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# Cubature and splitting schemes for stochastic differential equations

## Christian Bayer (joint work with P. Friz, R. Loeffen and J. Teichmann)

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Semi-closed form cubature

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#### Outline



- 2 Cubature and splitting schemes
  - Cubature on Wiener space
  - Stochastic splitting schemes

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- The Ninomiya-Victoir method
- Solutions of ODEs
- Example: Generalized SABR model
- Further examples

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#### Weak approximation of solutions of SDEs

$$dX_t = V_0(X_t)dt + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(X_t) \circ dB_t^i \eqqcolon \sum_{i=0}^d V_i(X_t) \circ dB_t^i, \quad (1)$$

- $V_0, \ldots, V_d : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  vector fields
- ►  $B_t$  a *d*-dimensional Brownian motion,  $B_t^0 \coloneqq t$

#### Problem

For  $f : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}$  sufficiently regular, compute  $u(t, x) \coloneqq E[f(X_T)|X_t = x].$ 

#### **PDE** formulation

$$\partial_t u + Lu = 0$$
, where  $Lf(x) = V_0 f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^d V_j^2 f(x)$ ,  
 $V_i f(x) \coloneqq V_i(x) \cdot \nabla f(x)$ .

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#### **Different approaches**

## PDE methods: Solve the (linear, second order, parabolic) PDE directly, using finite elements, finite differences,....

Probabilistic methods: Solve the SDE and integrate.

- Discretize SDE to find an approximate solution  $\overline{X}_{\tau}^{(n)}$ .
- Integrate E [f(X<sub>T</sub><sup>(n)</sup>)] using (quasi) Monte-Carlo simulation.

Splitting methods: Use structure  $L = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{d} V_i^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{d} L_i$ .

- Solve the PDEs for L<sub>i</sub> and combine solutions.
- Probabilistic splitting schemes.

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#### Different approaches

PDE methods: Solve the (linear, second order, parabolic) PDE directly, using finite elements, finite differences,....

#### Probabilistic methods: Solve the SDE and integrate.

- Discretize SDE to find an approximate solution  $\overline{X}_T^{(n)}$ .
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#### Euler discretization of SDEs

• SDE: 
$$dX_t = \sum_{i=0}^d V_i(X_t) \circ dB_t^i$$

- ► Naive Euler discretization:  $\overline{X}_{t_{j+1}}^{(n)} = \overline{X}_{t_j}^{(n)} + V_0(\overline{X}_{t_j}^{(n)})\Delta t_j + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(\overline{X}_{t_j}^{(n)})\Delta B_j^i$
- ► Scaling property of Brownian increments:  $\Delta B_j^i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Delta t_j) \approx \sqrt{\Delta t_j}, \ (\Delta B_j^i)^2 \approx \Delta t_j$
- Correct Euler discretization:  $\overline{X}_{t_{j+1}} = \overline{X}_{t_j} + V(\overline{X}_{t_j}^{(n)}) \Delta t_j + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(\overline{X}_{t_j}^{(n)}) \Delta B_j^i$ , with  $V(x) = V_0(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d DV_i(x) \cdot V_i(x)$

- Higher order terms relevant
- "May not look into future."

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## Integration step

$$\blacktriangleright \overline{X}_T^{(n)} = \overline{X}_T^{(n)}(\Delta B_1, \ldots, \Delta B_n).$$

• Monte Carlo simulation:  $\Delta B^{(l)}$  indep. realizations of  $\Delta B$ ,

$$E\left[f\left(\overline{X}_{T}^{(n)}\right)\right]\approx\frac{1}{M}\sum_{l=1}^{M}f\left(\overline{X}_{T}^{(n)}(\Delta B_{1}^{(l)},\ldots,\Delta B_{n}^{(l)})\right)$$

- ► Integration error stochastic, but of order  $1/\sqrt{M}$ , independent of the dimension  $n \times d$
- ► Quasi Monte Carlo simulation: take deterministic vectors △B<sup>(l)</sup> with special "uniformity" properties
- Integration error of order 1/M when dimensions not too high.
- Decomposition of error into discretization error and integration error.

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#### Discussion of the probabilistic method

- Order of convergence of Euler scheme:  $n^{-1}$  (generically)
- Order of convergence of the (Q)MC simulation:  $M^{-1/2}$ ,  $M^{-1}$
- Integration error dominates.

#### Goal

Find higher order discretization methods.

- Reduce the dimension n × d of the integration problem, allowing to rely on quasi Monte Carlo simulation.
- Allows for extremely high precision solvers, which are not available otherwise.
- Geometric solvers.

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## Stochastic Taylor expansion

#### Ito formula for Stratonovich calculus

$$df(X_t) = V_0 f(X_t) dt + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i f(X_t) \circ dB_t^i = \sum_{i=0}^d V_i f(X_t) \circ dB_t^i,$$
  
where  $V_i f(x) \coloneqq V_i(x) \cdot \nabla f(x), X_0 = x.$ 

$$f(X_t) = f(x) + \sum_{i=0}^d \int_0^t V_i f(X_s) \circ dB_s^i,$$

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$$f(X_t) = f(x) + \sum_{i=0}^d V_i f(x) B_t^i + \sum_{i,j=0}^d \int_{0 \le u \le s \le t} V_j V_i f(X_u) \circ dB_u^j \circ dB_s^i,$$

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+ 
$$\sum_{i,j=0}^d \int_{0 \le u \le s \le t} \underbrace{V_j V_i f(X_u)}_{=V_j V_i f(x) + \sum_{l=0}^d \int_0^u V_l V_j V_l f(X_v) \circ dB_v^l} \circ dB_u^j \circ dB_s^j,$$

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$$f(X_t) = f(x) + \sum_{i_1=0}^{d} V_{i_1} f(x) B_t^{i_1} + \sum_{i_1, i_2=0}^{d} V_{i_1} V_{i_2} f(x) \int_0^t B_{t_2}^{i_1} \circ dB_{t_2}^{i_2} + \sum_{i_1, i_2, i_3=0}^d \int_{0 \le t_1 \le t_2 \le t_3 \le t} V_{i_1} V_{i_2} V_{i_3} f(X_{t_1}) \circ dB_{t_1}^{i_1} \circ dB_{t_2}^{i_2} \circ dB_{t_3}^{i_3},$$

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.

$$f(X_t) = \sum_{k=0}^{m} \sum_{(i_1,\dots,i_k)\in\{0,\dots,d\}^k} V_{i_1}\cdots V_{i_k}f(x)B_t^{(i_1,\dots,i_k)} + R_m(t,x,f),$$
  
$$\sup_x \sqrt{E[R_m^2]} = O(t^{\frac{m+1}{2}}), B_t^{(i_1,\dots,i_k)} \coloneqq \int_{0\le t_1\le\dots\le t_k\le t} \circ dB_{t_1}^{i_1}\cdots \circ dB_{t_k}^{i_k}.$$

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## Random ODEs

Let W be a (d + 1)-dimensional process with paths of bounded variation, define X
<sub>t</sub> = X(W)<sub>t</sub> by the random ODE

$$\frac{d}{dt}\widetilde{X}_t = \sum_{i=0}^d V_i(\widetilde{X}_t)\dot{W}_t^i, \quad \widetilde{X}_0 = x.$$
(2)

Ordinary Taylor expansion:

$$f(\widetilde{X}_{t}) = \sum_{k=0}^{m} \sum_{(i_{1},...,i_{k})\in\{0,...,d\}^{k}} V_{i_{1}}\cdots V_{i_{k}}f(x)W_{t}^{(i_{1},...,i_{k})} + \widetilde{R}_{m}(t,x,f)$$

Remember: Stochastic Taylor expansion

$$f(X_t) = \sum_{k=0}^{m} \sum_{(i_1,...,i_k) \in \{0,...,d\}^k} V_{i_1} \cdots V_{i_k} f(x) B_t^{(i_1,...,i_k)} + R_m(t,x,f)$$

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## Cubature on Wiener space

#### Definition

W is a cubature formula on Wiener space of degree *m* iff  $E\left[W_t^{(i_1,...,i_k)}\right] = E\left[B_t^{(i_1,...,i_k)}\right]$  for  $k \le m$ .

- Cubature formulas with finite support exist (Lyons and Victoir)
- Construction of cubature formulas for *m* > 5 interesting open problem
- ► Fix a grid 0 = t<sub>0</sub> < t<sub>1</sub> < ··· < t<sub>n</sub> = T, define W by concatenation of independent cubature formulas (of degree m) on the sub-intervals [t<sub>i</sub>, t<sub>i+1</sub>].
- ► Global error:  $E[f(X_T)] E[f(\widetilde{X}_T^{(n)})] = O((\max_j \Delta t_j)^{(m-1)/2})$

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• Global error: 
$$E[f(X_T)] - E[f(\widetilde{X}_T^{(n)})] = O((\max_j \Delta t_j)^{(m-1)/2})$$

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- ► Jump diffusions (B. and Teichmann): add jump times to grid, but at most *m*/2 for each initial interval
- May reduce order of cubature method by two for each jump
- Backward SDEs (Crisan and Manolarakis): allows to solve semi-linear parabolic PDEs with cubature methods
- Stochastic PDEs (B. and Teichmann): expectation of an SPDE approximated by an expectation of a random PDE
- Recombination techniques (Litterer and Lyons): reduces the growth of the support of the cubature formula to polynomial growth

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## Abstract splitting

$$E[f(X_t)|X_0=x] \eqqcolon P_t f(x) = \exp\left(t\left(V_0 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^d V_i^2\right)\right)f(x)$$

- General splitting:  $V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{d} V_i^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{d} U_i$ , then approximate  $P_t \approx \prod_j e^{t\gamma_j U_{i(j)}}$
- Maximal order of convergence: 2 for positive weights γ

#### Example

- ►  $Q_t = e^{tU_0} \cdots e^{tU_d}$ ,  $Q_t^* = e^{tU_d} \cdots e^{tU_0}$  (Lie-Trotter splitting or symplectic Euler method)
- ► Q<sub>t</sub> = <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>(e<sup>tU<sub>0</sub></sup> ··· e<sup>tU<sub>d</sub></sup> + e<sup>tU<sub>d</sub></sup> ··· e<sup>tU<sub>0</sub></sup>) (symmetrically weighted sequential splitting)

Semi-closed form cubature

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## Stochastic splitting

• For a splitting scheme:  $e^{\frac{\gamma}{2}V_i^2}f(x) = E[f(Y_{\gamma})]$ , with

$$dY_t = V_i(Y_t) \circ dB_t^i, \quad Y_0 = x.$$

• 
$$e^{\gamma V_0} f(x) = f(z(\gamma))$$
, with

$$\dot{z}=V_0(z), \quad z(0)=x.$$

- Advantage:  $Y_t$  can be much better approximated than  $X_t$ .
- For extrapolation to any order see Oshima, Teichmann and Velušček.

Cubature and splitting schemes

Semi-closed form cubature

## The Ninomiya-Victoir method

- ► On a (uniform) grid  $0 = t_0 < \cdots < t_n = T$  set  $\Delta t_i \coloneqq t_{i+1} t_i$ ,  $\Delta B_i^j \coloneqq B_{t_{i+1}}^j - B_{t_i}^j$ ,  $\Lambda_i$  Bernoulli-distributed
- Set  $\overline{X}_0 = x$  and iteratively

$$\overline{X}_{i+1} \coloneqq \begin{cases} e^{\frac{\Delta t_i}{2} V_0} e^{\Delta B_i^d V_d} \cdots e^{\Delta B_i^1 V_1} e^{\frac{\Delta t_i}{2} V_0} \overline{X}_i, & \Lambda_i = 1, \\ e^{\frac{\Delta t_i}{2} V_0} e^{\Delta B_i^1 V_1} \cdots e^{\Delta B_i^d V_d} e^{\frac{\Delta t_i}{2} V_0} \overline{X}_i, & \Lambda_i = -1. \end{cases}$$
(3)

- $e^{sV_i}x \coloneqq z(1)$ , where  $\dot{z}(t) = sV_i(z(t))$ , z(0) = x
- Global error:  $E[f(X_T)] E[f(\overline{X}_n)] = O((\sup \Delta t_i)^2)$
- Interpretation as cubature method and splitting method

Cubature and splitting schemes

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(3)

- $e^{sV_i}x := z(1)$ , where  $\dot{z}(t) = sV_i(z(t)), z(0) = x$
- ► Global error:  $E[f(X_T)] E[f(\overline{X}_n)] = O((\sup \Delta t_i)^2)$
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Cubature and splitting schemes

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$$Q_{\Delta t}^{NV} = \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{\Delta t}{2}L_0} e^{\Delta tL_1} \cdots e^{\Delta tL_d} e^{\frac{\Delta t}{2}L_0} + \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{\Delta t}{2}L_0} e^{\Delta tL_d} \cdots e^{\Delta tL_1} e^{\frac{\Delta t}{2}L_0},$$

where  $L_0 f(x) = V_0 f(x)$ ,  $L_i f(x) = \frac{1}{2} V_i^2 f(x)$ ,  $Q_{\Delta t}^{NV} \approx P_{\Delta t} \coloneqq e^{\Delta t L_0 + \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^d L_i}$ 

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Cubature and splitting schemes

Semi-closed form cubature

## ODEs for Ninomiya-Victoir

- Requires  $\exp(sV_0)$ ,  $\exp(sV_1)$ , ...,  $\exp(sV_d)$
- Numerical solution of ODEs possible, see Ninomiya and Ninomiya.
- Experience suggests that explicit solutions preferable whenever available.
- Question: Which relevant models in mathematical finance allow for explicit formulas of all required terms exp(sV<sub>0</sub>), exp(sV<sub>1</sub>),..., exp(sV<sub>d</sub>)?
- Diffusion vector-fields V<sub>1</sub>,..., V<sub>d</sub> often simple enough, Stratonovich correction causing problems,

$$V_0(x) = V(x) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d DV_i(x) \cdot V_i(x).$$

► Idea: move correction terms back to diffusion part.

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Idea: move correction terms back to diffusion part.

Cubature and splitting schemes

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## Drift trick

#### Reformulation

$$dX_t = V_0^{(\gamma)}(X_t)dt + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(X_t) \circ d(B_t^i + \gamma^i t),$$

where 
$$V_0^{(\gamma)}(x) \coloneqq V_0(x) - \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(x)\gamma^i$$
.

- Use Ninomiya-Victoir with  $V_0$  replaced by  $V_0^{(\gamma)}$  and  $\Delta B^i$  replaced by  $\Delta B^i + \gamma^i \Delta t$ .
- Second order convergence retained.
- Cubature method also obvious.
- Non-standard splitting:

$$L = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{d} V_i^2 = V_0^{(\gamma)} + \sum_{i=1}^{d} \left( \frac{1}{2} V_i^2 + \gamma^i V_i \right)$$

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#### Girsanov transform

- Let  $\mathcal{E}_t := \exp\left(\langle \gamma, B_t \rangle \frac{1}{2} \|\gamma\|^2 t\right)$  and Q be defined by  $\frac{dQ}{dP} = \mathcal{E}_T$ .
- We have

$$E_P[f(X_T)] = E_Q[f(Y_T)] = E_P[f(Y_T)\mathcal{E}_T],$$

where  $Y_T$  solves the SDE with  $V_0^{(\gamma)}, V_1, \ldots, V_d$ .

• But: 
$$\operatorname{Var}[\mathcal{E}_T] = e^{\|\gamma\|^2 T} - 1$$
.

Cubature and splitting schemes

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References

#### Generalized SABR model

#### Model

$$\begin{split} dX_t^1 &= a \left( X_t^2 \right)^{\alpha} \left( X_t^1 \right)^{\beta} dB_t^1, \\ dX_t^2 &= \kappa (\theta - X_t^2) dt + b X_t^2 (\rho dB_t^1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} dB_t^2), \end{split}$$

where  $1/2 \le \alpha, \beta \le 1$ . (SABR:  $\alpha = 1, \kappa = 0$ .)

$$e^{sV_{1}}x = \begin{pmatrix} g_{1}(s,x) \\ x^{2}e^{b\rho s} \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^{sV_{2}}x = \begin{pmatrix} x^{1} \\ x^{2}e^{b\sqrt{1-\rho^{2}}s} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$g_{1}(s,x) = \begin{cases} \left[ (1-\beta)\frac{a(x^{2})^{\alpha}}{\alpha b\rho} \left(e^{\alpha b\rho s}-1\right) + (x^{1})^{1-\beta}\right]_{+}^{1/(1-\beta)}, & \beta < 1, \\ x^{1}\exp\left(\frac{a(x^{2})^{\alpha}}{\alpha b\rho} \left(e^{\alpha b\rho s}-1\right)\right), & \beta = 1. \end{cases}$$

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Cubature and splitting schemes

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References

#### Generalized SABR model – 2

• No explicit formula for  $e^{sV_0}x$ , where

$$V_{0}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}a^{2}\beta(x^{2})^{2\alpha}(x^{1})^{2\beta-1} - \frac{1}{2}\alpha ab\rho(x^{2})^{\alpha}(x^{1})^{\beta} \\ \kappa\theta - (\kappa + \frac{1}{2}b^{2})x^{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

▶ Drift trick: choose  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , set  $V_0^{(\gamma)}(x) := V_0(x) - \sum_{i=1}^d \gamma^i V_i(x)$ and consider

$$dX_t = V_0^{(\gamma)}(X_t)dt + \sum_{i=1}^d V_i(X_t) \circ d\left(B_t^i + \gamma^i t\right)$$

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References

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Cubature and splitting schemes

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References

#### Generalized SABR model – 3

Choose 
$$\gamma^1 = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha b\rho$$
,  $\gamma^2 = \frac{\alpha b\rho^2 - 2\kappa/b - b}{2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}}$  to obtain  
$$V_0^{(\gamma)}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}a^2\beta \left(x^2\right)^{2\alpha} \left(x^1\right)^{2\beta-1} \\ \kappa\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

• Explicit solution:  $e^{sV_0^{(\gamma)}}x = (g_0(s, x), \kappa \theta s + x^2)$ , with

$$g_{0}(s,x) = \begin{cases} \left[-\theta^{2}\beta(1-\beta)P(s,x) + (x^{1})^{2(1-\beta)}\right]_{+}^{1/2(1-\beta)}, & \beta < 1, \\ x^{1}\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}a^{2}P(s,x)\right), & \beta = 1, \end{cases}$$
$$P(s,x) = \frac{1}{(2\alpha+1)\kappa\theta} \left(\left(\kappa\theta s + x^{2}\right)^{2\alpha+1} - (x^{2})^{2\alpha+1}\right)$$

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#### Generalized SABR model - 3

• Choose 
$$\gamma^1 = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha b\rho$$
,  $\gamma^2 = \frac{\alpha b\rho^2 - 2\kappa/b - b}{2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}}$  to obtain

$$V_0^{(\gamma)}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}a^2\beta(x^2)^{2\alpha}(x^1)^{2\beta-1} \\ \kappa\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

• Explicit solution: 
$$e^{sV_0^{(\gamma)}}x = (g_0(s,x),\kappa\theta s + x^2)$$
, with

$$g_{0}(s,x) = \begin{cases} \left[-\theta^{2}\beta(1-\beta)P(s,x) + (x^{1})^{2(1-\beta)}\right]_{+}^{1/2(1-\beta)}, & \beta < 1, \\ x^{1}\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}a^{2}P(s,x)\right), & \beta = 1, \end{cases}$$
$$P(s,x) = \frac{1}{(2\alpha+1)\kappa\theta} \left( \left(\kappa\theta s + x^{2}\right)^{2\alpha+1} - (x^{2})^{2\alpha+1} \right)$$

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#### Generalized SABR – Numerical experiment



Number of timesteps

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#### Generalized SABR – Computational time

Method	n	М	Rel. Error	Time
Euler	32	8192000	0.00174	91.94 sec
Ninomiya-Victoir	4	2048000	0.00204	13.93 sec
NV with drift	4	1024000	0.00104	2.88 sec

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## Multi-dimensional generalized SABR

#### Model

$$dX_i(t) = a_i Y_i(t)^{\alpha_i} X_i(t)^{\beta_i} d\widetilde{B}_t^i$$
  
$$dY_i(t) = \kappa_i(\theta_i - Y_i(t)) dt + b_i Y_i(t) d\widetilde{W}_t^i$$

## $\widetilde{B}$ and $\widetilde{W}$ correlated Brownian motions.

- Drift trick allows solving all ODEs explicitly provided that the correlation matrix has full rank.
- Here we use 4 assets, i.e., dimension N = 8, d = 8.

Method	n	М	Rel. Error	Time
Euler	32	2048000	0.000934	246.65 sec
Ninomiya-Victoir	4	1024000	0.002017	52.33 sec
NV with drift	4	1024000	0.000862	35.31 sec

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#### Multi-dimensional Generalized SABR



Number of timesteps

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## Further examples

- More stochastic volatility models qualify:
  - Molina, Han and Fouque
  - Trolle and Schwartz (time-homogeneous version)
- Gatheral's (Bühler's) double mean reverting stochastic volatility model does not fall into this class.

Semi-closed form cubature

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## Construction of splitting and cubature schemes

- Gaussian K schemes: for an *m*-order approximation  $Q_t$  of  $P_t$ , find a random variable  $Z_{t,x,f}$  s.t.  $E[Z] = Q_t f(x)$ .
- Approximate  $\exp\left(t\left(v_0 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{d}v_i^2\right)\right) \approx E[e^Y]$  for Y taking values in the (step-*m* nilpotent) free Lie algebra generated by  $v_0, \ldots, v_d$ .
- Construction of Y comparable to construction of classical cubature formulas on R<sup>d</sup>.
- Link to cubature on Wiener space:  $\exp\left(t\left(v_0 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^d v_i^2\right)\right)$ can be interpreted as expectation of the random variable  $(B_t^{(i_1,\ldots,i_k)})_{k \le m}$ .

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## Iterating the scheme

- Given  $||P_t Q_t|| \le t^{\ell+1}$  obtained by cubature, splitting, ...
- ► Time grid:  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_N = T$ ,  $Q_T^{(N)} \coloneqq Q_{\Delta t_N} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_1}$ .

$$\begin{split} \left\| P_{T}f - Q_{T}^{(N)}f \right\|_{\infty} &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left\| Q_{\Delta t_{N}} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_{k+1}} P_{t_{k}}f - Q_{\Delta t_{N}} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_{k}} P_{t_{k-1}}f \right\|_{\infty} \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left\| Q_{\Delta t_{N}} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_{k+1}} \right\| \left\| (P_{\Delta t_{k}} - Q_{\Delta t_{k}}) P_{t_{k-1}}f \right\|_{\infty} \\ &\leq \operatorname{const} \sum_{k=1}^{N} \Delta t_{k}^{l+1} \leq \operatorname{const} \left( \max_{k} \Delta t_{k} \right)^{\ell}. \end{split}$$

Relax regularity assumptions under H
örmander type conditions.

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## Iterating the scheme

- Given  $||P_t Q_t|| \le t^{\ell+1}$  obtained by cubature, splitting, ...
- ► Time grid:  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_N = T$ ,  $Q_T^{(N)} \coloneqq Q_{\Delta t_N} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| P_T f - Q_T^{(N)} f \right\|_{\infty} &\leq \sum_{k=1}^N \left\| Q_{\Delta t_N} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_{k+1}} P_{t_k} f - Q_{\Delta t_N} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_k} P_{t_{k-1}} f \right\|_{\infty} \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^N \left\| Q_{\Delta t_N} \cdots Q_{\Delta t_{k+1}} \right\| \left\| (P_{\Delta t_k} - Q_{\Delta t_k}) P_{t_{k-1}} f \right\|_{\infty} \\ &\leq \operatorname{const} \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t_k^{l+1} \leq \operatorname{const} \left( \max_k \Delta t_k \right)^{\ell}. \end{aligned}$$

 Relax regularity assumptions under Hörmander type conditions.