

1. Let W_t be a d -dimensional Brownian motion ¹ with $W_0 = 0$ a.s.. Let $X_t^n := \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}W_t$.

- (a) Write down, for arbitrary times $0 < t_1 < t_2$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, measurable set $A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, and fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\nu_{t_1, t_2}^n(A_2|x) := \mathbb{P}(X_{t_2}^n \in A_2 \mid X_{t_1}^n = x).$$

- (b) What is the large-deviation rate functional of $\nu_{t_1, t_2}^n(\cdot|x)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (with speed n) and fixed $0 < t_1 < t_2, x \in \mathbb{R}^d$?
- (c) Use the Markov property to write down, for $0 < t_1 < \dots < t_M$, $M \in \mathbb{N}$, and measurable sets $A_1, \dots, A_M \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, and fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$\mu_{t_1, \dots, t_M}^n(A_1 \times \dots \times A_M) = \mathbb{P}(X_{t_1}^n \in A_1, \dots, X_{t_M}^n \in A_M).$$

(It could simplify notation to use integration variables x_1, \dots, x_M and to set $x_0 := 0$ and $t_0 := 0$).

- (d) Use the Laplace principle to prove the large-deviation principle of μ_{t_1, \dots, t_M}^n .
(In this finite-dimensional setting it is easy to see that the rate function is indeed good...)
- (e) Use the Dawson-Gärtner Theorem to prove the large-deviation principle of the path measure

$$\mu^n(B) := \mathbb{P}((X_t^n)_{t \in [0, \infty)} \in B),$$

for $B \in \mathbb{R}^{d[0, \infty)}$, equipped with the product topology.

- (f) Validity check: what is the deterministic limit of X^n , and is the rate functional 0 in this limit?

In fact, it can be shown that the supremum over times is a limit where $M \rightarrow \infty$ and $\sup_{i \leq M} |t_i - t_{i-1}| \rightarrow 0$.

- (g) For a smooth path $x : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, use $\frac{x_{t_i} - x_{t_{i-1}}}{t_i - t_{i-1}} \approx \dot{x}(t_i)$ and the Riemann integral to formally simplify the rate functional.

Compare this rate functional to ‘‘Schilder’s Theorem’’, see for example König, Satz 2.3.1, or Dembo & Zeitouni, Th. 5.2.3.

¹Probabilistic literature usually takes Brownian motion with generator $f \mapsto \frac{1}{2}\Delta f$, whereas in analytic literature $f \mapsto \Delta f$ is more common. So if you are a factor 2 off in this exercise, it’s probably due to that.