

On the support of solution of a stochastic differential equation without drift

By

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Introduction

Let M be a σ -compact C^∞ -manifold and V_0, V_1, \dots, V_r be C^∞ -vector fields on M . Throughout this paper, we shall fix any point $x \in M$. Let (w^1, \dots, w^r) be an r -dimensional Wiener process. We denote by $x_t, 0 \leq t < \tau$, the solution of the stochastic differential equation

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} dx_t = \sum_{k=1}^r V_k(x_t) \circ dw^k(t) + V_0(x_t) dt \\ x_0 = x \end{cases}$$

of Stratonovich type, where τ is the explosion time.

Stroock and Varadhan obtained the topological support of the distribution of $\{x_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ on the path space. Therefore, that of x_1 on M is known definitely. But sometimes the notion of topological support seems too rough to characterize a measure. Indeed, the topological support of a measure on M which consists of countable point masses may be M itself.

Recently, Aida-Kusuoka-Stroock [1] obtained the “support” of the distribution of x_1 assuming the Hörmander’s condition. Under their assumption, there exists a smooth density function of x_1 . Then, they determined the points on M at which the density function of x_1 becomes positive.

In this paper, we will generalize a part of the results in [1]. Especially when $V_0 \equiv 0$, we will obtain a simple image of the “support” of x_1 .

In section 1, we will give a sufficient condition for a point on M to be of “positive density”. The results of section 1 were essentially obtained in [2] and [1].

In section 2, we will define the “orbit” E of the family $\{V_0, \dots, V_r\}$ of vector fields, which was proved to be a C^∞ -submanifold of M by Sussmann [7]. Then, we will review the result of [5] that x_t stays in E up to the explosion.

In section 3, we will study the case without drift and show that x_1 is distributed everywhere on E . In fact, we will prove that the Radon-Nikodym density of the absolutely continuous part of the distribution of x_1 with respect

to the volume on E is uniformly positive on any compact subset of E . We shall note that the distribution of x_1 is not necessarily absolutely continuous with respect to the volume on E . We will offer a simple counterexample to this.

1. Points of positive density

Let H be the space of \mathbf{R}^r -valued absolutely continuous functions $h=(h^1, \dots, h^r)$ on $[0, +\infty)$ such that $h(0)=0$ and $\int_0^{+\infty} |\dot{h}(t)|^2 dt < \infty$ where \dot{h} is the Radon-Nikodym derivative of h . We consider H as a Hilbert space with the inner product $(h_1, h_2) = \sum_{k=1}^r \int_0^{+\infty} \dot{h}_1^k(t) \dot{h}_2^k(t) dt$. For $h \in H$, we denote by $\varphi_t(h)$, $0 \leq t < \tau_h$, the solution of the ordinary differential equation

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} \dot{\varphi}_t(h) = \sum_{k=1}^r V_k(\varphi_t(h)) \dot{h}^k(t) + V_0(\varphi_t(h)) \\ \varphi_0(h) = x \end{cases}$$

where τ_h is the explosion time. If $h \in H$ and $\tau_h > 1$, then $\varphi_1(\tilde{h})$ is defined for \tilde{h} in some neighborhood \tilde{H} of h , and the map $\varphi_1: \tilde{H} \rightarrow M$ is differentiable in the sense of Fréchet. We denote the Fréchet differential of φ_1 at h by $D\varphi_1(h): H \rightarrow T_{\varphi_1(h)}(M)$.

Let us assign on M any Riemannian metric g . We denote the Riemannian volume and the Riemannian distance on (M, g) by $\text{vol}_M(\cdot)$ and $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ respectively.

The aim of this section is to prove the following fact, which was essentially obtained in [2] and [1].

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose that $h \in H$ exists such that $\tau_h > 1$ and $\text{Image}(D\varphi_1(h)) = T_y(M)$ where $y = \varphi_1(h)$. Put for $\varepsilon > 0$ that*

$$\sigma_\varepsilon = \inf(\{t < \tau | d(x_t, \varphi_t(h)) \geq \varepsilon\} \cup \{\tau\}).$$

Then, there exist a neighborhood N of y and $c > 0$ such that

$$P(\sigma_\varepsilon > 1, x_1 \in B) \geq c \cdot \text{vol}_M(B)$$

for any Borel subset B of N .

We shall carry out the proof of Theorem 1.1 in the remainder of this section. Let us fix $h \in H$ in the assumption of Theorem 1.1. Since $\{\sigma_\varepsilon > 1\}$ increases as ε increases, we may assume that ε is small enough so that $K = \{z \in M | d(z, \varphi_t(h)) \leq \varepsilon \text{ for some } t \in [0, 1]\}$ is compact. Noting that $\sigma_\varepsilon > 1$ implies $x_t \in K$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$, we can see that $P(\sigma_\varepsilon > 1, x_1 \in B)$ is invariant when we replace V_0, \dots, V_r by another family of vector fields V'_0, \dots, V'_r such that $V_j = V'_j$ on K . Therefore we may and will assume that

the supports of V_0, \dots, V_r are compact

to the end of this section. Let us notice that, under this condition, the processes we consider may not explode.

Let m be the dimension of M and put

$$D_\rho = \{u \in \mathbf{R}^m \mid |u| < \rho\}$$

for $\rho > 0$. Let $w_j = (w_j^1, \dots, w_j^r)$, $j=1, \dots, m$ be the independent copies of w . For $u = (u^1, \dots, u^m) \in D_1$, put

$$(3) \quad w^k(t; u) = (1 - |u|^2)^{1/2} w^k(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m u^j w_j^k(t).$$

Then, for each $u \in D_1$, $(w^1(t; u), \dots, w^r(t; u))$ also becomes a Wiener process. Let $C^1(D_1; M)$ be the space of C^1 -mappings of D_1 into M , and we will assign on $C^1(D_1; M)$ the compact-open C^1 -topology (cf. [3]). Then, we can define a continuous $C^1(D_1; M)$ -valued process $\{\theta_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ which satisfies for each $u \in D_1$ the stochastic differential equation

$$(4) \quad \begin{cases} d\theta_t(u) = \sum_{k=1}^r V_k(\theta_t(u)) \circ dw^k(t; u) + V_0(\theta_t(u)) dt \\ \theta_0(u) = x \end{cases}$$

(see [4] for example). We shall introduce some notations:

$$\sigma_\varepsilon(u) = \inf\{t \mid d(\theta_t(u), \varphi_t(h)) \geq \varepsilon\},$$

$$\sigma_{\rho, \varepsilon} = \inf\{\sigma_\varepsilon(u) \mid u \in D_\rho\}.$$

$$|J(u)| = (\det(g_{\theta_1(u)}(\xi_i, \xi_j)))^{1/2}$$

where $\xi_i = (d\theta_1)_u \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} (\theta_1(u)) \in T_{\theta_1(u)}(M)$.

Since the law of $\{\theta_t(u)\}_{t \geq 0}$ is the same as that of $\{x_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ for each $u \in D_1$, we have

$$(5) \quad P(\sigma_\varepsilon > 1, x_1 \in B) = P(\sigma_\varepsilon(u) > 1, \theta_1(u) \in B), \quad u \in D_1.$$

Suppose $0 < \rho < 1$. Integrating (5) on D_ρ and applying the Fubini's theorem and the change of variables formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |D_\rho| P(\sigma_\varepsilon > 1, x_1 \in B) &= \int_{D_\rho} P(\sigma_\varepsilon(u) > 1, \theta_1(u) \in B) du \\ &\geq \int_{D_\rho} P(\sigma_{\rho, \varepsilon} > 1, \theta_1(u) \in B) du \\ &= E \left[\chi_{\{\sigma_{\rho, \varepsilon} > 1\}} \cdot \int_{D_\rho} \chi_B(\theta_1(u)) du \right] \\ &\geq E \left[\chi_{\{\sigma_{\rho, \varepsilon} > 1\}} \cdot \left(\sup_{D_\rho} |J| \right)^{-1} \cdot \int_{D_\rho} |J(u)| \chi_B(\theta_1(u)) du \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq E[\chi_{\{\sigma_{\rho,\varepsilon}>1\}} \cdot (\sup_{D_\rho} |J|)^{-1} \cdot \text{vol}_M(B \cap \theta_1(D_\rho))] \\
&\geq E[\chi_{A(\rho,\varepsilon,N)} \cdot (\sup_{D_\rho} |J|)^{-1} \cdot \text{vol}_M(B)]
\end{aligned}$$

where $|D_\rho|$ is the volume of D_ρ and

$$A(\rho, \varepsilon, B) = \{\sigma_{\rho,\varepsilon} > 1, \theta_1(D_\rho) \supset B\}.$$

Thus we have proved the following.

Lemma 1.2. *Let N be a neighborhood of $y = \varphi_1(h)$. Suppose $0 < \rho < 1$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then, for any Borel subset B of N .*

$$P(\sigma_\varepsilon > 1, x_1 \in B) \geq c_{\rho,\varepsilon,N} \cdot \text{vol}_M(B)$$

where

$$(6) \quad c_{\rho,\varepsilon,N} = |D_\rho|^{-1} E[(\sup_{D_\rho} |J|)^{-1} \cdot \chi_{A(\rho,\varepsilon,N)}].$$

We shall show in the remainder of this section that, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, $c_{\rho,\varepsilon,N}$ becomes positive for suitable ρ and N . We shall begin with a refinement of the inverse mapping theorem. Let us denote by $\|\cdot\|$ the operator norm of $m \times m$ -matrices.

Lemma 1.3. *Let $0 < \rho < 1$ and $\delta > 0$. Let $f: D_\rho \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ be a C^∞ -mapping such that $\|I - \partial f(u)\| < \delta$ for all $u \in D_\rho$ where I and ∂f are the identity matrix and the Jacobian matrix of f respectively. Then, $f(D_\rho) \supset \{z \in \mathbf{R}^m \mid |z - f(0)| < (1 - \delta)\rho\}$.*

Proof. We may assume that $f(0) = 0$. Let us denote by ι the identity mapping on D_ρ . Then, we see by the assumption that

$$|(\iota - f)(u) - (\iota - f)(v)| < \delta |u - v|, \quad u, v \in D_\rho.$$

Suppose that $|z| < (1 - \delta)\rho$. Noting that the equation $f(u) = z$ is equivalent to $u = z + (\iota - f)(u)$, we shall solve it as follows.

First, let us show that a sequence $\{u_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ can be defined inductively by

$$(7) \quad u_0 = 0, \quad u_{n+1} = z + (\iota - f)(u_n), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

and then it holds that

$$(8) \quad |u_{n+1} - u_n| \leq \delta^n |z|, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Indeed, $u_1 = z$ by (7) and so (8) holds when $n = 0$. If $\{u_0, \dots, u_k\}$ satisfying (7) and (8) is defined, then $|u_k| \leq |u_0| + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} |u_{j+1} - u_j| \leq \frac{|z|}{1 - \delta} < \rho$ so that u_{k+1} can be defined by (7). Moreover, by (7) and (8), $|u_{k+1} - u_k| = |(\iota - f)(u_k) - (\iota$

$$-f)(u_{k-1})| \leq \delta |u_k - u_{k-1}| \leq \delta^k |z|.$$

Then, since $|u_0| + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |u_{n+1} - u_n| \leq |z| \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta^n = \frac{|z|}{1-\delta} < \rho$, u_n converges to some $u \in D_\rho$. Then, by (7), $u = z + (\iota - f)(u)$ so $f(u) = z$.

We put

$$(9) \quad \theta_t(u; \mathbf{h}) = \varphi_t((1 - |u|^2)^{1/2} h_0 + \sum_{i=1}^m u^i h_i)$$

for $\mathbf{h} = (h_0, h_1, \dots, h_m) \in H^{m+1}$, $u = (u^1, \dots, u^m) \in D_1$ and $t \geq 0$. If we fix $u \in D_1$ and put

$$\tilde{V}_{k,0} = (1 - |u|^2)^{1/2} V_k, \quad \tilde{V}_{k,j} = u^j V_k, \quad j = 1, \dots, m,$$

then, by (2), (3), (4) and (9), we have the stochastic differential equation

$$\begin{cases} d\theta_t(u) = \sum_{k=1}^r \sum_{j=0}^m \tilde{V}_{k,j}(\theta_t(u)) \circ dw_j^k(t) + V_0(\theta_t(u)) dt \\ \theta_0(u) = x \end{cases}$$

where $w_0(t) = w(t)$ and the ordinary differential equation

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\theta}_t(u; \mathbf{h}) = \sum_{k=1}^r \sum_{j=0}^m \tilde{V}_{k,j}(\theta_t(u; \mathbf{h})) \dot{h}_j^k(t) + V_0(\theta_t(u; \mathbf{h})) \\ \theta_0(u; \mathbf{h}) = x. \end{cases}$$

Let $\text{dist}(\cdot, \cdot)$ be any metric on $C^1(D_1; M)$ compatible with the compact-open C^1 -topology. For $\mathbf{h} \in H^{m+1}$ and $\delta > 0$, define the event $G_\delta(\mathbf{h})$ by

$$G_\delta(\mathbf{h}) = \{\sup_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \text{dist}(\theta_t, \theta_t(\cdot; \mathbf{h})) < \delta\}.$$

Then we can obtain the following generalization of the Stroock-Varadhan's support theorem (see [4], the proof of Theorem 5.7.6).

Lemma 1.4. $P(G_\delta(\mathbf{h})) > 0$ for any $\mathbf{h} \in H^{m+1}$ and $\delta > 0$.

By means of Lemmas 1.3 and 1.4, we can now prove the following.

Lemma 1.5. Under the condition of Theorem 1.1, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exist $\rho > 0$ and a neighborhood N of y such that $P(A(\rho, \varepsilon, N)) > 0$.

Proof. Take any local chart $z = (z^1, \dots, z^m)$ on a neighborhood of y . By the assumption, we can take $h_1, \dots, h_m \in H$ such that

$$\frac{d}{du} z^i(\varphi_1(h + uh_j))|_{u=0} = \delta^i_j, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, m$$

where δ^i_j is the Kronecker's delta. Put $\mathbf{h} = (h, h_1, \dots, h_m) \in H^{m+1}$. Then the Jacobian matrix of the mapping $z \circ \theta_1(\cdot; \mathbf{h}): D_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ at 0 is the identity matrix. If ρ is sufficiently small, then

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq 1, u \in D_\rho} |\theta_t(u; \mathbf{h}) - \varphi_t(h)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

By Lemma 1.3, $G_\delta(\mathbf{h}) \subset A(\rho, \varepsilon, N)$ holds for sufficiently small ρ and δ and a small neighborhood N of y . Then, by Lemma 1.4, $P(A(\rho, \varepsilon, N)) \geq P(G_\delta(\mathbf{h})) > 0$.

Noting (6), $c_{\rho, \varepsilon, N} > 0$ if and only if $P(A(\rho, \varepsilon, N)) > 0$. Therefore Lemmas 1.2 and 1.5 imply the assertion of Theorem 1.1.

2. Submanifold supporting the distribution of solution

We will introduce in this section the “orbit” E of $\{V_0, \dots, V_r\}$ following [7], and review the result of [5].

Definition. Let E be the subset of M consisting of all $y \in E$ such that there exist $n \geq 1$, $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \{0, \dots, r\}$ and $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ for which

$$(10) \quad \psi_{k_1, \dots, k_n}(\mathbf{t}) = \theta_{t_n}^{k_n}(\dots(\theta_{t_2}^{k_2}(\theta_{t_1}^{k_1}(x))\dots))$$

is well-defined and equal to y . Here, $\theta_t^k(x)$ is the integral curve of V_k such that $\theta_0^k(x) = x$.

We assign on E the strongest topology such that (10) becomes a continuous map of \mathbf{t} into E for any k_1, \dots, k_n .

The following fact was obtained by Sussmann [7].

Proposition 2.1. *There is a differentiable structure on E for which*

(i) *E is a σ -compact C^∞ -submanifold of M ,*

(ii) *for each $y \in E$, there exist $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \{0, \dots, r\}$ and $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{R}^n$ such that*

$$(11) \quad y = \psi_{k_1, \dots, k_n}(\mathbf{t}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Image}(d\psi_{k_1, \dots, k_n}(\mathbf{t})) = T_y(E).$$

Remark. We can easily show that the differentiable structure on E compatible with the topology defined above and with which (i) holds is unique.

Throughout this paper, we consider E as a C^∞ -submanifold of M with the differentiable structure introduced in Proposition 2.1. Then, V_0, \dots, V_r can be considered as C^∞ -vector fields on E . Therefore it is obvious that $x_t \in E$ for sufficiently small t almost surely. In fact, the following was obtained in [5].

Proposition 2.2. (i) $\varphi_t(h) \in E$ for any $h \in H$ and $t \in [0, \tau_h)$, (ii) $x_t \in E$ for all $t \in [0, \tau)$ almost surely.

Remark. Only (ii) was proved in [5] explicitly but (i) can be shown more easily in the same way.

3. The case without drift

In this section, we shall study the case where $V_0 \equiv 0$ by combining the results in sections 1 and 2. Let us assign on E the Riemannian structure induced from M and denote by $vol_E(\cdot)$ the Riemannian volume on E . The aim of this section is to show the following fact.

Theorem 3.1. *Suppose $V_0 \equiv 0$. Then, for any compact subset K of E , there exists a positive constant c_K such that*

$$(12) \quad P(\tau > 1, x_1 \in B) \geq c_K \cdot vol_E(B)$$

for any Borel subset B of K .

Remark. Let $p(y)$ be the Radon-Nikodym density of the absolutely continuous part of the distribution of x_1 with respect to the volume on E . Then the assertion of Theorem 3.1 means that

$$\text{ess. inf}_{y \in K} p(y) > 0$$

for any compact subset K of E .

We shall prove theorem 3.1. The following lemma tells that Theorem 1.1, replaced M by E , can be applied for any points on E .

Lemma 3.2. *Suppose $V_0 \equiv 0$. Then, for each $y \in E$, there exists an $h \in H$ such that $\varphi_1(h) = y$ and $\text{Image}(D\varphi_1(h)) = T_y(E)$.*

Proof. Let $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ and $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ satisfy (11). Define $h_1, \dots, h_n \in H$ by

$$h_j^k(t) = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } \frac{j-1}{n} \leq t < \frac{j}{n} \text{ and } k_j = k \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then we can easily see that

$$\psi_{k_1, \dots, k_n}(s) = \varphi_1(\sum_{j=1}^n s_j h_j)$$

for any $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ in some neighborhood of t . Therefore, putting $h = \sum_{j=1}^n t_j h_j$, we have

$$\text{Image}(D\varphi_1(h)) \supset \text{Image}(d\varphi_{k_1, \dots, k_n}(t)) = T_y(E).$$

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Suppose that K is a compact subset of E . By Theorem 1.1 and Lemma 3.2, there exist a finite number of open subsets N_1, \dots, N_l of E and positive constants c_1, \dots, c_l such that $K \subset N_1 \cup \dots \cup N_l$ and

$$P(\tau > 1, x_t \in B) \geq c_j \cdot vol_E(B)$$

if B is a Borel subset of N_j . Then (12) holds by putting $c_K = \min\{c_1, \dots, c_l\}$.

We shall note that the distribution of x_1 is not necessarily absolutely continuous with respect to the volume on E . Indeed, we have the following counterexample.

Example. Let us consider the case where $M = \mathbf{R}^2$, $x = (0, 0)$ and $r = 2$. We denote the coordinate on \mathbf{R}^2 by (u, v) . Take any smooth function f on \mathbf{R}^1 such that $f(u) = 0$ (resp. $f(u) > 0$) if $u \leq 1$ (resp. $u > 1$). Put $V_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial u}$, $V_2 = f(u) \frac{\partial}{\partial v}$ and $V_0 = 0$. Then $E = \mathbf{R}^2$ with its proper differentiable structure. However, the distribution of x_1 is a sum of two measures which are equivalent to the uniform measures on $(-\infty, 1)$ and on \mathbf{R}^2 respectively.

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