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**New perspectives on (rough paths,) signatures and signature cumulants**

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Joint work with P. Hager, N. Tapia (both WIAS)

Let  $X: [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^d$ , smooth, **indefinite signature** of  $X$  given by

$$S_t = \text{Sig}(X)_t = \left( 1, \int_0^t dX, \int_0^t \int_0^s dX \star dX, \dots \right) \in \mathbf{R} \oplus \mathbf{R}^d \oplus (\mathbf{R}^d)^{\otimes 2} \oplus \dots =: T((\mathbf{R}^d))$$

satisfies linear differential equations in  $\mathcal{T} = (T((\mathbf{R}^d)), +, \star)$ , with tensor (concatenation) product,

$$dS_t = S_t \star dX_t, \quad S_0 = \mathbf{1} = (1, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}_1$$

Power series calculus! In particular:  $\exp_\star: \mathcal{T}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_1$  with inverse  $\log_\star: \mathcal{T}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_0$

Drop all  $\star$ 's in what follows / introduce commutator bracket  $[a, b] = ab - ba$

Log-signature of  $X$  given by

$$L_t := \log S_t = \dots = \left( \mathbf{0}, \int_0^t dX, \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_0^s [dX, dX], \dots \right) \in \mathcal{T}_0 \cong \mathbf{R}^d \oplus (\mathbf{R}^d)^{\otimes 2} \oplus \dots$$

Differential evolution: with  $S_t = \exp(L_t)$

$$dS_t = S_t dX_t \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad e^{-L_t} \partial_t e^{L_t} = \dot{X}_t$$

Rmk: In commutative setting have  $\dot{L} = e^{-L_t} \partial_t e^{L_t}$ , conclude  $L_t = \int_0^t dX \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad S_t = e^{\int_0^t dX}$ .

**Theorem (Hausdorff 1906)** For explicitly computable  $G(z) = 1 + g_1z + g_2z^2 + \dots$  have

$$\dot{X}_t = e^{-Lt} \partial_t e^{Lt} = G(\text{ad } L_t) \dot{L}_t := \dot{L} + g_1[L, \dot{L}] + g_2[L, [L, \dot{L}]] + \dots$$

Proof: Classical, in this setting see e.g. F-Victoir CUP '10

With  $H(z) := 1 / G(z) = 1 + h_1z + h_2z^2 + \dots$  [with  $h_j = B_j / j!$  Bernoulli numbers,  $B_1 = -1/2$ ]

$$\dot{L} = H(\text{ad } L) \dot{X} = \dot{X} + h_1[L, \dot{X}] + h_2[L, [L, \dot{X}]] + \dots$$

Computing  $L$  by recursion (a.k.a. Magnus expansion). Follows from

$$L = (0, L^1, L^2, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}^{\geq 1}, \quad X \equiv (0, X, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}^{=1}$$

and

$$\dot{L} = H(\text{ad } L)\dot{X} = \dot{X} + h_1[L, \dot{X}] + h_2[L, [L, \dot{X}]] + \dots$$

**Explicit:**  $L_t^1 = \int_0^t dX$ ,  $L_t^2 = -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_0^s [dX_r, dX_s]$  ... and with general term (e.g. Wiki)

$$L_t^n = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{B_k}{k!} \sum_{|\ell|=k, \|\ell\|=n-1} \int_0^t \text{ad}_{L_s^{l_1}} \circ \dots \circ \text{ad}_{L_s^{l_k}} dX_s, \quad \ell = (l_1, \dots, l_k), l_i \geq 1, |\ell| = k, \|\ell\| = l_1 + \dots + l_k$$

## Why good idea?

respect geometry:  $e^L = e^{\sum L^i} \approx e^{L^1 + \dots + L^N}$  still grouplike

sparsity: e.g.  $v = (0, v, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}^{\neq 1}$  vs.  $e_*^v = (1, v, v^2/2, v^3/3!, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}^{\text{full}}$

*“ultimate simplification, new insight, and superior computational algorithms”* [A. Iserles]

[www.ams.org](http://www.ams.org) › [notices](#) › [fea-iserles](#) - [Diese Seite übersetzen](#)

### Expansions That Grow on Trees - American Mathematical ...

Expansions That Grow on Trees. Arieh Iserles. 430. NOTICES OF THE AMS. VOLUME 49,

NUMBER 4. Linear Ordinary Differential Equations. How to solve ...

von A Iserles - 2002 - Zitiert von: 53 - Ähnliche Artikel

[arxiv.org](http://arxiv.org) › [math-ph](#) ▾ [Diese Seite übersetzen](#)

### The Magnus expansion and some of its applications

30.10.2008 - When formulated in operator or matrix form, the **Magnus expansion** furnishes an elegant setting to built up approximate exponential ...

von S Blanes - 2008 - Zitiert von: 876 - Ähnliche Artikel

Part II

**Diamonds.** Filtered  $\mathbf{P}$ -space, all martingales continuous,  $A_T$  a  $\mathcal{F}_T$ -measurable r.v.

$$X_t := \log \mathbf{E}_t e^{A_T} \text{ (note: } X_T = A_T \text{)}$$

Gatheral and coworkers, 2017/2020: (formal) **diamond expansion**

$$\mathbf{E}_t e^{zX_T} = e^{zX_t + \frac{1}{2}z(z-1)(X \diamond X)_t(T) + \sum_{n \geq 2} \mathbb{F}_t^n(z; T)}$$

**Def:** For semimartingales  $X, X'$  on  $[0, T]$ , with  $\langle X, X' \rangle_T \in L^1$ , **diamond product** given by

$$(X \diamond X')_t(T) := \mathbf{E}_t \langle X, X' \rangle_{t, T} = \mathbf{E}_t \langle X, X' \rangle_T - \langle X, X' \rangle_t$$

Note:  $\log \mathbf{E}_t e^{zX_T} =:$  (conditional) **cumulant generating function**



where terms  $\mathbb{F}_t^n(z; T)$  satisfies a recursion.

[F-Gatheral-Radoicic 2020]. Define  $Y_t := \mathbf{E}_t A_T$  (note:  $Y_T = A_T$ ).

**Thm:** Under natural integrability assumptions, for  $a, b$  small enough

$$\mathbf{E}_t e^{aY_T + b\langle Y \rangle_T} = e^{aY_t + b\langle Y \rangle_t + \sum_{n \geq 2} \mathbb{G}_t^n(a, b; T)}$$

with  $\mathbb{G}^2 = (\frac{1}{2}a^2 + b)(Y \diamond Y)$  and recursion  $\mathbb{G}^n = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=2}^{n-2} \mathbb{G}^{n-i} \diamond \mathbb{G}^i + aY \diamond \mathbb{G}^{n-1}$

Special cases: (i)  $\frac{1}{2}a^2 + b = 0$  (exponential martingale case)  $\Rightarrow$  corrector  $\mathbb{G}$  vanishes

(ii)  $b + a/2 = 0$ , (rigorous) form of Alos et al. expansion (2017)

(iii)  $b = 0$ , Lacoin-Rohdes-Vargas (2019)

Many applications! (Bessel identities, Levy's area formula, rough forward variance models...)

Proof (Sketch): For generic (continuous) semimartingale  $Z$ , sufficiently integrable, set

$$\Lambda_t^T := \log \mathbf{E}_t e^{Z_{t,T}} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{E}_t e^{Z_T} =: e^{Z_t + \Lambda_t^T}$$

Trivially, the r.h.s is a martingale and from Ito's formula

$$\rightsquigarrow \Lambda_t^T = \mathbf{E}_t \left( Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle Z + \Lambda^T \rangle_{t,T} \right) = \mathbf{E}_t Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} (Z + \Lambda^T)_t^{\diamond 2}(T)$$

Fix  $a, b$ . Apply to  $Z(\lambda) = \lambda a Y_T + \lambda^2 b \langle Y \rangle_T$ . Note analyticity of  $\lambda \mapsto \Lambda_t^T(\lambda)$  near 0, matching powers of  $\lambda$  leads to stated recursion.

## Markovian perspective on diamond expansion

$X$  ... Markov diffusion with generator  $L$ . Recall (Feynman-Kac)

$h(t, x) := \mathbf{E}^{t, x} e^{\lambda(\varphi(X_T) + \int_t^T \xi(s, X_s) ds)}$ , satisfies  $(-\partial_t - L)h = \lambda h \xi$ ,  $h(T, \cdot) = e^{\lambda \varphi}$ .

**Cole-Hopf**  $h \equiv e^{\lambda v}$ : With *carre du champ* operator,  $2\Gamma(f) := L(f^2) - 2fLf$

$$L(\psi(f)) = \psi'(f)Lf + \psi''(f)\Gamma(f), \quad L(e^{\lambda v}) = e^{\lambda v}(\lambda Lv + \lambda^2 \Gamma(v)).$$

Obtain a HJB equation with **small** ( $\rightsquigarrow$  perturbative expansion) quadratic non-linearity

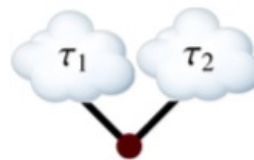
$$(-\partial_t - L)v = \lambda \Gamma(v) + \xi \quad v(T, \cdot) = \varphi.$$

Example (“KPZ with smooth noise”)  $L = \partial_x^2$ . Then  $\Gamma(f) := |\partial_x f|^2$ .

Perturbative expansion of  $\lambda v = \log h$  leads to (“Wild expansion”, as in Hairer’s KPZ paper)

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda v &= \lambda v(t, x) = \lambda u^\bullet + \lambda^2 u \mathbf{V} + \lambda^3 2u \mathbf{V} + \lambda^4 \left( u \mathbf{V} + 4u \mathbf{V} \right) + \dots \\ &= \sum_{|\tau| \geq 1} \lambda^{|\tau|} u^\tau = \sum_{n \geq 1} \lambda^n \sum_{\tau: |\tau|=n} u^\tau =: \sum_{n \geq 1} \lambda^n \mathbb{K}^n \end{aligned}$$

with  $u^\tau = K \star ((\partial_x u^{\tau_1})(\partial_x u^{\tau_2}))$ , binary trees  $\tau = [\tau_1, \tau_2] =$



and  $|\tau| = \#\{\text{leaves}\}$ .

Since every (binary) tree  $\tau$  with  $|\tau| = n + 1$  leaves is of form  $\tau = [\tau_1, \tau_2]$ , we deduce with middle summation below over all trees  $\tau_1, \tau_2$  with  $|\tau_1| + |\tau_2| = n + 1$ ,

$$\mathbb{K}^{n+1} = \sum_{\tau: |\tau|=n+1} u^\tau = \sum_{\dots} u^{[\tau_1, \tau_2]} = \dots = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{K}^i \diamond \mathbb{K}^{n+1-i}$$

which is the special case  $b = 0$  of the diamond expansion.

Message: Cumulants in Markovian setting described by HJB / KPZ type PDEs.

**PS: Gaussian perspective on diamond expansion:** consistent with Nourdin–Peccati (JFA '10)

**Expected signatures** (T. Lyons and many)

$X: [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^d$  ... (sufficiently integrable) continuous semimartingale

Stratonovich indefinite signature of  $X$  given by

$$dS = S \circ dX, \quad S_0 = \mathbf{1} = (1, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}$$

Expected signature given by  $\mu_T := \mathbf{E}S_T \in \mathcal{T}$

Bonnier-Oberhauser '19 study signature cumulants

$$\kappa_T := \log_{\star} \mu_T \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mu_T = \exp_{\star} \kappa_T$$

NB: we are back in  $(T((\mathbf{R}^d)), +, \star) = \mathcal{T}$  [and drop again  $\star$ 's in what follows]

**Example (Time-inhomogenous Brownian motion).** Let  $dX_t = \sigma(t)dB_t$ . Then

$$dS_t = S_t \circ dX_t = (\dots)dX + \frac{1}{2}S_t d\langle X, X \rangle_t = (\dots)dB + S_t a(t)dt$$

with covariance matrix of  $X_t$  given by  $a(t) = \sigma\sigma^T(t)/2$ . With  $\mu_t := \mathbf{E}S_t \in \mathcal{T}$  as before, get

$$d\mu_t = \mu_t a(t)dt$$

This is a linear ODE in  $\mathcal{T}$ , with  $a(t) \equiv (0, 0, a(t), 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathcal{T}^{=2}$ .

We then get the following **Magnus expansion for signature cumulants**

$$\kappa_T := \log_\star \mu_T = \left( \int_0^T a(t)dt - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \left[ \int_0^t a(s)ds, a(t) \right] dt + \dots \right)$$

**Example (cont'd).** Assume  $a(t) \equiv \frac{1}{2}\text{Id}$  i.e.  $X$  is standard Brownian motion in  $\mathbf{R}^d$

Then all commutators vanish and we recover [Fawcett's formula](#)

$$\kappa_T(X) = \frac{T}{2} \times \text{Id} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathbf{E}\text{Sig}(B)_T = \exp_\star\left(\frac{T}{2} \times \text{Id}\right)$$



## The unified functional equation

$Z: [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^d$  ... (sufficiently integrable) continuous semimartingale. Recall ( $d = 1$ ):

$$\Lambda_t^T = \log \mathbf{E}_t e^{Z_{t,T}} = \mathbf{E}_t \left( Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle Z + \Lambda^T \rangle_{t,T} \right) = \mathbf{E}_t \left( Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle Z \rangle_{t,T} + \langle Z, \Lambda^T \rangle_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle \Lambda^T \rangle_{t,T} \right)$$

**Thm** [F-Hager-Tapia '20] With  $\kappa_t := \kappa_t^T := \log \mathbf{E}_t \text{Sig}(Z|_{[t,T]})$  we have

$$\kappa_t^T = \mathbf{E}_t \left( Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle Z \rangle_{t,T} + \langle Z, \kappa^T \rangle_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle \kappa^T \rangle_{t,T} + (\star) \right)$$

$$(\star) = \int_t^T (G - \text{Id})(\text{ad}_{\kappa}) d\kappa + \int_t^T \text{Id} \odot (G - \text{Id})(\text{ad}_{\kappa}) d[[Z, \kappa]] + \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T (Q - \text{Id}^{\odot 2})(\text{ad}_{\kappa}) d[[\kappa, \kappa]]$$

with e.g.  $\langle Z^i, \kappa^{jk} \rangle \mathbf{e}_{ijk} \in \mathcal{T}^{=3}$ , but  $\llbracket \kappa^{ij}, \kappa^{klm} \rrbracket \mathbf{e}_{ij} \tilde{\otimes} \mathbf{e}_{klm} \in \mathcal{T}^{=2} \tilde{\otimes} \mathcal{T}^{=3}$ , and

$$G(\text{ad}_x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\text{ad}_x)^k}{(k+1)!} \quad \text{and} \quad Q(\text{ad}_x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 2 \frac{(\text{ad}_x)^n \odot (\text{ad}_x)^m}{(n+1)!(m)!(n+m+2)}.$$

Note:  $G(0) = \text{Id}$ ,  $Q(0) = \text{Id} \odot \text{Id}$ , with  $(f \odot g)(a, b) = f(a) \star f(b)$ , for  $f, g: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$

**Cor 1:** For  $\hat{\kappa}_t^T = \text{Sym}(\kappa_t^T)$ , the ( $t$ -conditional) multivariate cumulants of  $Z_{t,T}$ , we find the “diamond” functional equation, but now in  $\text{Sym}((\mathbf{R}^d)) = T((\mathbf{R}^d)) / \sim$ .

$$\hat{\kappa}_t^T = \mathbf{E}_t \left( Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle Z \rangle_{t,T} + \langle Z, \hat{\kappa}^T \rangle_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{\kappa}^T \rangle_{t,T} \right) = \mathbf{E}_t Z_{t,T} + \frac{1}{2} (Z + \hat{\kappa}^T)_{t,T}^{\diamond 2}$$

with diamond product extended to  $\text{Sym}((\mathbf{R}^d))$ -valued semimartingales.

**Cor 2:** Apply to  $Z(t, w) = X(t)$  for a smooth path  $X: [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^d$ .

Can drop all  $\mathbf{E}_t$  and all brackets, and recover (backward) Magnus, with

$$\kappa_t = Z_{t,T} + \int_t^T (G - \text{Id})(\text{ad}_{\kappa}) d\kappa \Rightarrow -\dot{Z} = G(\text{ad}_{\kappa})\dot{\kappa} \Leftrightarrow -\dot{\kappa} = H(\text{ad}_{\kappa})\dot{Z}$$

**Important remark:** Our unified functional equation comes with a natural recursions / expansion, which provides a common generalization of Magnus - and diamond expansions.

Rmk (Exercise): apply general theorem to recover  $\kappa_t := \log \mathbf{E} \text{Sig}(\int_0^\cdot \sigma(t) dB_t)$ .

## Markovian considerations

Computing  $\mathbf{E}_t(\dots)$  is solving a (backward) PDE.

Ni, Lyons ('15) **Expected signature**  $\mu$  of Markov diffusion (at time  $T$ ), Brownian motion stopped at some  $\partial$  ...

In essence:  $\mu = (1, \mu^1, \mu^2, \dots)$  satisfies triangular **system of linear PDEs** (parabolic resp. elliptic, backward). Solved recursively,

$$\mu_t^n = \Phi(\mu_\tau^1, \dots, \mu_\tau^{n-1}; t \leq \tau \leq T)$$

**Signature cumulants**  $\log \mu_t = \kappa_t$  satisfies **system of "non-linear" PDEs** of KPZ type in  $\mathcal{T}$

## Concluding remarks

So far, very general for continuous semimartingales.

What about general (cadlag) semimartingales? Yes! (F-Hager-Tapia arXiv2021)

- Correct notion of signature? A: Marcus signature (F-Shekhar '15)
- Signature cumulants described by generalized functional relation
- Commutative setting: cumulants of semimartingales with “Riccati” functional description

For classical affine processes: reduction to Riccati ODEs

For “rough” affine processes (Larson, Gatheral ...) reduction to Volterra Riccati DEs

- New perspective on rough paths?

Thank you very much!