\mathbf{F} t) \mathbf{x}(t) - \exp(-\mathbf{F} t_0) \mathbf{x}(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t \exp(-\mathbf{F} \tau) \mathbf{L} \mathbf{w}(\tau) d\tau.$$

Attempts to Solution

- Rearranging then gives the **solution**:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \exp(\mathbf{F}(t - t_0)) \mathbf{x}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \exp(\mathbf{F}(t - \tau)) \mathbf{L} \mathbf{w}(\tau) d\tau.$$

- We have assumed that $\mathbf{w}(t)$ is an **ordinary function**, which it is **not**.
- Here we are lucky, because for **linear SDEs** we get the **right solution**, but **generally not**.
- The source of the problem is the **integral of a non-integrable function** on the right hand side.

Numerical approaches

- We could now attempt to analyze **non-linear SDEs** of the form

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{w}(t)$$

- We cannot solve the deterministic case—no possibility for a “**leap of faith**”.
- We don't know how to derive the **mean and covariance equations**.
- What we can do is to simulate by using **Euler–Maruyama**:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t_{k+1}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}(t_k) + \mathbf{f}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t_k), t_k) \Delta t + \mathbf{L}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t_k), t_k) \Delta \beta_k,$$

where $\Delta \beta_k$ is a Gaussian random variable with distribution $N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q} \Delta t)$.

- Note that the variance is proportional to Δt , not the standard derivation.

Numerical approaches

Equivalent integral equation

- Integrating the differential equation from t_0 to t gives:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) dt + \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) \mathbf{w}(t) dt.$$

- The first integral is just a normal Riemann/Lebesgue integral.
- The second integral is the problematic one due to the white noise.
- This integral cannot be defined as Riemann, Stieltjes or Lebesgue integral

Numerical approaches

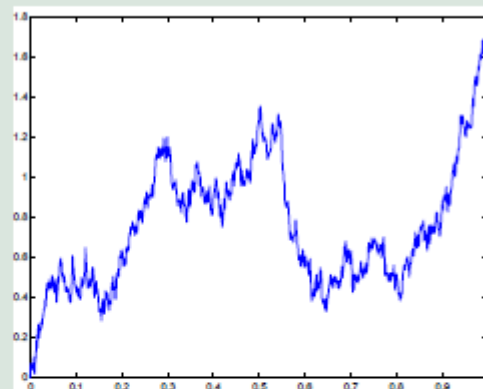
Brownian motion

- 1 Gaussian increments:

$$\Delta\beta_k \sim N(0, \mathbf{Q} \Delta t_k),$$

where $\Delta\beta_k = \beta(t_{k+1}) - \beta(t_k)$ and $\Delta t_k = t_{k+1} - t_k$.

- 2 Non-overlapping increments are independent.



- \mathbf{Q} is the diffusion matrix of the Brownian motion.
- Brownian motion $t \mapsto \beta(t)$ has discontinuous derivative everywhere.
- White noise can be considered as the formal derivative of Brownian motion $\mathbf{w}(t) = d\beta(t)/dt$.

Numerical approaches

Itô stochastic differential equations

- Consider the **white noise driven ODE**

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t) \mathbf{w}(t).$$

- This is **actually** defined as the **Itô integral equation**

$$\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) dt + \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) d\beta(t),$$

which should be true for arbitrary t_0 and t .

- Settings the limits to t and $t + dt$, where **dt is “small”**, we get

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) dt + \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t) d\beta.$$

- This is the canonical form of an **Itô SDE**.

Numerical approaches

Connection with white noise driven ODEs

- Let's formally divide by dt , which gives

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, t) \frac{d\beta}{dt}.$$

- Thus we can interpret $d\beta/dt$ as white noise \mathbf{w} .
- Note that we cannot define more general equations

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{w}(t), t),$$

because we cannot re-interpret this as an Itô integral equation.

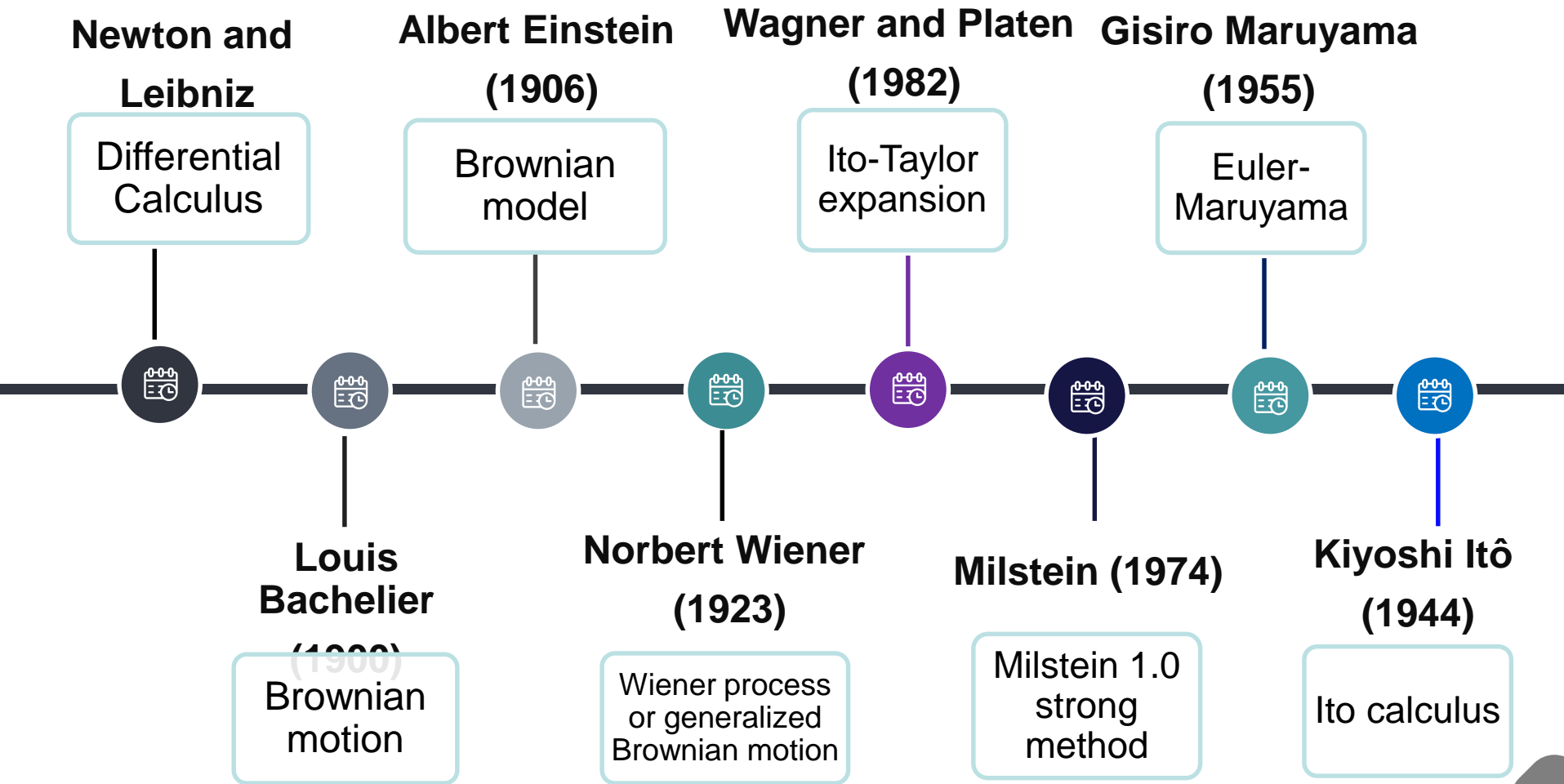
- White noise should not be thought as an entity as such, but it only exists as the formal derivative of Brownian motion.

Numerical approaches

Taylor series of ODEs vs. Itô-Taylor series of SDEs

- **Taylor series** expansions (in time direction) are classical methods for approximating solutions of **deterministic ordinary differential equations (ODEs)**.
- Largely superseded by **Runge–Kutta** type of derivative free methods (whose theory is based on Taylor series).
- **Itô-Taylor series** can be used for approximating solutions of SDEs—direct generalization of Taylor series for ODEs.
- **Stochastic Runge–Kutta** methods are **not as easy** to use as their deterministic counterparts
- It is easier to understand **Itô-Taylor series** by understanding Taylor series (for ODEs) first.

Evolution of SDEs



Stochastic Numerical Integration

Euler Maruyama

$O(h^{1/2})$ -Poor convergence

High Computational requirement due to small time step

Milstein 1.0 strong

$O(h^{1.0})$ -Strong convergence

Computational cost is relatively less due to higher order term

Stochastic Runge–Kutta

$O(h^{1.0})$ -Strong convergence

High computational requirement due to iterative updates at each time instant

Taylor 1.5 strong

$O(h^{3/2})$ -Higher convergence

Less computational requirement due to more number of higher order terms



Evolution of the present techniques:

Euler-Maruyama Scheme

Milstein 1.0 strong Method

$$x(t_{i+1}) = x(t_i) + a(Y_i)\Delta t + b(Y_i)\Delta B_i + \frac{1}{2} b(Y_i)b'(Y_i)\{(\Delta B_i)^2 - \Delta t\} +$$

$$\{a(Y_i)a'(Y_i) + b^2(Y_i)a''(Y_i)\} \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} +$$

$$b(Y_i)a'(Y_i)\Delta Z +$$

$$\{a(Y_i)b'(Y_i) + \frac{1}{2}b^2(Y_i)b''(Y_i)\} (\Delta W \Delta t - \Delta Z)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} b(Y_i) \{b(Y_i)b''(Y_i) + b^2(Y_i)\} \left(\frac{\Delta W^2}{3} - \Delta t \right) (\Delta W)$$

Through implicitness in Y_i as:

$$Y_i = b(Y_i + b(Y_i)\sqrt{\Delta t_i}) - b(Y_i)$$

Results,

Stochastic Runge-Kutta

Taylor 1.5 strong scheme

STOCHASTIC DEQ: Preliminaries

ITO-Taylor expansion: Preliminaries

Consider the ODE $\frac{dx}{dt} = a[x(t)]; \quad x(t_0) = x_0 \quad \& \quad 0 \leq t_0 \leq T$

The solution can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t a[x(s)] ds \\ &= x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t a[x(s)] ds \end{aligned}$$

Define: $\frac{d f[x(t)]}{dt} = \mathcal{L}f[x(t)]$

For a function $f[x(t)]$ we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d f[x(t)]}{dt} &= \frac{\partial f[x(t)]}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} \\ \frac{d f[x(t)]}{dt} &= a[x(t)] \frac{\partial f[x(t)]}{\partial x} \end{aligned}$$

Eq. 1

STOCHASTIC DEQ: Preliminaries

Integral equation : By defining a linear operator $\mathcal{L} = a[x(t)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

Eq. 1 can be written in terms of the integral equation as:

$$f[x(t)] = f[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}f[x(s)]ds$$

Case-1)

$$f[x(t)] = x(t)$$

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \mathcal{L}x(t) = a[x(t)] \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} = a[x(t)]$$

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t a[x(s)]ds \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

Case-2)

$$f[x(t)] = a[x(t)]$$

$$\frac{d a[x(t)]}{dt} = \mathcal{L} a[x(t)] = a[x(t)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} a[x(t)]$$

$$a[x(t)] = a[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}a[x(s)]ds$$

Eq. 3

STOCHASTIC DEQ: Preliminaries

From 2 and 3 :

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}a(x_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}a[x(s_2)]ds_2]ds \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

$$= x_0 + a[x_0] \int_{t_0}^t ds_1 + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}a[x(s_2)]ds_2 ds_1$$

Now for, $F = \mathcal{L} a[x(t)]$

$$\frac{d \mathcal{L} a[x(t)]}{dt} = \mathcal{L}\{\mathcal{L}a[x(t)]\} = \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(t)]$$

$$\mathcal{L} a[x(t)] = \mathcal{L}a(x_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(s)]ds \iff a[x(t)] = a[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}a[x(s)]ds$$

$$\mathcal{L} a[x(s_2)] = \mathcal{L}a(x_0) + \int_{t_0}^{s_2} \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(s_3)]ds_3 \quad \text{Eq. 5}$$

STOCHASTIC DEQ: Preliminaries

From Eq. 4 and 5 :

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= x_0 + a(x_0) \int_{t_0}^t ds_1 + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \left\{ \mathcal{L}a(x_0) + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(s_3)] ds_3 \right\} ds_2 ds_1 \\&= x_0 + a(x_0) \int_{t_0}^t ds_1 + \mathcal{L}a(x_0) \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} ds_2 ds_1 + \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(s_3)] \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \int_{t_0}^{s_2} ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\&= x_0 + a(x_0) \int_{t_0}^t ds_1 + \mathcal{L}a(x_0) \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} ds_2 ds_1 + R\end{aligned}$$

$$R = \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \int_{t_0}^{s_2} \mathcal{L}^2 a[x(s_3)] ds_3 ds_2 ds_1$$

2. STOCH-DEQ: ITO-Taylor expansion

Starting point: Diffusion Equation and Ito's lemma

$$dx(t) = a[x(t)]dt + b[x(t)]dB(t), \quad x(t_0) = x_0$$

Ito's Lemma: $df[x(t)] = f'[x(t)]dx(t) + \frac{1}{2}f''[x(t)]b^2[x(t)]dt$

$$\begin{aligned} df[x(t)] &= f'[x(t)]\{a[x(t)]dt + b[x(t)]dB(t)\} + \frac{1}{2}f''[x(t)]b^2[x(t)]dt \\ &= \left\{ a[x(t)] \frac{\partial f[x(t)]}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2}b^2[x(t)] \frac{\partial^2 f[x(t)]}{\partial x^2} \right\} dt + b[x(t)] \frac{\partial f[x(t)]}{\partial x} dB(t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f[x(t)] &= f[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^t \left\{ a[x(s)] \frac{\partial f[x(s)]}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2}b^2[x(s)] \frac{\partial^2 f[x(s)]}{\partial x^2} \right\} ds + \int_{t_0}^t b[x(s)] \frac{\partial f[x(s)]}{\partial x} dB(s) \end{aligned}$$

Eq. 2.1

STOCH-DEQ: ITO-Taylor expansion

Define: $\mathcal{L}^0 = a[x(s)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} b^2[x(s)] \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$ and $\mathcal{L}^1 = b[x(s)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

Eqn. 2.1 becomes
$$f[x(t)] = f[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}^0 f[x(s)] ds + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}^1 f[x(s)] dB(s) \quad \text{Eq. 2.2}$$

$$f[x(t)] = x(t)$$

$$\mathcal{L}^0 = \left[a[x(s)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} b^2[x(s)] \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right] x(t) = a[x(s)]; \quad \mathcal{L}^1 = \left[b[x(s)] \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] x(t) = b[x(s)]$$

$$x(t) = x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}^0[x(s)] ds + \int_{t_0}^t \mathcal{L}^1[x(s)] dB(s)$$

$$= x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t a[x(s)] ds + \int_{t_0}^t b[x(s)] dB(s)$$

Eq. 2.3

STOCHASTIC DEQ: FORMULATION

Further for $f[x(t)] = a[x(s)]$ and using eq. 2.2

$$a[x(s)] = a[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^0 a[x(s_2)] ds_2 + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 a[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \quad \text{Eq. 2.4}$$

For $f[x(t)] = b[x(s)]$ and using eq. 2.2

$$b[x(s)] = b[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^0 b[x(s_2)] ds_2 + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 b[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \quad \text{Eq. 2.5}$$

Inserting the results of Eqs. 2.4 and 2.5 into Eq. 2.3

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \left\{ a[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^0 a[x(s_2)] ds_2 + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 a[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \right\} ds_1 \\ &\quad + \int_{t_0}^t \left\{ b[x(t_0)] + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^0 b[x(s_2)] ds_2 + \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 b[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \right\} dB(s_1) \\ &= x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t a[x(t_0)] ds_1 + \int_{t_0}^t b[x(t_0)] dB(s_1) + R \end{aligned}$$

STOCHASTIC DEQ: FORMULATION

$$R = \left[\int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^0 a[x(s_2)] ds_2 + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 a[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \right] ds_1 \\ + \left[\int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 b[x(s_2)] ds_2 dB(s_1) + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{s_1} \mathcal{L}^1 b[x(s_2)] dB(s_2) \right] dB(s_1)$$

R is referred to as the remainder term. We will learn more about this in the next lecture