

Variations on Brownian Motion processes

Stat 568
6-8-17

Defn: $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a Brownian-motion
process with drift coefficient μ and variance
parameter σ^2 if

①

i) $X(0) = 0$

ii) $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ has stationary & independent increments

iii) $X(t) \sim N(\mu t, \sigma^2 t)$

OR $X(t) = \mu t + \sigma B(t)$, where
 $B(t)$ is a standard Br.-mot process

②

Defn: If $\{Y(t), t \geq 0\}$ is a Brownian motion
process with drift coefficient μ and
variance parameter σ^2 , then

$X(t) = e^{Y(t)}$ is a geometric Brownian
motion process.

For geometric Brownian motion, find

$$E[X(t) | X(u) = s, 0 \leq u \leq s] \text{ where } s < t$$

$$E[X(t) | X(u), 0 \leq u \leq s] = E[e^{Y(t)} | Y(u), 0 \leq u \leq s] \quad (3)$$

$$= E\left[\underbrace{e^{Y(t)-Y(s)+Y(s)}}_{e^{Y(t)-Y(s)} e^{Y(s)}} \mid Y(u), 0 \leq u \leq s \right]$$

$$= e^{Y(s)} E\left[e^{Y(t)-Y(s)} \mid Y(u), 0 \leq u \leq s \right]$$

$$= e^{Y(s)} E[e^{Y(t)-Y(s)}] \text{ by independent increments}$$

Recall: The moment-generating function

for $W \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ is

$$m_W(t) = e^{\mu t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$$

$$\text{" } E[e^{tW}]$$

$$\text{So } E[e^W] = e^{\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2}$$

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$$Y(t) \sim N(\mu t, \sigma^2 t)$$

(5)

$$Y(t) = \mu t + \sigma B(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y(t) - Y(s) &= \mu t + \sigma B(t) - (\mu s + \sigma B(s)) \\ &= \mu(t-s) + \sigma \underbrace{[B(t) - B(s)]}_{B(t-s)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore Y(t) - Y(s) \sim N(\mu(t-s), \sigma^2(t-s))$$

$$\text{Now } E[e^{Y(t)-Y(s)}] = e^{\mu(t-s) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2(t-s)}$$

(6)

$$\therefore E[X(t) | X(s), 0 \leq s \leq t]$$

$$= e^{Y(s)} E[e^{Y(t)-Y(s)}]$$

$$= X(s) e^{(t-s)(\mu + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)}$$

Why can this be used to model stock prices?

Suppose that the percent changes over time are independent and identically distributed.

If X_t is the price at time t ,

(7)

then $Y_t = \frac{X_t}{X_{t-1}}$, $t \geq 1$ are iid.

$$\text{So } X_t = Y_t X_{t-1} = Y_t Y_{t-1} X_{t-2}$$

$$= \dots = Y_t Y_{t-1} \dots Y_1 X_0$$

$$\ln(X_t) = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^t \ln(Y_i)}_{\text{sum of iid r.v.s}} + \ln(X_0)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^t \ln(Y_i) \xrightarrow{D} N\left(t \underbrace{E[\ln(Y_i)]}_{\mu}, t \underbrace{V[\ln(Y_i)]}_{\sigma^2}\right) \quad (8)$$

$$\ln(X_t) \approx N(\ln(X_0) + \mu t, \sigma^2 t)$$

$X_t = e^{\ln(X_t)}$ will be approximately a
geometric Brownian motion process