

# Some aspects of Ito and Stratonovich integral in Stochastic Differential Equations(SDE)

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# OUTLINES

- (1) Some basic definitions and concepts.
- (2) Ito's and Stratonovich integrals, and compare them.
- (3) Applications of the integrals in SDE.
- (4) Conclusion.

# 1) SOME BASICS DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS

1. [Brownian motion] (Wiener process). The stochastic process  $\mathbf{W} = \{W_t : t > 0\}$  is called a standard Brownian motion if:-
  - $W_0 = 0$
  - $\mathbf{W}$  has independent and stationary increments.
  - $W_t$  is  $N(0, t)$ .
  - $W_t - W_s$  is  $N(0, t - s)$  for  $s < t$ . (i.e. stationary independent increments)

# 1) SOME BASICS DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS (continuous)

2. [Martingale] A process  $\mathbf{S} = \{S_t : t > 0\}$  is a martingale with respect to information set  $I_t$  and with respect to probability density  $P(\cdot)$  if:-
- $S_t$  is known, given  $I_t$
  - $\mathbf{E}(S_t) < \infty$
  - $\mathbf{E}(S_t) = S_t$  and  $\mathbf{E}(S_{t+1}|I_t) = S_t$ .

In other words, the process  $S_t$  is martingale if its future movement is unpredictable given the information at hand.

# 1) SOME BASICS DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS (continuous)

3. [Properties of Martingale] Let  $\Delta S_t = S_{t+1} - S_t$  be martingale difference, then:-

- $\sum_{t=0}^n |\Delta S_t|$  is called the length of trajectory.
- $\sum_{t=0}^n (\Delta S_t)^2$  is known as quadratic variation [very important!!].
- $\sum_{t=0}^n |(\Delta S_t)|^3$  and  $\sum_{t=0}^n (\Delta S_t)^4$  exist and they important too.

# 1) SOME BASICS DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS (continuous)

## 4. [Example on Martingale]

Let  $S_t$  be the price of an asset observed at time  $t$  and if in a small infinitesimal period  $\delta t$ , one receives a new information on  $S_t$ , denoted by  $dS_t$ . This change can be expressed as

- $dS_t = \sigma dW(t)$ , where  $W(t)$  is Wiener process and  $\sigma$  is the volatility of the asset.

The expectation,  $\mathbf{E}dS_t = 0$ , this demonstrates how Wiener process and martingale are related.

# 1) SOME BASICS DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS (continuous)

## 5. [Stochastic Differential Equations (SDE)]

A differential equation of the form

$$dX_t = \mu(X_t, t)dt + \sigma(X_t, t)dW_t \quad (1)$$

is an SDE if  $dW(t)$  is a wiener process (sometimes called innovation term).  $\mu(X_t, t)$  and  $\sigma(X_t, t)$  is drift and volatility (diffusion) coefficients respectively. The integral of Equation (1) is not trivial!!!

## 2) ITO's INTEGRAL continuous

### The Ito isometry

$$E \left( \int_0^T f(t, w) dW \right)^2 = E \left( \int_0^T f^2(t, w) dt \right) \quad (2)$$

The consequence of this can be used to show that  $\int_0^T W dW = \frac{1}{2}W^2 - \frac{T}{2}$ .  
Which is an Ito integral of  $\int_0^T W dW$ , where  $W$  is Bromnian process (Wiener process)



## 2) ITO'S INTEGRAL

### continuous

#### The Ito formula

Let  $X_t$  be an Ito process given by  $dX_t = \mu dt + \sigma dW_t$ . Let  $Y$  be a function of  $t$  and  $X_t$ , defined as  $Y = y(t, X_t)$ . Suppose its twice differentiable on  $[0, \infty)$ , then

$$dY_t = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} dX_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} dt \quad (3)$$

**Example:** Given  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2$ , then  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = 0$ ,  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = x$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = 1$ . Yields a new Ito DE

$$dY = \left(x\mu + \frac{1}{2}\right)dt + \sigma dW.$$

Suppose  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = W$ , then  $dY = \frac{1}{2}dt + WdW$ .

## 2) ITO'S INTEGRAL continuous

### Integration by parts in Ito integral

Suppose  $f$  only depend on  $s \in [0, t]$  and that  $f$  is continuous and of bounded variation in  $[0, t]$ . Then

$$\int_0^t f(s) dW = f(t)W_t - \int_0^t W df \quad (4)$$

**Example:** Let  $X_t, Y_t$  be Ito processes in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Prove that

$$d(X_t Y_t) = X_t dY_t + Y_t dX_t + dX_t dY_t. \quad (5)$$

## 2) ITO'S INTEGRAL continuous

Deduce the following general integration by parts formula

$$\int_0^t X_s dY_s = X_t Y_t - X_0 Y_0 - \int_0^t Y_s dX_s - \int_0^t dX_s dY_s. \quad (6)$$

This can be done using Ito formula, *i.e.*, Let  $f = XY$ , then

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial X} dX_t + \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y} dY_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X^2} (dX_t)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial Y^2} (dY_t)^2 + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X \partial Y} dX_t dY_t$$

but the 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> right terms equal to zero, and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial Y} = X_t$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial X} = Y_t$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial X \partial Y} = 1$  and  $df = d(X_t Y_t)$ . Substituting in Ito formula end the proof. The last part is rearrangement and integrating.

## 2) STRATONOVICH INTEGRAL

Suppose  $f$  is continuous in  $[0, T]$ , the stratonovich integral of  $f$  is defined as

$$\int_0^T f(t, w) dW = \lim_{\Delta t_j \rightarrow 0} \sum_j f(t^*, w) \Delta W_j, \quad (7)$$

where  $t^* = \frac{1}{2}(t_{j+1} + t_j)$  and  $\Delta W_j = W_{j+1} - W_j$ . However, Ito integral takes  $t^* = t_j$ .

$$\text{Stratonovich: } \int_0^t W dW = \frac{1}{2} W_t^2 \quad (8)$$

$$\text{Ito: } \int_0^t W dW = \frac{1}{2} W_t^2 - \frac{1}{2} t \quad (9)$$

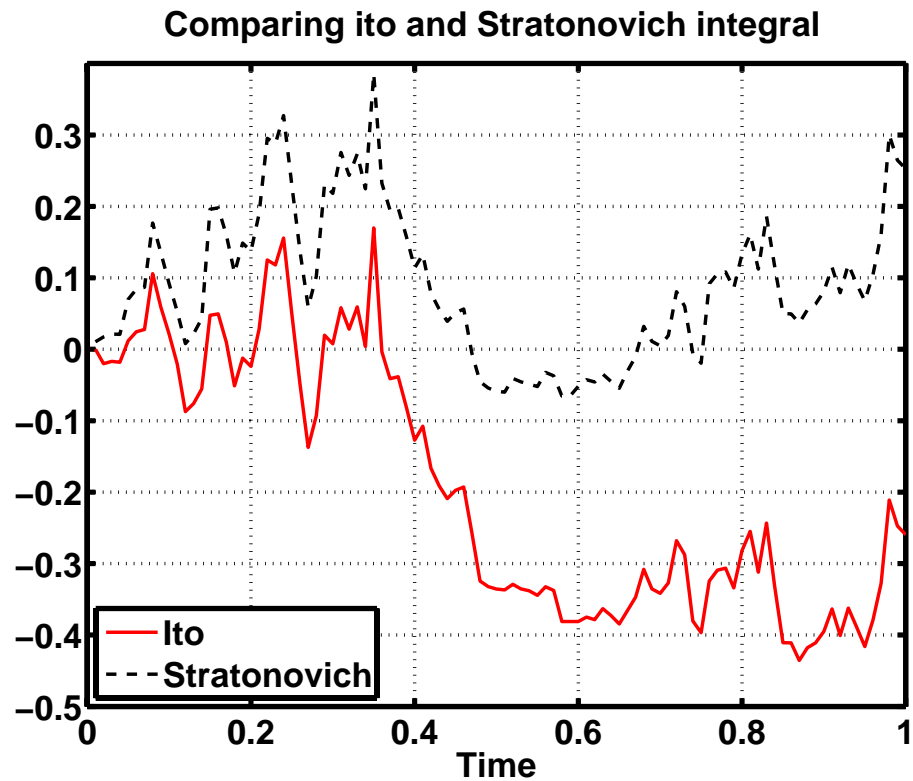


Figure 1: At all time point Stratonovich integral (equation (10)) is greater than Ito integral (equation (11)) value by half that time.

## Is Stratonovich integral better Ito integral?

- Some scholars noted that Stratonovich interpretation in some situations may be most appropriate. This means that it depends on situation(s) at hand.
- If white noise is approximation to continuously fluctuating noise with finite memory (much shorter than dynamical timescales), appropriate representation is Stratonovich (Wong and Zakai, 1969)
- If white noise approximates set of discrete pulses with finite separation to which system responds, or SDE continuous approximation to discrete system, then Ito representation appropriate.
- NB: In Stratonovich DE classical differential calculus can be applied but not in Ito DE.

## Transformation from Ito to Stratonovich DE .

Let a physical system be defined by Ito SDEs

$$dX_t = \mu(X_t, t)dt + \sigma(X_t, t)dW_t, \quad (10)$$

then the same process can be described also with Stratonovich equation

$$dX_t = \left( \mu(X_t, t) - \frac{1}{2}\sigma'(X_t, t)\sigma(X_t, t) \right) dt + \sigma(X_t, t)dW_t \quad (11)$$

where  $\sigma'(X_t, t) = \frac{\partial \sigma(X_t, t)}{\partial x}$ . But if Equation (10) define Stratonovich SDE, then, Ito SDE becomes

$$dX_t = \left( \mu(X_t, t) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma'(X_t, t)\sigma(X_t, t) \right) dt + \sigma(X_t, t)dW_t \quad (12)$$

## Example: Geometric SDE

Let Ito DE be defined by

$$dX_t = rX_t dt + \alpha X_t dW_t, \quad (13)$$

Then, we can find Stratonovich DE using Equation (11). Let  $\mu = rX_t$  and  $\sigma = \alpha X_t$ , this implies that  $\sigma' = \alpha$ . Substituting in Equation (11) yields  $dX_t = X_t \left[ (r - \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2)dt + r dW_t \right]$ .

Now the solution to the SDE can be found easily by classical DE, *i.e.*, separating the variables and integrating normally.

We get

$$X_t = X_0 \exp \left[ \left( r - \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 \right) t + r W_t \right].$$



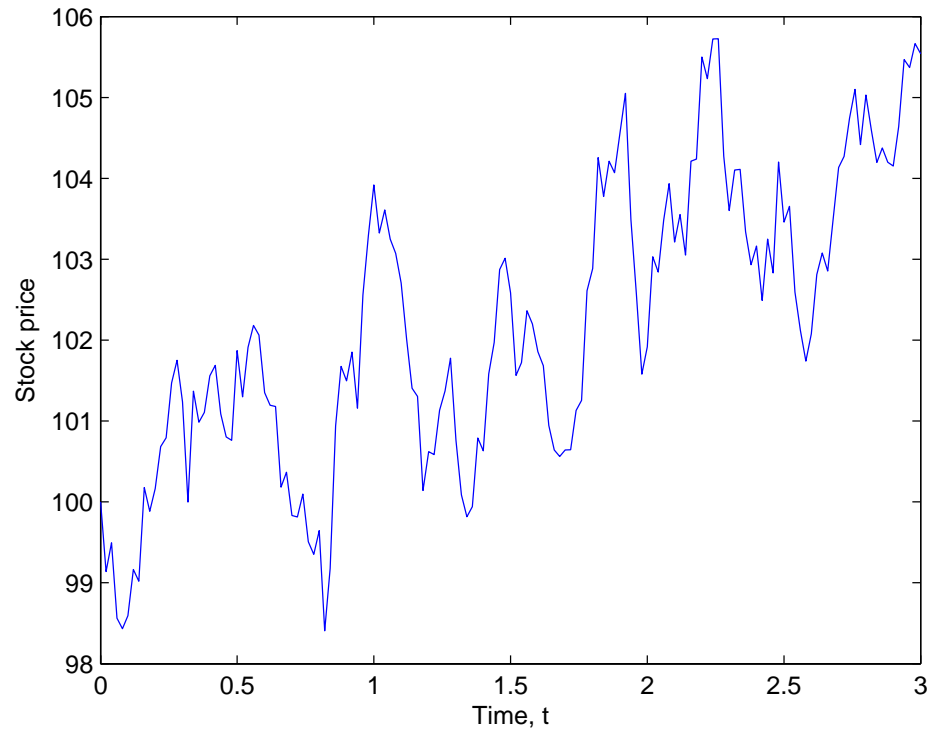


Figure 2: Geometric Brownian motion. Where  $X_0 = 100$ ,  $r=0.025$   $\alpha = 0.05$  and  $W$  is random white noise,  $N(0, \frac{1}{50})$

## Conclusion

This presentation have not tackle the multivariate aspect of Ito process in SDE.

THANKYOU FOR  
ATTENTION