

Statistical Physics IV: Non-equilibrium statistical physics
ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE DE LAUSANNE (EPFL)

Solutions to Exercise No.2

Solution: Stochastic differential equations

(a) Without the noise process:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X\left(t + \frac{dt}{2} + \frac{dt}{2}\right) &= X\left(t + \frac{dt}{2}\right) + A(X(t + dt/2), t + dt/2) \frac{dt}{2} + \sqrt{D(X(t + dt/2), t + dt/2)} \sqrt{\frac{dt}{2}} \\
 &= X(t) + A(X, t) \frac{dt}{2} + \sqrt{D(X, t)} \sqrt{\frac{dt}{2}} \\
 &\quad + A(X(t + dt/2), t + dt/2) \frac{dt}{2} + \sqrt{D(X(t + dt/2), t + dt/2)} \sqrt{\frac{dt}{2}} \\
 &\approx X(t) + A(X, t)dt + \sqrt{D(X, t)}\sqrt{2dt} \\
 &\neq X(t) + A(X, t)dt + \sqrt{D(X, t)}\sqrt{dt}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) With the normal variate $N(0, 1)$, which satisfies the property $N(0, 1) + N(0, 1) = N(0, 2) = \sqrt{2}N(0, 1)$, the additional numerical factor is cancelled and the Ito equation is self-consistent.

(c) For the mean and 2nd moment, we have the differential equations,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt} \langle X(t) \rangle &= \langle A(X, t) \rangle \\
 \frac{d}{dt} \langle X(t)^2 \rangle &= 2 \langle A(X, t) X(t) \rangle + \langle D(X, t) \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

(d) Rewriting the Ito equation as,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{X(t + dt) - X(t)}{dt} &= A(X, t) + \sqrt{D(X, t)} \frac{N(0, 1)}{\sqrt{dt}} \\
 &= A(X, t) + \sqrt{D(X, t)} N(0, 1/dt),
 \end{aligned}$$

gives the Langevin equation,

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = A(X, t) + \sqrt{D(X, t)} \Gamma(t),$$

where $\Gamma(t) = \lim_{dt \rightarrow 0} N(0, 1/dt)$; and it thus follows that, $\langle \Gamma(t) \rangle = 0$ and $\langle \Gamma(t) \Gamma(t') \rangle = \delta(t - t')$.

Solution: Wiener-Khinchin theorem

From quantum noise review appendix 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{XX}(\omega) &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt' e^{i\omega(t'-t)} \langle X(t)X(t') \rangle \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt \int_{-B(t)}^{B(t)} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \langle X(t)X(t+\tau) \rangle \quad (\text{change of variable } \tau = t' - t) \\
 &\approx \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \langle X(t)X(t+\tau) \rangle \quad (\text{ok in limit } T \gg \text{correlation time}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} dt \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \langle X(0)X(0+\tau) \rangle \quad (\text{by time invariance}) \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau e^{i\omega\tau} \langle X(0)X(\tau) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega\tau} C_{XX}(\tau) d\tau
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution: Review of Spectral Densities

- (a) For an O-U process, the random variable $X(t)$ is classical and takes real values. Moreover, the process is stationary so we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{XX}(-\tau) &= \langle X(t)X(t-\tau) \rangle \\
 &= \langle X(t'+\tau)X(t') \rangle \\
 &= \langle X(t')X(t'+\tau) \rangle \\
 &= \langle X(t)X(t+\tau) \rangle = C_{XX}(\tau)
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{XX}(\omega) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int C_{XX}(\tau) e^{i\omega\tau} d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int C_{XX}(-\tau) e^{i\omega\tau} d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int C_{XX}(\tau') e^{i\omega(-\tau')} d\tau' = S_{XX}(-\omega)
 \end{aligned}$$

This also implies the function is real since $S_{XX}(\omega)^* = S_{XX}(-\omega)$ for real C_{XX} .

The non-negativity is most easily seen from the Wiener-Khinchin theorem.

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{XX}(\omega) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C(\tau) e^{i\omega\tau} d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C(\tau) (\cos(\omega\tau) + i \sin(\omega\tau)) d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} 2 \int_0^{\infty} C(\tau) \cos(\omega\tau) d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left[4 \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} C(\tau) \cos(\omega\tau) d\tau \right] = \frac{1}{2} S_{XX}^{\text{single}}(\omega)
 \end{aligned}$$

- (d) For an O-U process we have $\langle X(t)X(t+t') \rangle = \langle X^2(t) \rangle e^{-t'/\tau}$ so

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{XX}(\omega) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \langle X^2(t) \rangle e^{-t'/\tau} e^{-i\omega t'} dt' \\
 &= \frac{\langle X^2(0) \rangle}{2\pi} \frac{2\tau}{1 + (\omega\tau)^2} \\
 &= \frac{c\tau/2}{2\pi} \frac{2\tau}{1 + (\omega\tau)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } S_{XX}^{\text{single}}(\omega) = \frac{\langle X^2(0) \rangle}{2\pi} \frac{4\tau}{1 + i\omega\tau}$$

Solution: Johnson noise and its spectrum

- (a) The equation is of the form of the Langevin equation, with $\tau = L/R$ and $V(t) = L\sqrt{c}\Gamma(t)$.

For the limit of large time, the equipartition applies, so that

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{2}LI^2 \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2}k_B T$$

and the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck variance tends to

$$\langle I^2(t \rightarrow \infty) \rangle = \frac{c\tau}{2}$$

so we get $c = 2k_B TR/L^2$

- (b) $V(t) = \sqrt{2k_B TR}\Gamma(t)$, so we get our result.

- (c) $S_{VV}(\omega)$ is the Fourier transform of $2k_B TR\delta(\tau)$, so we get the result.