

# LIKELIHOOD RATIOS FOR DIFFUSION PROCESSES WITH SHIFTED MEAN VALUES

BY

T. S. PITCHER

Let the stochastic process  $x(t)$  be the solution of the diffusion equation

$$x(t) = \int_0^t a(\tau, x(\tau)) d\tau + \int_0^t \sigma(\tau) dy(\tau), \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

$$x(0) = 0,$$

where  $y(t)$  is Brownian motion and  $a$ ,  $a_2$  and  $\sigma$  are continuous real-valued functions satisfying

$$(1) \quad 0 < \epsilon \leq \sigma(t) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

and

$$a(t, x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\mu x} A(\mu, t) d\mu,$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} a(t, x) = a_2(t, x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} i\mu e^{i\mu x} A(\mu, t) d\mu,$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + |\mu|) |A(\mu, t)| d\mu \leq K < \infty.$$

The existence and uniqueness of solutions to such equations is proved in [1, p. 277 ff]. Note that conditions (1) and (2) imply H1, H2, and H3 which are assumed there. Let  $F$  be the set of functions on the space of continuous paths from 0 to 1 of the form  $f(x) = \hat{f}(x(t_1), \dots, x(t_n))$  where  $\hat{f}$  is a bounded function on  $R^n$  with bounded second derivatives and  $(t_i)$  are points in  $[0, 1]$ . For each real-valued function  $m$  on  $[0, 1]$  satisfying

$$(3) \quad m(t) = \int_0^t m'(s) ds, \quad \int_0^1 (m'(s))^2 ds < \infty,$$

we define a group  $T_\alpha$  of transformations on  $F$  by

$$T_\alpha f(x) = \hat{f}(x(t_1) + \alpha m(t_1), \dots, x(t_n) + \alpha m(t_n))$$

and a set  $P_\alpha$  of probability measures by closing the functionals  $\int f dP_\alpha = E(T_\alpha f)$

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on  $F$ . (We will write  $P$  for  $P_0$ .) It is not true in general that the  $P_\alpha$  are mutually absolutely continuous nor even that the  $T_\alpha$  can be extended to measurable transformations [3]. We shall prove that this is true under assumptions (1), (2), and (3) and find a formula for  $\log(dP_\alpha/dP)$ .

We define an operator  $D$  on  $F$  by

$$(Df)(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (T_\alpha f)(x) \Big|_{\alpha=0},$$

and a function  $\phi_0$  in  $L_2(P)$  by

$$\phi_0(x) = \int_0^1 \frac{m'(t) - m(t)a_2(t, x(t))}{\sigma(t)} dy(t).$$

The existence of the stochastic integral  $\phi_0$  follows from conditions (1), (2) and (3) [1, p. 426 ff].

LEMMA 1. For any  $f \in F$

$$\int \phi_0 T_\alpha f dP = \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \int T_\alpha f dP.$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n < 1$  and define

$$f(\lambda, t) = \exp \left\{ i \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j x(t_j) + i \lambda x(t) \right\}$$

and

$$g(\lambda, t) = \int \phi_0 f(\lambda, t) dP - i \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j m(t_j) + \lambda m(t) \right) \int f(\lambda, t) dP$$

for all  $\lambda$  and  $t_n \leq t \leq 1$ . The sample functions of the process  $x(t)$  are almost all continuous and this plus the dominated convergence theorem implies that  $g$  is continuous in the pair  $(\lambda, t)$ . Writing  $d/dt$  for the right hand derivative we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} g(\lambda, t) &= \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \left[ \int \phi_0 f(\lambda, t) \frac{(e^{i\lambda \delta x} - 1)}{\delta} dP \right. \\ &\quad - i \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j m(t_j) + \lambda m(t) \right) \int f(\lambda, t) \frac{(e^{i\lambda \delta x} - 1)}{\delta} dP \\ &\quad - i\lambda \frac{(m(t + \delta) - m(t))}{\delta} \int f(\lambda, t) dP \\ &\quad \left. - i\lambda (m(t + \delta) - m(t)) \int f(\lambda, t) \frac{(e^{i\lambda \delta x} - 1)}{\delta} dP \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The first term is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{\delta} \int \phi_0 f(\lambda, t) \left[ i\lambda \int_t^{t+\delta} a(\tau, x(\tau)) d\tau + i\lambda \int_t^{t+\delta} \sigma(\tau) dy(\tau) \right. \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \left( \int_t^{t+\delta} \sigma(\tau) dy(\tau) \right)^2 \right] dP \\
 &= i\lambda \int \phi_0 f(\lambda, t) a(t, x(t)) dP \\
 & \quad + \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{i\lambda}{\delta} \int_t^{t+\delta} d\tau \int f(\lambda, t) [m'(\tau) - m(\tau)a_2(\tau, x(\tau))] dP \\
 & \quad - \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\lambda^2}{2\delta} \int_t^{t+\delta} \sigma^2(\tau) d\tau \int f(\lambda, t) \left[ \int_0^t \frac{m'(\tau) - m(\tau)a_2(\tau, x(\tau))}{\sigma(\tau)} dy(\tau) \right] dP
 \end{aligned}$$

using dominated convergence to get the first subterm and properties of the stochastic integral to get the other two. Further

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{i\lambda}{\delta} \int_t^{t+\delta} d\tau \int f(\lambda, t) [m'(\tau) - m(\tau)a_2(\tau, x(\tau))] dP \\
 &= \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{i\lambda}{\delta} (m(t+\delta) - m(t)) \int f(\lambda, t) dP - i\lambda m(t) \int f(\lambda, t) a_2(t, x(t)) dP
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\lambda^2}{2\delta} \int_t^{t+\delta} \sigma^2(\tau) d\tau \int f(\lambda, t) \left[ \int_0^t \frac{m'(\tau) - m(\tau)a_2(\tau, x(\tau))}{\sigma(\tau)} dy(\tau) \right] dP \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad = \frac{-\lambda^2 \sigma^2(t)}{2} \int f(\lambda, t) \phi_0 dP.
 \end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation shows that

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \int f(\lambda, t) \frac{(e^{i\lambda\delta x} - 1)}{\delta} dP = i\lambda \int f(\lambda, t) a(t, x(t)) dP - \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2(t)}{2} \int f(\lambda, t) dP.$$

Incorporating these in the original formula gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt} g(\lambda, t) &= \frac{-\lambda^2 \sigma^2(t)}{2} g(\lambda, t) + i\lambda \int \phi_0 f(\lambda, t) a(t, x(t)) dP \\
 & \quad - i\lambda m(t) \int f(\lambda, t) a_2(t, x(t)) dP \\
 & \quad - i\lambda \left( i \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j m(t_j) + i\lambda m(t) \right) \int f(\lambda, t) a(t, x(t)) dP.
 \end{aligned}$$

Using the Fourier transforms of  $a$  and  $a_2$  and interchanging  $d\mu$  and  $dP$  integrations gives

$$\frac{d}{dt} g(\lambda, t) = i\lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\lambda + \mu, t) A(\mu, t) d\mu - \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2(t)}{2} g(\lambda, t).$$

Since  $|g(\lambda, t)| \leq B + C|\lambda|$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} (|g(\lambda, t)|^2) &= 2 \operatorname{Re} i\lambda \overline{g(\lambda, t)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\lambda + \mu, t) A(\mu, t) d\mu - \frac{\lambda^2 \sigma^2(t)}{2} |g(\lambda, t)|^2 \\ &\leq (B_1 |\lambda| + C_1 |\lambda|^2) |g(\lambda, t)| - \frac{\lambda^2 \epsilon^2}{2} |g(\lambda, t)|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose now  $n=0$  so that  $|g(\lambda, 0)|=0$ . If, for fixed  $\lambda$ ,  $|g(\lambda, t)|$  takes its maximum at  $t(\lambda)>0$  and not before, then every interval to the left of  $t(\lambda)$  contains a point where the right hand derivative of  $|g(\lambda, t)|^2$  is non-negative; in particular this must be so for the  $t$  where  $|g(\lambda, t)|$  is a minimum for this interval. At each of these points  $|g(\lambda, t)| \leq B_2 + C_2 |\lambda|^{-1}$  from the above inequality, and since  $\max |g(\lambda, t)|$  is a limit of these this inequality holds at all points of the interval. This implies that  $g(\lambda, t)$  is bounded so that  $h(t) = \sup_{\lambda} |g(\lambda, t)|$  is a bounded measurable function and

$$\frac{d}{dt} (|g(\lambda, t)|^2) \leq B_3 |\lambda g(\lambda, t)| h(t) - \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} |g(\lambda, t)|^2.$$

Now by a similar argument  $|\lambda g(\lambda, t)| \leq B_4 h(t) \leq B_5$  so that  $d|g(\lambda, t)|^2/dt \leq B_4 h^2(t)$ . It also follows from this that  $h$  is continuous since  $|h(t) - h(t_0)| \leq 2B_5/|\lambda_0| + |\sup_{|\lambda| \leq |\lambda_0|} |g(\lambda, t)| - \sup_{|\lambda| \leq |\lambda_0|} |g(\lambda, t_0)||$  and this can be made arbitrarily small by choosing first  $|\lambda_0|$  large enough and then  $t$  close enough to  $t_0$  since the function  $\sup_{|\lambda| \leq |\lambda_0|} |g(\lambda, t)|$  is continuous. Now it is easily shown that  $|g(\lambda, t)|^2 \leq C_4 \int_0^t h^2(s) ds$  so that  $h^2(t) \leq C_4 \int_0^t h^2(s) ds$  and hence that  $h=g=0$ . If we have proved that  $g(\lambda, t)=0$  for  $n \leq N$ , then  $g(\lambda, t_N)=0$  and the argument above can be used on the interval  $[t_N, 1]$  yielding an inductive proof that  $g(\lambda, t)=0$ .

The above argument proves the lemma for  $f(x) = \hat{f}(x(t_1), \dots, x(t_n))$  when  $\hat{f} = \exp\{i \sum_j \lambda_j x_j\}$  and it follows from this, for any  $a$  and  $b$ , that  $\int_a^b d\alpha \int \phi_0 T_\alpha f dP = \int (T_b f - T_a f) dP$  for such  $f$ . An application of Fubini's theorem extends this relation to all  $\hat{f}$  whose Fourier transforms are bounded and compactly supported, and hence to the algebra generated by these functions and the function 1 for which the lemma holds trivially. By the Stone-Weierstrass theorem such functions are uniformly dense in the algebra of functions continuous on  $R^n$  and at  $\infty$ , so the integrated relation holds for all such functions. Since any  $\hat{f}$  in  $F$  can be approximated by a uniformly bounded set  $(f_n)$  of continuous functions of compact support converging at every (finite) point to  $\hat{f}$  this relation holds for all of  $F$ . The proof is now completed by

differentiating this relation with respect to  $b$  which can be done since  $T_\alpha f$  is  $L_2$  continuous for  $f$  in  $F$ .

Lemma 1 also holds for the conditional expectation of  $\phi_0$  on the field generated by the  $x(t)$  for  $t$  in  $[0, 1]$  which we shall call  $\phi$ . For every  $f$  in  $F$  and  $\alpha \geq 0$  the operator  $V_f(\alpha)$  defined by

$$V_f(\alpha)g = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\alpha T_{-s} f ds \right\} T_{-\alpha} g$$

takes  $F$  into itself and satisfies  $V_f(\alpha)V_f(\beta) = V_f(\alpha+\beta)$  and  $V_f(0) = I$ . It is easily shown using Lemma 1 that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \int V_f(\alpha)g dP = \int \left( \frac{f}{2} - \phi \right) V_f(\alpha)g dP.$$

LEMMA 2. For any  $N$  there exists a sequence  $(f_n)$  from  $F$  converging to  $\min(\phi, N) = \phi_N$  in  $L_2(P)$  and satisfying  $\sup f_n \leq N$ . For any such sequence  $(f_n)$ , any  $g$  in  $F$ , and any  $\alpha \geq 0$  the sequence  $V_{f_n}(\alpha)g$  has a unique limit  $D_N(\alpha)T_{-\alpha}g$  in  $L_2(P)$ . This convergence for fixed  $g$  is uniform in  $\alpha$  on every finite interval.

**Proof.** Since  $F$  is dense in  $L_2(P)$  there is a sequence  $(g_n)$ ,  $g_n(x) = g_n(x(t_1), \dots, x(t_j))$  from  $F$  converging to  $\phi_N$ . Then  $\min(g_n, N)$  also converges to  $\phi_N$  and the desired sequence can be gotten by convoluting  $\min(g_n, N)$  with a sequence  $(e_n)$  of functions having bounded second derivatives and supports contained in sufficiently small neighborhoods of 0. It will be sufficient to prove the remainder of the lemma for  $g=1$ . Setting  $V_f(\alpha)1 = D_f(\alpha)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \int |D_{f_n}(\alpha) - D_{f_m}(\alpha)|^2 dP \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \int [D_{2f_n}(\alpha) - 2D_{f_n+f_m}(\alpha) + D_{2f_m}(\alpha)] dP \\ &= \int [(f_n - \phi)D_{2f_n}(\alpha) - (f_n + f_m + 2\phi)D_{f_n+f_m}(\alpha) + (f_m - \phi)D_{2f_m}(\alpha)] dP \\ &= \int [(f_n - \phi_N) + (\phi_N - \phi)][D_{f_n}(\alpha) - D_{f_m}(\alpha)]^2 \\ & \quad + \int (f_m - f_n)(D_{2f_m}(\alpha) - D_{f_n+f_m}(\alpha)) dP \\ &\leq [\|f_n - \phi_N\| + \|f_m - f_n\|] 4e^{N\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

which implies Lemma 2.

LEMMA 3.  $\|D_N(\alpha)T_{-\alpha}g\| \leq \|g\|$  for any  $g$  in  $F$ . If  $V_N(\alpha)$  is the extension of

this operator to  $L_2(P)$  then  $V_N(\alpha)$  is a strongly continuous semigroup satisfying  $\|V_N(\alpha)\| \leq 1$ .

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \int |V_{f_n}(\alpha)g|^2 dP &= \int (f_n - \phi)(V_{2f_n}(\alpha)(g^2)) dP \\ &\leq \|f_n - \phi_N\| e^{N\alpha} \sup |g(x)| \end{aligned}$$

and this implies the first assertion. It is easily shown that  $V_{f_n}(\alpha)g$  is strongly continuous for any  $g$  in  $F$  and this plus uniform convergence in  $\alpha$  implies the strong continuity of  $V_N(\alpha)g$  for  $g$  in  $F$ , but since  $F$  is dense in  $L_2(P)$  and  $\|V_N(\alpha)\| \leq 1$  this is sufficient to prove the strong continuity of  $V_N(\alpha)$ . Finally for  $g$  in  $F$

$$\begin{aligned} \|V_N(\alpha)V_N(\beta)g - V_N(\alpha + \beta)g\| &\leq \|V_N(\alpha)(V_N(\beta)g - V_{f_n}(\beta)g)\| \\ &\quad + \|(V_N(\alpha) - V_{f_n}(\alpha))V_{f_n}(\beta)g\| + \|V_{f_n}(\alpha + \beta)g - V_N(\alpha + \beta)g\| \\ &\leq \|V_N(\beta)g - V_{f_n}(\beta)g\| + e^{N\beta} \sup |g(x)| \|V_N(\alpha)1 - V_{f_n}(\alpha)1\| \\ &\quad + \|V_{f_n}(\alpha + \beta)g - V_N(\alpha + \beta)g\|, \end{aligned}$$

which can be made arbitrarily small and this trivially implies the semigroup equality for all elements of  $L_2(P)$ .

On  $F$  define  $\hat{A}_N f = (1/2)\phi_N f - Df$  and  $\hat{A}f = (1/2)\phi f - Df$ , and let  $A_N$  and  $A$  be their respective closures.

**LEMMA 4.**  $A_N$  is the generator of  $V_N(\alpha)$  and for any  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $f$  in  $F$  and finite  $a$  and  $b$

$$(\lambda - A_N) \int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_N(\alpha) f d\alpha = e^{-a\lambda} V_N(a) f - e^{-b\lambda} V_N(b) f.$$

**Proof.**  $\int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_{f_n}(\alpha) g d\alpha$  is in  $F$  and converges to  $\int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_N(\alpha) g d\alpha$  for all  $g$  in  $F$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda - A_N) \int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_{f_n}(\alpha) g d\alpha &= \frac{1}{2} (f_n - \phi_N) \int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_{f_n}(\alpha) g d\alpha + e^{-a\lambda} V_{f_n}(a) g - e^{-b\lambda} V_{f_n}(b) g \\ &\rightarrow e^{-a\lambda} V_N(a) g - e^{-b\lambda} V_N(b) g \end{aligned}$$

since

$$\left\| (f_n - \phi_N) \int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_{f_n}(\alpha) g d\alpha \right\| \leq \|f_n - \phi_N\| \int_a^b e^{-\alpha\lambda} e^{\alpha N} \sup |g(x)| d\alpha \rightarrow 0.$$

Let  $\bar{A}$  be the generator of  $V_N(\alpha)$  and suppose that  $\lambda > N$ , then as  $a \rightarrow 0$  and

$b \rightarrow \infty$  in the above we get  $(\lambda - A_N)(\lambda - \bar{A})^{-1}g = g$  for all  $g$  in  $F$  and hence for all  $g$  and this implies that  $A_N$  contains  $\bar{A}$ . Finally, for  $g$  in  $F$

$$\begin{aligned} V_N(\alpha)g &= g + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\alpha V_{f_n}(\beta) [(1/2)f_n g - Dg] d\beta \\ &= g + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\alpha V_{f_n}(\beta) [(1/2)\phi_n g - Dg] d\beta \\ &= g + \int_0^\alpha V_N(\beta) A_N g d\beta \end{aligned}$$

so  $\bar{A}g = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} ((V_N(\epsilon)g - g)/\epsilon) = A_N g$ , which shows that  $\bar{A}$  contains  $A_N$  and completes the proof.

LEMMA 5.  $V_N(\alpha)$  converges strongly to a strongly continuous semigroup  $V(\alpha)$  with generator  $A$ .

**Proof.** It is easily seen that  $V_N(\alpha)1$  is a nondecreasing set of functions and since  $\int V_N(\alpha)1 dP \leq \|V_N(\alpha)1\| \leq 1$  it converges almost everywhere. This implies that  $V_N(\alpha)f$  converges for all  $f$  in  $F$  and this plus the uniform boundedness of  $\|V_N(\alpha)\|$  implies that all  $V_N(\alpha)f$  converge. If  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} V_N(\alpha)f = V(\alpha)f$ , then  $\|V(\alpha)f\| \leq \|f\|$  and  $\|V(\alpha + \beta)f - V(\alpha)V(\beta)f\| = \|V(\alpha + \beta)f - V_N(\alpha + \beta)f\| + \|V_N(\alpha)(V_N(\beta) - V(\beta))f\| + \|(V_N(\alpha) - V(\alpha))V(\beta)f\|$  can be made arbitrarily small. For  $f$  in  $F$

$$\begin{aligned} V(\alpha)f &= f + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\alpha V_N(\beta) A_N f d\beta \\ &= f + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\alpha V_N(\beta) A f d\beta \\ &= f + \int_0^\alpha V(\beta) A f d\beta \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $V(\alpha)f$  is strongly continuous for  $f$  in  $F$  and hence for all  $f$ . This equation also shows, as in the proof of Lemma 4, that the generator of  $V(\alpha)$  contains  $A$ .

Now if  $K_N$  is any sequence which converges to  $\infty$ ,  $\int_0^{K_N} e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_N(\alpha) f d\alpha$  converges to  $\int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha\lambda} V(\alpha) f d\alpha$ . The proof of the lemma will be complete if we can show that  $(\lambda - A) \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha\lambda} V(\alpha) f d\alpha = f$  for all  $f$  and this will be implied if we can show it for  $f$  in  $F$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda - A) \int_0^{K_N} e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_N(\alpha) f d\alpha \\ = \frac{1}{2} (\phi_N - \phi) \int_0^{K_N} e^{-\alpha\lambda} V_N(\alpha) f d\alpha - e^{-K_N\lambda} V_N(K_N) f + f. \end{aligned}$$

Since the second term goes to 0 it will be sufficient to show that  $\|\phi_N - \phi\| \int_0^{K_N} e^{a_N} \sup |f| d\alpha$  goes to 0 for some  $K_N$  converging to  $\infty$ . If  $(\phi_0)_N$  is the original  $\phi_0$  chopped at  $N$  then the conditional expectation of  $(\phi_0)_N$  on the field generated by the  $x(t)$ 's is less than or equal to  $\phi_N$  so  $\|\phi - \phi_N\| \leq \|\phi_0 - (\phi_0)_N\|$ . We have  $\phi_0 = \psi + \eta(1)$  where  $\psi = \int_0^1 (m'(s)/\sigma(s)) dy(s)$  and  $\eta(t) = -\int_0^t (m(s)a_2(s, x(s))/\sigma(s)) dy(s)$ . Since  $0 \leq \phi_0 - (\phi_0)_{2N} \leq \psi - \psi_N + \eta(1) - \eta_N(1)$  the two pieces can be handled separately.  $\psi$  is a Gaussian random variable so  $\|\psi - \psi_N\| \leq e^{-BN^2}$  for some  $B > 0$ . Also setting  $F(t) = -m(t)a_2(t, x(t))/\sigma(t)$  and defining  $\xi(t)$  to be 1 if  $\int_0^t F(s) dy(s) \geq N$  and 0 otherwise we have

$$\eta(t) - \eta_N(t) = \int_0^t F(s) \xi(s) dy(s).$$

Hence, using  $|F(t)| \leq C$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P(\eta(t) \geq N+1) &\leq E(|\eta(t) - \eta_N(t)|^2) \\ &= \int_0^t E(F^2(s) \xi(s)) ds \leq C^2 \int_0^t P(\eta(s) \geq N) ds \end{aligned}$$

and this relation plus  $P(\eta(t) \geq 0) \leq 1$  yields by induction  $P(\eta(t) \geq N) \leq (At)^N/N!$ . This gives

$$\|\eta(1) - \eta_N(1)\|^2 \leq \sum_{k=N}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{k!} (k+1-N)^2 \leq \frac{A^N e^A}{(N-2)!}$$

and by Stirling's formula this goes to 0 like  $e^{DN} \log^N$  for some  $D$ .

**THEOREM.** Under assumptions (1), (2), and (3):

- (i) The measures  $P_\alpha$  are mutually absolutely continuous.
- (ii)  $(T_\alpha)$  can be extended to a group of measurable linear transformations on all measurable functions preserving bounds and satisfying  $T_\alpha(fg) = (T_\alpha f)(T_\alpha g)$ .
- (iii)  $\log dP_\alpha/dP = \int_0^\alpha T_{-\beta} \phi d\beta$  for any measurable version of  $T_{-\beta} \phi$ .
- (iv)  $V(\alpha)f = (dP_\alpha/dP)^{1/2} T_{-\alpha} f$  is a strongly continuous unitary group with generator  $A$ .

**Proof.** Since  $A$  generates a semigroup the range of  $iA - iI$  is all of  $L_2(P)$ . A similar argument using  $\hat{T}_\alpha = T_{-\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\phi} = -\phi$  will prove that the range of  $iA + iI$  is all of  $L_2(P)$ . These facts plus the symmetry of  $iA$  show that  $iA$  is self adjoint and this proves (iv). The proof of (i) follows from this for if  $(f_n)$  is a sequence from  $F$  decreasing to 0 almost everywhere with respect to  $P_\alpha$  then  $T_\alpha f_n$  decreases to 0 almost everywhere with respect to  $P$  and  $\int |f_n|^2 dP_\beta = \int |T_\beta f_n|^2 dP = \int |V\beta - \alpha T_\beta f_n|^2 dP = \int D(\beta - \alpha)^2 |T_\alpha f_n|^2 dP \rightarrow 0$  by the dominated convergence theorem. The extension of  $T_\alpha$  to all functions measurable on the extended field is now straightforward. To prove (iii) assuming  $\alpha > 0$ , choose



a uniformly bounded sequence  $(f_{n,M})$  from  $F$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{n,M} = \phi_{N,M}$  almost everywhere where

$$\phi_{N,M}(x) = \begin{cases} N & \text{if } \phi(x) > N, \\ \phi(x) & \text{if } -M \leq \phi(x) \leq N, \\ -M & \text{if } \phi(x) < -M. \end{cases}$$

Now  $\int_0^a T_{-\beta} f_{n,M} d\beta$  converges on  $n$  to  $\int_0^a T_{-\beta} \phi_{N,M} d\beta$  in  $L_1(P)$  so a subsequence converges almost everywhere.  $n$  can be chosen as a function of  $M$  to make the sequence  $f_{n(M),M}$  converge to  $\phi_N$  in  $L_1(P)$  and

$$\left\| \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} f_{n(M),M} d\beta \right\} - \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} \phi_{N,M} d\beta \right\} \right\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } M \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thus

$$D_N(\alpha) = \lim \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} f_{n(M),M} d\beta \right\} = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} \phi_N d\beta \right\}$$

and

$$D(\alpha) = \left[ \frac{dP_\alpha}{dP} \right]^{1/2} = \lim \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} \phi_N d\beta \right\} = \exp \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a T_{-\beta} \phi d\beta \right\}.$$

The restriction in the above theorem that  $\sigma$  not depend on  $x(t)$  seems essential for without it one is led intuitively to the formula

$$\phi(x) = \int_0^1 \frac{m(t)\sigma_2(t, x(t))y'(t)}{\sigma(t)} dy(t) + \int_0^1 \frac{m'(t) - m(t)a_2(t, x(t))}{\sigma(t)} dy(t)$$

and the first integral is rather strongly "divergent."

The technique used in this paper was suggested by the solution to the corresponding problem where  $x(t)$  is a Gaussian stochastic process. There, if  $R(s, t) = E(x(s)x(t))$  is the autocorrelation function for  $x(t)$  and if  $m(s) = \int_0^s R(s, t) dF(t)$  the infinitesimal generator again has the form  $Af = (1/2)\phi f - Df$  where now  $\phi(x) = \int_0^1 x(t) dF(t)$  [2]. We hope in future papers to apply this technique to other similar problems.

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LINCOLN LABORATORY, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY,  
LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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