

# BV functions in a Gelfand triple and the stochastic reflection problem on a convex set of a Hilbert space <sup>\*</sup>

## Fonctions BV dans triplet de Gelfand et le probleme de reflexion sur un ensemble convexe d'un espace de Hilbert

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### Abstract

In this note we introduce BV functions in a Gelfand triple, which is an extension of BV functions in [1], by using Dirichlet form theory. By this definition, we can consider the stochastic reflection problem associated with a self-adjoint operator  $A$  and a cylindrical Wiener process on a convex set  $\Gamma$ . We prove the existence and uniqueness of a strong solution of this problem when  $\Gamma$  is a regular convex set. The result is also extended to the non-symmetric case. At last, we use the BV functions in the case when  $\Gamma = K_\alpha$ , where  $K_\alpha = \{f \in L^2(0, 1) | f \geq -\alpha\}$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$ .

### Résumé.

Dans ce papier, on introduit des fonctions BV dans un triplet de Gelfand qui est une extension de fonctions BV dans [1] en utilisant la forme de Dirichlet. Par cette définition, on peut considérer le problème de réflexion stochastique associé à un opérateur auto-adjoint  $A$  et un processus de Wiener cylindrique sur un ensemble convexe  $\Gamma$ . Nous démontrons l'existence et l'unicité d'une solution forte de ce problème si  $\Gamma$  est un ensemble convexe régulier. Le résultat est aussi étendu au cas non-symétrique. Finalement, nous utilisons les fonctions BV dans le cas  $\Gamma = K_\alpha$ , où  $K_\alpha = \{f \in L^2(0, 1) | f \geq -\alpha\}$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$ .

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**1. Dirichlet form and BV functions**—Given a real separable Hilbert space  $H$  (with scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and norm denoted by  $|\cdot|$ ), assume that:

<sup>\*</sup>Research supported by 973 project, NSFC, key Lab of CAS, the DFG through IRTG 1132 and the I. Newton Institute, Cambridge, UK

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**Hypothesis 1.1.**  $A : D(A) \subset H \rightarrow H$  is a linear self-adjoint operator on  $H$  such that  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \geq \delta |x|^2, \forall x \in D(A)$  for some  $\delta > 0$ . Moreover,  $A^{-1}$  is of trace class.  $\{e_j\}$  is an orthonormal basis in  $H$  consisting of eigen-functions for  $A$ , that is,  $Ae_j = \alpha_j e_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\alpha_j \geq \delta$ .

In the following  $D\varphi : H \rightarrow H$  is the Fréchet-derivative of a function  $\varphi : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . By  $C_b^1(H)$  we shall denote the set of all bounded differentiable functions with continuous and bounded derivatives. For  $K \subset H$ , the space  $C_b^1(K)$  is defined as the space of restrictions of all functions in  $C_b^1(H)$  to the subset  $K$ .  $\mu$  will denote the Gaussian measure in  $H$  with mean 0 and covariance operator  $Q := \frac{1}{2}A^{-1}$ . We consider  $\mathcal{E}^\rho(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_H \langle Du, Dv \rangle \rho(z) \mu(dz), u, v \in C_b^1(F)$ , where  $F = \text{Supp}[\rho \cdot \mu]$ .  $L_+^1(H, \mu)$  denotes the set of all non-negative elements in  $L^1(H, \mu)$ . Let  $QR(H)$  be the set of all functions  $\rho \in L_+^1(H, \mu)$  such that  $(\mathcal{E}^\rho, C_b^1(F))$  is closable on  $L^2(F; \rho \cdot \mu)$ . Its closure is denoted by  $(\mathcal{E}^\rho, \mathcal{F}^\rho)$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $\rho \in QR(H)$ .  $(\mathcal{E}^\rho, \mathcal{F}^\rho)$  is then a quasi-regular local Dirichlet form on  $L^2(F; \rho \cdot \mu)$  in the sense of [6] IV Definition 3.1.

By virtue of Theorem 1.2 and [6], there exists a diffusion process  $M^\rho = (X_t, P_z)$  on  $F$  associated with the Dirichlet form  $(\mathcal{E}^\rho, \mathcal{F}^\rho)$ .  $M^\rho$  will be called OU process on  $F$ . Since constant functions are in  $\mathcal{F}^\rho$  and  $\mathcal{E}^\rho(1, 1) = 0$ ,  $M^\rho$  is recurrent and conservative. Let  $A_{1/2}(x) = \int_0^x (\log(1+s))^{1/2} ds, x \geq 0$  and let  $\psi$  be its complementary function, namely,  $\psi(y) := \int_0^y (A'_{1/2})^{-1}(t) dt = \int_0^y (\exp(t^2) - 1) dt$ . Define  $L(\log L)^{1/2} = \{f | A_{1/2}(|f|) \in L^1\}, L^\psi = \{g | \psi(c|g|) \in L^1 \text{ for some } c > 0\}$  (cf.[7]). Let  $c_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence in  $[1, \infty)$ . Define  $H_1 := \{x \in H | \sum_{j=1}^\infty \langle x, e_j \rangle^2 c_j^2 < \infty\}$ , equipped with the inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle_{H_1} := \sum_{j=1}^\infty c_j^2 \langle x, e_j \rangle \langle y, e_j \rangle$ . Then clearly  $(H_1, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{H_1})$  is a Hilbert space such that  $H_1 \subset H$  continuously and densely. Identifying  $H$  with its dual we obtain the continuous and dense embeddings  $H_1 \subset H (\equiv H^*) \subset H_1^*$ . It follows that  ${}_{H_1} \langle z, v \rangle_{H_1^*} = \langle z, v \rangle_H \forall z \in H_1, v \in H$  and that  $(H_1, H, H_1^*)$  is a Gelfand triple. We also introduce a family of  $H$ -valued function on  $H$  by

$$(C_b^1)_{D(A) \cap H_1} = \{G : G(z) = \sum_{j=1}^m g_j(z) l^j, g_j \in C_b^1(H), l^j \in D(A) \cap H_1\}$$

Denote by  $D^*$  the adjoint of  $D : C_b^1(H) \subset L^2(H, \mu) \rightarrow L^2(H, \mu; H)$ . For  $\rho \in L(\log L)^{1/2}(H, \mu)$ , we put  $V(\rho) = \sup_{G \in (C_b^1)_{D(A) \cap H_1}, \|G\|_{H_1} \leq 1} \int_H D^* G(z) \rho(z) \mu(dz)$ . A function  $\rho$  on  $H$  is called a BV function in the Gelfand triple  $(H_1, H, H_1^*)$  ( $\rho \in BV(H, H_1)$  in notation), if  $\rho \in L(\log L)^{1/2}(H, \mu)$  and  $V(\rho)$  is finite. When  $H_1 = H = H_1^*$ , this coincides with the definition of BV functions defined in [1] and clearly  $BV(H, H) \subset BV(H, H_1)$ . This definition is a modification of BV function in abstract Wiener space introduced in [3] and [4].

**Theorem 1.3.** (i) Suppose  $\rho \in BV(H, H_1) \cap L_+^1(H, \mu)$ , then there exist a positive finite measure  $\|d\rho\|$  on  $H$  and a weakly measurable function  $\sigma_\rho : H \rightarrow H_1^*$  such that  $\|\sigma_\rho(z)\|_{H_1^*} = 1 \|d\rho\| - a.e., V(\rho) = \|d\rho\|(H)$ :

$$\int_H D^*(G(z)) \rho(z) \mu(dz) = \int_H {}_{H_1} \langle G(z), \sigma_\rho(z) \rangle_{H_1^*} \|d\rho\|(dz), \forall G \in (C_b^1)_{D(A) \cap H_1}. \quad (1.1)$$

Further, if  $\rho \in QR(H)$ ,  $\|d\rho\|$  is  $\mathcal{E}^\rho$ -smooth, also,  $\sigma_\rho$  and  $\|d\rho\|$  are uniquely determined.

(ii) Conversely, if Eq.(1.1) holds for  $\rho \in L(\log L)^{1/2}(H, \mu)$  and for some positive finite measure  $\|d\rho\|$  and a function  $\sigma_\rho$  with the stated property, then  $\rho \in BV(H, H_1)$  and  $V(\rho) = \|d\rho\|(H)$ .

**Theorem 1.4** Let  $\rho \in QR(H) \cap BV(H, H_1)$  and consider the measure  $\|d\rho\|$  and  $\sigma_\rho$  appearing in Theorem 1.3(i). Then there exists a process  $W$  satisfying for q.e.  $z \in F$  under  $P_z, W_t$  is a cylindrical Wiener process, such that the sample paths of the associated OU process  $M^\rho$  on  $F$

satisfy the following: for  $\mathcal{E}^\rho$ -q.e.z  $\in F$ , we have for any  $l \in D(A) \cap H_1$

$$\langle l, X_t(\omega) - X_0(\omega) \rangle = \langle l, W_t(\omega) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \langle l, \sigma_\rho(X_s(\omega)) \rangle_{H_1^*} dL_s^{\|d\rho\|}(\omega) - \langle Al, \int_0^t X_s(\omega) ds \rangle P_z\text{-a.s.}$$

Here,  $L_t^{\|d\rho\|}(\omega)$  is a real valued PCAF associated with  $\|d\rho\|$  by the Revuz correspondence.

**2. Reflection OU process**—Consider the situation when  $\rho = I_\Gamma$ , the indicator of a set.

**2.1 Reflection OU process on regular convex set**—Denote the corresponding objects  $\sigma_\rho, \|dI_\Gamma\|$  in Theorem 1.3(i) by  $-\mathbf{n}_\Gamma, \|\partial\Gamma\|$ , respectively.

**Hypothesis 2.1.1** There exists a convex  $C^\infty$  function  $g : H \rightarrow R$  with  $g(0) = 0, g'(0) = 0$ , and  $D^2g$  strictly positively definite, that is,  $\langle D^2g(x)h, h \rangle \geq \gamma|h|^2, \forall h \in H$  where  $\gamma > 0$ , such that

$$\Gamma = \{x \in H : g(x) \leq 1\}, \partial\Gamma = \{x \in H : g(x) = 1\}$$

Moreover, we also suppose that  $D^2g$  is bounded on  $\Gamma$ . Finally, we also suppose that  $g$  and all its derivatives grow at infinity at most polynomially.

By using the result in [2], we have (1.1) for  $\rho = I_\Gamma$ . By the continuity property of surface measure given in [5], we have the following two theorems.

**Theorem 2.1.2** Assume Hypothesis 2.1.1. Then  $I_\Gamma \in BV(H, H) \cap QR(H)$ .

**Theorem 2.1.3** Assume Hypothesis 2.1.1. Then there exists a process  $W$  satisfying for q.e.z  $\in F$  under  $P_z$ ,  $W_t$  is a cylindrical Wiener process, such that the sample paths of the associated OU process  $M^\rho$  on  $F$  satisfy the following: for  $\mathcal{E}^\rho$ -q.e.z  $\in F$  and any  $l \in D(A)$

$$\langle l, X_t(\omega) - X_0(\omega) \rangle = \langle l, W_t(\omega) \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{n}_\Gamma(X_s(\omega)), dL_s^{\|\partial\Gamma\|}(\omega) \rangle - \langle Al, \int_0^t X_s(\omega) ds \rangle, P_z - a.e.$$

where  $\mathbf{n}_\Gamma$  is the exterior normal to  $\Gamma$ , satisfying  $\langle \mathbf{n}_\Gamma(x), x - y \rangle \geq 0$ , for any  $y \in \Gamma, x \in \partial\Gamma$  and  $\|\partial\Gamma\| = \mu_{\partial\Gamma}$ , where  $\mu_{\partial\Gamma}$  is the surface measure induced by  $\mu$  (c.f [2], [5]).

Let  $\Gamma$  satisfy Hypothesis 2.1.1 and  $A$  satisfy Hypothesis 1.1. Consider the following stochastic differential inclusion in the Hilbert space  $H$ ,

$$\begin{cases} dX(t) + (AX(t) + N_\Gamma(X(t)))dt \ni dW(t), \\ X(0) = x \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $W(t)$  is a cylindrical Wiener process in  $H$  on a filtered probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}_t, P)$  and  $N_\Gamma(x)$  is the normal cone to  $\Gamma$  at  $x$ .

**Definition 2.1.4** A pair of continuous  $H \times R$  valued and  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -adapted processes  $(X(t), L(t)), t \in [0, T]$ , is called a solution of (2.1) if the following conditions hold:

- (i)  $X(t) \in \Gamma, P - a.s.$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ ,
- (ii)  $L$  is an increasing process with the property  $\int_0^t I_{\partial\Gamma}(X_s(\omega)) dL_s(\omega) = L_t(\omega), t \geq 0$  and we have for any  $l \in D(A)$ ,  $\langle l, X_t(\omega) - x \rangle = \langle l, W_t(\omega) - \int_0^t \mathbf{n}_\Gamma(X_s(\omega)) dL_s(\omega) \rangle - \langle Al, \int_0^t X_s(\omega) ds \rangle$  where  $\mathbf{n}_\Gamma$  is the exterior normal to  $\Gamma$ , satisfying  $\langle \mathbf{n}_\Gamma(x), x - y \rangle \geq 0, \forall y \in \Gamma, x \in \partial\Gamma$ .

**Theorem 2.1.5** If  $\Gamma$  satisfies Hypothesis 2.1.1, then there exists  $M, I_\Gamma \cdot \mu(M) = 1$ , such that for every  $x \in M$ , (2.1) has a pathwise unique continuous strong solution in the sense of Definition 2.1.4, such that  $X(t) \in M$  for all  $t \geq 0$   $P_x$ -a.s.

**Remark 2.1.6** We can extend all these results to non-symmetric Dirichlet forms obtained by first order perturbation of the above Dirichlet form.

**2.2 Reflection OU processes on a class of convex sets**—Now we consider the case when  $H = L^2(0, 1)$ ,  $\rho = I_{K_\alpha}$ , where  $K_\alpha = \{f \in H | f \geq -\alpha\}$ ,  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $A = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dr^2}$  with Dirichlet boundary condition on  $[0, 1]$ . Take  $c_j = j\pi$  if  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $c_j = (j\pi)^3$  if  $\alpha = 0$ . When  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $H_1$  is just the Sobolev space  $H_0^1(0, 1)$ ,  $H_1^*$  is its dual Sobolev space  $H_0^{-1}(0, 1)$ . When  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $H_1 \supset H_0^3(0, 1)$ ,  $H_1^* \subset H_0^{-3}(0, 1)$ . By using the result in [8], we can prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.1**  $I_{K_\alpha} \in BV(H, H_1) \cap QR(H)$ .

**Remark 2.2.2** It has been proved by Guan Qingyang that  $I_{K_\alpha}$  is not in  $BV(H, H)$ . Since we have Theorem 2.2.1, we denote the corresponding objects  $\sigma_\rho$ ,  $\|dI_{K_\alpha}\|$  in Theorem 1.3 (i) by  $n_\alpha$ ,  $|\sigma_\alpha|$ , respectively.

**Theorem 2.2.3** Let  $\rho = I_{K_\alpha}$ . Then there exists a process  $W$  satisfying for q.e.  $z \in F$  under  $P_z$ ,  $W_t$  is a cylindrical Wiener process, such that the sample paths of the associated OU process  $M^\rho$  on  $F$  satisfy the following: for  $\mathcal{E}^\rho$ -q.e.  $z \in F$  and any  $l \in D(A) \cap H_1$

$$\langle l, X_t(\omega) - X_0(\omega) \rangle = \langle l, W_t(\omega) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{H_1} \langle l, n_\alpha(X_s(\omega)) \rangle_{H_1^*} dL_s^{|\sigma_\alpha|}(\omega) - \langle Al, \int_0^t X_s(\omega) ds \rangle P_z - a.e.$$

Here,  $L_t^{|\sigma_\alpha|}(\omega)$  is a real valued PCAF associated with  $|\sigma_\alpha|$  by the Revuz correspondence, satisfying  $\int_0^t I_{\{X_s(x) + \alpha = 0\}} dL_s^{|\sigma_\alpha|} = 0$ , and for every  $z \in F$ ,  $P_z(X_t \in C_0[0, 1] \text{ for a.e. } t \in [0, \infty)) = 1$

**Acknowledgement** We thank Zhiming Ma for very helpful hints and comments. This work is supported by the DFG through SFB-701 and the BiBoS-Research Center. The support of Issac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Cambridge is also gratefully acknowledged where part of this work was done during the special semester on “Stochastic Partial Differential Equations”.

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