

Introduction to Stochastic Analysis, Problem sheet 11

Please hand in your solutions with your names and the name of your tutor before Tuesday 26.01., 12 am, at the post-boxes opposite to the maths library.

1. (Feynman and Kac at the stock exchange). The price of a security is modeled by geometric Brownian motion (X_t) with parameters $\alpha, \sigma > 0$. At a price x we have a cost $V(x)$ per unit of time. The total cost up to time t is then given by

$$A_t = \int_0^t V(X_s) ds .$$

Suppose that u is a bounded solution to the PDE

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}u - \beta V u, \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} x^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \alpha x \frac{d}{dx} .$$

Show that the Laplace transform of A_t is given by $E_x [e^{-\beta A_t}] = u(t, x)$.

2. (Black-Scholes model). A stock price is modeled by a geometric Brownian Motion (S_t) with parameters $\alpha, \sigma > 0$. We assume that the interest rate is equal to a real constant r for all times. Let $c(t, x)$ be the value of an option at time t if the stock price at that time is $S_t = x$. Suppose that $c(t, S_t)$ is replicated by a hedging portfolio, i.e., there is a trading strategy holding ϕ_t shares of stock at time t and putting the remaining portfolio value $V_t - \phi_t S_t$ in the money market account with fixed interest rate r so that the total portfolio value V_t at each time t agrees with $c(t, S_t)$.

“Derive” the *Black-Scholes partial differential equation*

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t}(t, x) + rx \frac{\partial c}{\partial x}(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}(t, x) = rc(t, x) \quad (1)$$

and the *delta-hedging rule*

$$\phi_t = \frac{\partial c}{\partial x}(t, S_t) \quad (=: \text{Delta}). \quad (2)$$

Hint: Consider the discounted portfolio value $\tilde{V}_t = e^{-rt} V_t$ and, correspondingly, $e^{-rt} c(t, S_t)$. Compute the Ito differentials, and conclude that both processes coincide if c is a solution to (1) and ϕ_t is given by (2).

3. (Lévy's Arcsine law). State Lévy's Arcsine law for the time $A_t = \int_0^t I_{(0,\infty)}(B_s) ds$ spent by a standard Brownian motion (B_s) in the interval $(0, \infty)$. Prove it by proceeding in the following way :

a) Let $\alpha, \beta > 0$. Show that if v is a bounded solution to the equation

$$\alpha v - \frac{1}{2}v'' + \beta I_{(0,\infty)}v = 1$$

on $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ with $v \in C^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap C^2(\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$ then

$$v(x) = E_x \left[\int_0^\infty \exp(-\alpha t - \beta A_t) dt \right] \quad \text{for any } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

b) Compute a corresponding solution v and conclude that

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha t} E_0 \left[e^{-\beta A_t} \right] dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha(\alpha + \beta)}}.$$

c) Now use the uniqueness of the Laplace inversion to show that the distribution μ_t of A_t/t under P_0 is absolutely continuous with density

$$f_{A_t/t}(s) = \frac{1}{\pi \sqrt{s(1-s)}}.$$

Hint: You may use without proof that $\int_0^\infty t^{-1/2} e^{-t} dt = \sqrt{\pi}$.