

Research Article

Stochastic Differential Equations with Multi-Markovian Switching

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This paper is concerned with stochastic differential equations (SDEs) with multi-Markovian switching. The existence and uniqueness of solution are investigated, and the p th moment of the solution is estimated. The classical theory of SDEs with single Markovian switching is extended.

1. Introduction

Stochastic modeling has played an important role in many branches of industry and science. SDEs with single continuous-time Markovian chain have been used to model many practical systems where they may experience abrupt changes in their parameters and structure caused by phenomena such as abrupt environment disturbances. SDEs with single Markovian switching can be denoted by

$$dx(t) = f(x(t), t, \gamma(t)) dt + g(x(t), t, \gamma(t)) dB(t), \quad t_0 \leq t \leq T \quad (1)$$

with initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0 \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_{t_0}}$ and $\gamma(t_0) = \gamma_0$, where $\gamma(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain on the probability space taking values in a finite state space $\mathbb{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ and is \mathcal{F}_t -adapted but independent of the Brownian motion $B(t)$, and

$$\begin{aligned} f: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \\ g: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+m}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Owing to their theoretical and practical significance, (1) has received great attention and has been recently studied extensively, and we here mention Skorokhod [1] and Mao and Yuan [2] among many others.

However, in the real world, the condition that coefficients f and g in (1) are perturbed by the same Markovian chain is too restrictive. For example, in the classical Black-Scholes model, the asset price is given by a geometric Brownian motion

$$dX(t) = \mu X(t) dt + \nu X(t) dB(t), \quad (3)$$

where μ is the rate of the return of the underlying asset, ν is the volatility, and $B(t)$ is a scalar Brownian motion. Since there is strong evidence to indicate that μ is not a constant but is a Markovian jump process (see, e.g., [3, 4]), many authors proposed the following model:

$$dX(t) = \mu(\gamma(t)) X(t) dt + \nu(\gamma(t)) X(t) dB(t). \quad (4)$$

However, many stochastic factors that affect μ are different from those that affect ν . Then the following model is more appropriate than model (105) to describe this problem:

$$dX(t) = \mu(\gamma_1(t)) X(t) dt + \nu(\gamma_2(t)) X(t) dB(t), \quad (5)$$

where $\gamma_i(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain taking values in a finite state space, $i = 1, 2$. Another example is the stochastic Lotka-Volterra model with single Markovian switching which has received great attention and has been studied extensively recently (see, e.g., [5–12]).

For the sake of convenience, we take the following two-dimensional competitive model as an example:

$$\begin{aligned} dx_1 &= x_1 [r_{10}(\gamma(t)) - a_{11}(\gamma(t))x_1 - a_{12}(\gamma(t))x_2] dt \\ &\quad + \alpha_1(\gamma(t))x_1 dB_1(t), \\ dx_2 &= x_2 [r_{20}(\gamma(t)) - a_{21}(\gamma(t))x_1 - a_{22}(\gamma(t))x_2] dt \\ &\quad + \alpha_2(\gamma(t))x_2 dB_2(t), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where x_i is the size of i th species at time t , $r_{i0}(j)$ represents the growth rate of i th species in regime j for $i = 1, 2$, $j \in \mathbb{S}$, and B_1 and B_2 are independent standard Brownian motions. However, there are many stochastic factors that affect some coefficients intensely but have little impact on other coefficients in (6). For example, suppose that the stochastic factor is rain falls and x_1 is able to endure a damp weather while x_2 is fond of a dry environment, then the rain falls will affect x_2 intensely but have little impact on x_1 . Thus, a more appropriate model is governed by

$$\begin{aligned} dx_1 &= x_1 [r_{10}(\gamma_{10}(t)) - a_{11}(\gamma_{11}(t))x_1 - a_{12}(\gamma_{12}(t))x_2] dt \\ &\quad + \alpha_1(\gamma_1(t))x_1 dB_1(t), \\ dx_2 &= x_2 [r_{20}(\gamma_{20}(t)) - a_{21}(\gamma_{21}(t))x_1 - a_{22}(\gamma_{22}(t))x_2] dt \\ &\quad + \alpha_2(\gamma_2(t))x_2 dB_2(t), \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where $\gamma_{ij}(t)$ and $\gamma_k(t)$ are right-continuous homogenous Markovian chains taking values in finite state spaces \mathbb{S}_{ij} for $i = 1, 2$, $j = 0, 1, 2$, and \mathbb{S}_k for $k = 1, 2$, respectively.

Thus the above examples show that the study of the following SDEs with multi-Markovian switchings is essential and is of great importance from both theoretical and practical points:

$$\begin{aligned} dx(t) &= f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(t)) dt \\ &\quad + g(x(t), t, \gamma_2(t)) dB(t), \quad t_0 \leq t \leq T \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

with initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0 \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_0}$ and $\gamma_i(t_0)$, where $\gamma_i(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain on the probability space taking values in a finite state space $\mathbb{S}_i = \{1, 2, \dots, N_i\}$ and is \mathcal{F}_t -adapted but independent of the Brownian motion $B_i(t)$, $i = 1, 2$, and

$$\begin{aligned} f: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}_1 &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \\ g: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}_2 &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+m}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Equation (8) can be regarded as the result of the $N_1 \times N_2$ equations

$$\begin{aligned} dx(t) &= f(x(t), t, i) dt \\ &\quad + g(x(t), t, j) dB(t), \quad i \in \mathbb{S}_1, j \in \mathbb{S}_2 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

switching among each other according to the movement of the Markovian chains. It is important for us to discover the

properties of the system (8) and to find out whether the presence of two Markovian switchings affects some known results. The first step and the foundation of those studies are to establish the theorems for the existence and uniqueness of the solution to system (8). So in this paper, we will give some theorems for the existence and uniqueness of the solution to system (8) and study some properties of this solution. The theory developed in this paper is the foundation for further study and can be applied in many different and complicated situations, and hence the importance of the results in this paper is clear.

It should be pointed out that the theory developed in this paper can be generalized to cope with the more general SDEs with more Markovian chains

$$\begin{aligned} dx(t) &= f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(t), \dots, \gamma_n(t)) dt \\ &\quad + g(x(t), t, \gamma_{n+1}(t), \dots, \gamma_{n+m}(t)) dB(t). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The reason we concentrate on (8) rather than (11) is to avoid the notations becoming too complicated. Once the theory developed in this paper is established, the reader should be able to cope with the more general (11) without any difficulty.

The remaining part of this paper is as follows. In Section 2, the sufficient criteria for existence and uniqueness of solution, local solution, and maximal local solution will be established, respectively. In Section 3, the L^P -estimates of the solution will be given. In Section 4, we will introduce an example to illustrate our main result. Finally, we will close the paper with conclusions in Section 5.

2. SDEs with Markovian Chains

Throughout this paper, let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}_+}, \mathcal{P})$ be a complete probability space. Let $B(t) = (B_1(t), \dots, B_m(t))^T$ be an m -dimensional Brownian motion defined on the probability space.

In this section, we will consider (8). Let $\gamma(t) = (\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t))$. We impose a hypothesis.

(H1): $\gamma_1(t)$ is independent of $\gamma_2(t)$.

Then $\gamma(t)$ is a homogenous vector Markovian chain with transition probabilities

$$\begin{aligned} P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2) \mid \gamma(s) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &= P\{\gamma(t) = (j_1, j_2) \mid \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &=: P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t), \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where $(i_1, i_2), (j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S} = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), \dots, (1, N_2), (2, 1), \dots, (N_1, N_2)\}$.

Now, we will prepare some lemmas which are important for further study.

Lemma 1. $P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t)$ has the following properties:

- (i) $P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t) \geq 0$ for $(i_1, i_2), (j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S}$;
- (ii) $\sum_{(j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t) = 1$ for $(i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}$;
- (iii) $P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(0) = \delta_{i_1 j_1} \cdot \delta_{i_2 j_2}$, where $\delta_{i_k j_k} = 1$ if $i_k = j_k$, otherwise $\delta_{i_k j_k} = 0$, $k = 1, 2$;

(iv) (*Chapman-Kolmogorov equation*) For $s, t \geq 0$ and $(i_1, i_2), (j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S}$,

$$P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(s+t) = \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}(t) P_{k_1 k_2; j_1 j_2}(s). \quad (13)$$

Proof. The proofs of (i), (ii), and (iii) are obvious. Now, let us prove (iv):

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(s+t) &= P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2) \mid \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2), \\ &\quad \gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2) \mid \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} (P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2), \\ &\quad \gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2), \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &\quad \times (P\{\gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2), \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\})^{-1}) \\ &\quad \times \frac{P\{\gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2), \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\}}{P\{\gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\}} \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2) \mid \gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2), \\ &\quad \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &\quad \times P\{\gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2) \mid \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P\{\gamma(s+t) = (j_1, j_2) \mid \gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2)\} \\ &\quad \times P\{\gamma(t) = (k_1, k_2) \mid \gamma(0) = (i_1, i_2)\} \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P_{k_1 k_2; j_1 j_2}(s) P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}(t). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

This completes the proof. \square

Now, we impose another hypothesis, which is called standard condition.

$$(H2): \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t) = \delta_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}.$$

Lemma 2. Under Assumption (H2), for all $t \geq 0, (i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}$, one has $P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) > 0$.

Proof. From $P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(0) > 0$ and (H2) we know that, for arbitrary fixed $t > 0$, we have

$$P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}\left(\frac{t}{n}\right) > 0 \quad (15)$$

for sufficient large n . Then making use of Chapman-Kolmogorov equation

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(s+t) &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \in \mathbb{S}} P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}(t) P_{k_1 k_2; i_1 i_2}(s) \\ &\geq P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(s) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

gives

$$P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) \geq \left(P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}\left(\frac{t}{n}\right)\right)^n > 0, \quad (17)$$

which is the desired assertion. \square

Lemma 3. Under Assumption (H2), for all $(i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}$,

$$-q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2} := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t)}{t} \quad (18)$$

exists (but may be ∞).

Proof. Define $\phi(t) = -\ln P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) \geq 0$. Then making use of (16) gives

$$\phi(s+t) \leq \phi(s) + \phi(t). \quad (19)$$

Set $-q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2} = \sup_{t>0}(\phi(t)/t)$. It is easy to see that

$$0 \leq -q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2} \leq \infty, \quad \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\phi(t)}{t} \leq -q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}. \quad (20)$$

Now we will assert

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\phi(t)}{t} \geq -q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}. \quad (21)$$

In fact, for $0 < h < t, \exists n, 0 \leq \varepsilon \leq h$ such that $t = nh + \varepsilon$. Applying (19) yields

$$\frac{\phi(t)}{t} \geq \frac{nh}{\varepsilon} \frac{\phi(h)}{h} + \frac{\phi(\varepsilon)}{t}. \quad (22)$$

Note that $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0, nh/\varepsilon \rightarrow 1, \phi(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$ whenever $h \rightarrow 0^+$, then for all $t > 0$ we have

$$\frac{\phi(t)}{t} \leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\phi(h)}{h}. \quad (23)$$

This implies $-q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2} \leq \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0}(\phi(t)/t)$. Thus

$$-q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\phi(t)}{t}. \quad (24)$$

Using the definition of $\phi(t)$ gives

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \exp\{-\phi(t)\}}{\phi(t)} \frac{\phi(t)}{t} = -q_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}, \quad (25)$$

which is the required assertion. \square

Lemma 4. Under Assumption (H2), for $(i_1, i_2), (j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S}$, $(i_1, i_2) \neq (j_1, j_2)$,

$$q_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2} := P'_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t)}{t} \quad (26)$$

exists and is finite.

Proof. By (H2), we note that for all $0 < \varepsilon < 1/3$, $\exists 0 < \delta < 1$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) &> 1 - \varepsilon, & P_{j_1 j_2; j_1 j_2}(t) &> 1 - \varepsilon, \\ P_{j_1 j_2; i_1 i_2}(t) &< \varepsilon \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

provided $0 < t \leq \delta$.

For $\forall 0 \leq h < t$, set $n = \langle t/h \rangle$, where $\langle a \rangle = \max_{n \leq a} \{n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(h) &= P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}(h), \\ P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh) &= \sum_{(r_1, r_2) \neq (j_1, j_2)} P_{i_1 i_2; r_1 r_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}((m-1)h) P_{r_1 r_2; k_1 k_2}(h), \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

where $P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh)$ means that the probability of the $\gamma(t)$ will not reach to (j_1, j_2) at times $h, 2h, \dots, (m-1)h$ but will reach to (k_1, k_2) at time mh . Note that if $h \leq t \leq \delta$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &> 1 - P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(t) \\ &= \sum_{(k_1, k_2) \neq (i_1, i_2)} P_{i_1 i_2; k_1 k_2}(t) \geq P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t) \\ &\geq \sum_{m=1}^n P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh) P_{j_1 j_2; j_1 j_2}(t - mh) \\ &\geq (1 - \varepsilon) \sum_{m=1}^n P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh), \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

which indicates

$$\sum_{m=1}^n P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon}. \quad (30)$$

Then making use of

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(mh) &= P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh) \\ &+ \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(lh) P_{j_1 j_2; i_1 i_2}((m-l)h), \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(mh) &\geq P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}(mh) - \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}(lh) \\ &\geq 1 - \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon}. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} &P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t) \\ &> \sum_{m=1}^n P_{i_1 i_2; i_1 i_2}^{(j_1 j_2)}((m-1)h) P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(h) P_{j_1 j_2; j_1 j_2}(t - mh) \\ &\geq n \left(1 - \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon}\right) P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(h) (1 - \varepsilon) \\ &\geq n(1 - 3\varepsilon) P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(h). \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Dividing both sides of the above inequality by h and noting $nh \rightarrow t$ whenever $h \rightarrow 0$ yield

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(h)}{h} \leq \frac{1}{1 - 3\varepsilon} \frac{P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t)}{t} < \infty. \quad (34)$$

Then letting $t \rightarrow 0$ gives

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(h)}{h} \leq \frac{1}{1 - 3\varepsilon} \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t)}{t}, \quad (35)$$

and the required assertion follows immediately by letting $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. This completes the proof. \square

Set $\gamma(t) = (\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t))$, then it is easy to see that almost every sample path of $\gamma(t)$ is a right continuous step function. Now letting $\mathbf{P}(t) = (P_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2}(t))_{N_1 N_2 \times N_1 N_2}$, $\mathbf{Q} = (q_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2})_{N_1 N_2 \times N_1 N_2} = \mathbf{P}'(0)$. Then by Chapman-Kolmogorov equation

$$\mathbf{P}(t+h) = \mathbf{P}(t) \mathbf{P}(h) = \mathbf{P}(h) \mathbf{P}(t), \quad (36)$$

we have

$$\frac{\mathbf{P}(t+h) - \mathbf{P}(t)}{h} = \mathbf{P}(t) \left[\frac{\mathbf{P}(h) - \mathbf{I}}{h} \right] = \left[\frac{\mathbf{P}(h) - \mathbf{I}}{h} \right] \mathbf{P}(t). \quad (37)$$

Letting $h \rightarrow 0$ and taking limits give

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}'(t) &= \mathbf{P}(t) \mathbf{Q}, \\ \mathbf{P}'(t) &= \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{P}(t). \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

Note that

$$\mathbf{P}(0) = \mathbf{I}. \quad (39)$$

Then by solving the ordinary differential equations (38) and (39), we obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 5. For $\mathbf{P}(t)$ and \mathbf{Q} one has

$$\mathbf{P}(t) = \exp\{\mathbf{Q}t\}. \quad (40)$$

We are now in the position to give the sufficient conditions for the existence and uniqueness of the solution of (8). For this end, let us first give the definition of the solution.

Definition 6. An \mathbb{R}^n -valued stochastic process $\{x(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T}$ is called a solution of (8) if it has the following properties:

- (i) $\{x(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T}$ is continuous and \mathcal{F}_t -adapted;
- (ii) $\{f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(t))\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} \in \mathcal{L}^1([t_0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ while $\{g(x(t), t, \gamma_2(t))\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} \in \mathcal{L}^2([t_0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times m})$;
- (iii) for any $t \in [t_0, T]$, equation

$$x(t) = x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t f(x(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) ds + \int_{t_0}^t g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) dB(s) \quad (41)$$

holds with probability 1.

A solution $\{x(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T}$ is said to be unique if any other solution $\{\tilde{x}(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T}$ is indistinguishable from $\{x(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t \leq T}$.

Now we can give our main results in this section.

Theorem 7. Assume that there exist two positive constants \bar{K} and K such that.

(Lipschitz condition) for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \in [t_0, T]$ and $(i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}$

$$|f(x, t, i_1) - f(y, t, i_1)|^2 \vee |g(x, t, i_2) - g(y, t, i_2)|^2 \leq \bar{K}|x - y|^2. \quad (42)$$

(Linear growth condition) for all $(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times [t_0, T] \times \mathbb{S}$

$$|f(x, t, i_1)|^2 \vee |g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \leq K(1 + |x|^2). \quad (43)$$

Then there exists a unique solution $x(t)$ to (8) and, moreover, the solution obeys

$$E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} |x(t)|^2 \right) \leq (1 + 3E|x_0|^2) \exp \{3K(T - t_0)(T - t_0 + 4)\}. \quad (44)$$

Proof. Recall that almost every sample path of $\gamma(t) = (\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t))$ is a right continuous step function with a finite number of jumps on $[t_0, T]$. Thus there exists a sequence of stopping times $\{\tau_k\}_{k \geq 0}$ such that

- (i) for almost every $\omega \in \Omega$ there is a finite \bar{k}_ω for $t_0 = \tau_0 < \tau_1 < \dots < \tau_k = T$ and $\tau_k = T$ if $k > \bar{k}_\omega$;
- (ii) both $\gamma_1(\cdot)$ and $\gamma_2(\cdot)$ in $\gamma(\cdot)$ are constants on interval $[[\tau_k, \tau_{k+1}[[$, namely,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_1(t) &= \gamma_1(\tau_k) \quad \text{on } \tau_k \leq t \leq \tau_{k+1} \quad \forall k \geq 0, \\ \gamma_2(t) &= \gamma_2(\tau_k) \quad \text{on } \tau_k \leq t \leq \tau_{k+1} \quad \forall k \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

First of all, let us consider (8) on $t \in [[\tau_0, \tau_1[[$, then (8) becomes

$$dx(t) = f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(\tau_0)) dt + g(x(t), t, \gamma_2(\tau_0)) dB(t) \quad (46)$$

with initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0, \gamma(t_0) = (\gamma_1(t_0), \gamma_2(t_0))$. Then by the theory of SDEs, we obtain that (46) has a unique solution which obeys $x(\tau_1) \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_{\tau_1}}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. We next consider (8) on $t \in [[\tau_1, \tau_2[[$ which becomes

$$dx(t) = f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(\tau_1)) dt + g(x(t), t, \gamma_2(\tau_1)) dB(t). \quad (47)$$

Again by the theory of SDEs, (47) has a unique solution which obeys $x(\tau_2) \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_{\tau_2}}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. Repeating this procedure, we conclude that (8) has a unique solution $x(t)$ on $[t_0, T]$.

Now, let us prove (44). For every $k \geq 1$, define the stopping time

$$\tau_k = T \wedge \inf \{t \in [t_0, T] : |x(t)| \geq k\}. \quad (48)$$

It is obvious that $\tau_k \uparrow T$ a.s. Set $x_k(t) = x(t \wedge \tau_k)$ for $t \in [t_0, T]$. Then $x_k(t)$ obeys the equation

$$x_k(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(x_k(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) I_{[[t_0, \tau_k]]}(s) ds + \int_{t_0}^t g(x_k(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) I_{[[t_0, \tau_k]]}(s) dB(s). \quad (49)$$

Making use of the elementary inequality $|a + b + c|^2 \leq 3(|a|^2 + |b|^2 + |c|^2)$, the Hölder inequality, and (43), we can see that

$$|x_k(t)|^2 = 3|x_0|^2 + 3K(T - t_0) \int_{t_0}^t (1 + |x_k(s)|^2) ds + 3 \left| \int_{t_0}^t g(x_k(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) I_{[[t_0, \tau_k]]}(s) dB(s) \right|^2. \quad (50)$$

Thus, applying the Doob martingale inequality and (43), we can further show that

$$\begin{aligned} E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq t} |x_k(s)|^2 \right) &= 3E|x_0|^2 + 3K(T - t_0) \int_{t_0}^t (1 + E|x_k(s)|^2) ds \\ &\quad + 12E \int_{t_0}^t |g(x_k(s), s, \gamma_2(s))|^2 I_{[[t_0, \tau_k]]}(s) ds \\ &\leq 3E|x_0|^2 + 3K(T - t_0 + 4) \int_{t_0}^t (1 + E|x_k(s)|^2) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

That is to say,

$$1 + E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq t} |x_k(s)|^2 \right) \leq 1 + 3E|x_0|^2 + 3K(T - t_0 + 4) \times \int_{t_0}^t \left[1 + E \sup_{t_0 \leq r \leq s} |x_k(r)|^2 \right] ds. \quad (52)$$

Using the Gronwall inequality leads to

$$1 + E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq t} |x_k(s)|^2 \right) \leq (1 + 3E|x_0|^2) \exp \{3K(T - t_0)(T - t_0 + 4)\}. \tag{53}$$

Consequently,

$$1 + E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq \tau_k} |x(t)|^2 \right) \leq (1 + 3E|x_0|^2) \exp \{3K(T - t_0)(T - t_0 + 4)\}. \tag{54}$$

Then the required inequality (44) follows immediately by letting $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Condition (42) indicates that the coefficients $f(x, t, i_1)$ and $g(x, t, i_2)$ do not change faster than a linear function of x as change in x . This means in particular the continuity of $f(x, t, i_1)$ and $g(x, t, i_2)$ in x for all $t \in [t_0, T]$. Then functions that are discontinuous with respect to x are excluded as the coefficients. Besides, there are many functions that do not satisfy the Lipschitz condition. These imply that the Lipschitz condition is too restrictive. To improve this Lipschitz condition let us introduce the concept of local solution. \square

Definition 8. Let σ_∞ be a stopping time such that $t_0 \leq \sigma_\infty \leq T$ a.s. An \mathbb{R}^n -valued \mathcal{F}_t -adapted continuous stochastic process $\{x(t)\}_{t_0 \leq t < \sigma_\infty}$ is called a local solution of (8) if $x(t_0) = x_0$ and, moreover, there is a nondecreasing sequence $\{\sigma_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ such that $t_0 \leq \{\sigma_k\} \uparrow \sigma_\infty$ a.s. and

$$x(t) = x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} f(x(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) ds + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) dB(s) \tag{55}$$

holds for any $t \in [t_0, T)$ and $k \geq 1$ with probability one. If, furthermore,

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow +\sigma_\infty} |x(t)| = \infty \quad \text{whenever } \sigma_\infty < T, \tag{56}$$

then it is called a maximal local solution and σ_∞ is called the explosion time. A maximal local solution $\{x(t) : t_0 \leq t < \sigma_\infty\}$ is said to be unique if any other maximal local solution $\{\bar{x}(t) : t_0 \leq t < \bar{\sigma}_\infty\}$ is indistinguishable from it, namely, $\sigma_\infty = \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ and $x(t) = \bar{x}(t)$ for $t_0 \leq t < \sigma_\infty$ with probability one.

Definition 9 (local Lipschitz condition). For every integer $k \geq 1$, there exists a positive constant h_k such that, for all $t \in [t_0, T]$, $i = (i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}$ and those $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $|x| \vee |y| \leq k$

$$|f(x, t, i_1) - f(y, t, i_1)|^2 \vee |g(x, t, i_2) - g(y, t, i_2)|^2 \leq h_k |x - y|^2. \tag{57}$$

The following theorem shows the existence of unique maximal local solution under the local Lipschitz condition without the linear growth condition.

Theorem 10. Under condition (57), there exists a unique maximal local solution of (8).

Proof. Define functions

$$f_k(x, t, i_1) = \begin{cases} f(x, t, i_1), & \text{if } |x| \leq k, \\ f\left(\frac{kx}{|x|}, t, i_1\right), & \text{if } |x| > k, \end{cases} \tag{58}$$

$$g_k(x, t, i_2) = \begin{cases} g(x, t, i_2), & \text{if } |x| \leq k, \\ g\left(\frac{kx}{|x|}, t, i_2\right), & \text{if } |x| > k. \end{cases}$$

Then f_k and g_k satisfy the Lipschitz condition and the linear growth condition. Thus by Theorem 7, there is a unique solution $x_k(t)$ of the equation

$$dx_k(t) = f_k(x_k(t), t, \gamma_1(t)) dt + g_k(x_k(t), t, \gamma_2(t)) dB(t) \tag{59}$$

with the initial conditions $x_k(t_0) = x_0$ and $\gamma(t_0) = (\gamma_1(t_0), \gamma_2(t_0))$. Define the stopping times

$$\sigma_k = T \wedge \inf \{t \in [t_0, T] : |x_k(t)| \geq k\}. \tag{60}$$

Clearly, if $t_0 \leq t \leq \sigma_k$,

$$x_k(t) = x_{k+1}(t), \tag{61}$$

which indicates that σ_k is increasing so σ_k has its limit $\sigma_\infty = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sigma_k$. Define $\{x(t) : t_0 \leq t < \sigma_\infty\}$ by

$$x(t) = x_k(t), \quad t \in [[\sigma_{k-1}, \sigma_k[[, \quad k \geq 1, \tag{62}$$

where $\sigma_0 = t_0$. Applying (61), one can show that $x(t \wedge \sigma_k) = x_k(t \wedge \sigma_k)$. It then follows from (59) that

$$x(t \wedge \sigma_k) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} f_k(x(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) ds + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} g_k(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) dB(s) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} f(x(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) ds + \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) dB(s), \tag{63}$$

for any $t \in [t_0, T)$ and $k \geq 1$. It is easy to see that if $\sigma_\infty \leq T$, then

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \sigma_\infty} |x(t)| \geq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |x(\sigma_k)| = \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |x_k(\sigma_k)| = \infty. \tag{64}$$

Therefore $\{x(t) : t_0 \leq t < \sigma_\infty\}$ is a maximal local solution.

Now, we will prove the uniqueness. Let $\{\bar{x}(t) : t_0 \leq t < \bar{\sigma}_\infty\}$ be another maximal local solution. Define

$$\bar{\sigma}_k = \bar{\sigma}_\infty \wedge \inf \{t \in [[t_0, \bar{\sigma}_\infty[[: \bar{x}(t) \geq k\}. \tag{65}$$

Then $\bar{\sigma}_k \rightarrow \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ a.s. and

$$P \{x(t) = \bar{x}(t), t \in [[t_0, \sigma_k \wedge \bar{\sigma}_k]]\} = 1 \quad \forall k \geq 1. \quad (66)$$

Letting $k \rightarrow \infty$ gives

$$P \{x(t) = \bar{x}(t), t \in [[t_0, \sigma_\infty \wedge \bar{\sigma}_\infty]]\} = 1. \quad (67)$$

In order to complete the proof, we need only to show that $\sigma_\infty = \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ a.s. In fact, for almost every $\omega \in \{\sigma_\infty < \bar{\sigma}_\infty\}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\bar{x}(\sigma_\infty, \omega)| \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |\bar{x}(\sigma_k, \omega)| = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |x(\sigma_k, \omega)| = \infty, \end{aligned} \quad (68)$$

which contradicts the fact that $\bar{x}(t, \omega)$ is continuous on $t \in [t_0, \bar{\sigma}_\infty(\omega))$. This implies $\sigma_\infty \geq \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ a.s. In the same way, one can show $\sigma_\infty \leq \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ a.s. Thus we must have $\sigma_\infty = \bar{\sigma}_\infty$ a.s. This completes the proof. \square

In many situations, we often consider an SDE on $[t_0, \infty)$

$$\begin{aligned} dx(t) &= f(x(t), t, \gamma_1(t)) dt \\ &+ g(x(t), t, \gamma_2(t)) dB(t), \quad t_0 \leq t < \infty \end{aligned} \quad (69)$$

with initial data $x(t_0) = x_0$ and $\gamma(t_0)$. If the assumption of the existence-and-uniqueness theorem holds on every finite subinterval $[t_0, T]$ of $[t_0, \infty)$, then (69) has a unique solution $x(t)$ on the entire interval $[t_0, \infty)$. Such a solution is called a global solution. To establish a more general result about global solution, we need more notations. To this end, we introduce an operator LV from $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}$ to \mathbb{R} which is given by

$$\begin{aligned} LV(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &= V_t(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) + V_x(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) f(x, t, i_1) \\ &+ 0.5 \text{ trace} [g^T(x, t, i_2) V_{xx}(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) g(x, t, i_2)] \\ &+ \sum_{(j_1, j_2) \in \mathbb{S}} q_{i_1 i_2; j_1 j_2} V(x, t, (j_1, j_2)), \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

where $V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in C^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{R}_+)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} V_t(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &= \frac{\partial V(x, t, (i_1, i_2))}{\partial t}; \\ V_x(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &= \left(\frac{\partial V(x, t, (i_1, i_2))}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial V(x, t, (i_1, i_2))}{\partial x_n} \right); \\ V_{xx}(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 V(x, t, (i_1, i_2))}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)_{n \times n}. \end{aligned} \quad (71)$$

Theorem 11. Assume that the local Lipschitz condition (57) holds. Assume also that there is a function $V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in C^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{R}_+)$ and a constant $\theta > 0$ such that

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} \left(\inf_{(t, (i_1, i_2)) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}} V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \right) = \infty, \quad (72)$$

$$\begin{aligned} LV(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &\leq \theta(1 + V(x, t, (i_1, i_2))), \\ \forall (x, t, (i_1, i_2)) &\in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}. \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

Then there exists a unique global solution $x(t)$ to (69).

Proof. We need only to prove the theorem for any initial condition $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $(\gamma_1(t_0), \gamma_2(t_0)) \in \mathbb{S}$. From Theorem 10, we know that the local Lipschitz condition guarantees the existence of the unique maximal solution $x(t)$ on $[t_0, \sigma_\infty)$, where σ_∞ is the explosion time. We need only to show $\sigma_\infty = \infty$ a.s. If this is not true, then we can find a pair of positive constants ε and T such that

$$P \{\sigma_\infty \leq T\} > 2\varepsilon. \quad (74)$$

For each integer $k \geq 1$, define the stopping time

$$\sigma_k = \inf \{t \geq t_0 : |x(t)| \geq k\}. \quad (75)$$

Since $\sigma_k \rightarrow \sigma_\infty$ almost surely, we can find a sufficiently large integer k_0 for

$$P \{\sigma_k \leq T\} > \varepsilon, \quad \forall k \geq k_0. \quad (76)$$

Fix any $k \geq k_0$, then for any $t_0 \leq t \leq T$, by virtue of the generalized Itô formula (see, e.g., [1])

$$\begin{aligned} & EV(x(t \wedge \sigma_k), t \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(t \wedge \sigma_k)) \\ &= V(x_0, t_0, \gamma_0) + E \int_{t_0}^{t \wedge \sigma_k} LV(x(s), s, \gamma(s)) ds \\ &\leq V(x_0, t_0, \gamma_0) + \theta(T - t_0) \\ &+ \theta \int_{t_0}^t EV(x(s \wedge \sigma_k), s \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(s \wedge \sigma_k)) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (77)$$

Making use of the Gronwall inequality gives

$$\begin{aligned} & EV(x(t \wedge \sigma_k), t \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(t \wedge \sigma_k)) \\ &\leq [V(x_0, t_0, \gamma_0) + \theta(T - t_0)] \exp \{\theta(T - t_0)\}. \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & E(I_{\{\sigma_k \leq T\}} V(x(\sigma_k), \sigma_k, \gamma(\sigma_k))) \\ &\leq [V(x_0, t_0, \gamma_0) + \theta(T - t_0)] \exp \{\theta(T - t_0)\}. \end{aligned} \quad (79)$$

At the same time, set

$$g_k = \inf \{V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) : |x| \geq k, t \in [t_0, T], (i_1, i_2) \in \mathbb{S}\}. \quad (80)$$

Then (72) means $g_k \rightarrow \infty$. It follows from (76) and (79) that

$$\begin{aligned} & [V(x_0, t_0, \gamma_0) + \theta(T - t_0)] \exp\{\theta(T - t_0)\} \\ & \geq g_k P\{\sigma_k \leq T\} \geq \varepsilon g_k. \end{aligned} \tag{81}$$

Letting $k \rightarrow \infty$ yields a contradiction, that is to say, $\sigma_\infty = \infty$. The proof is complete. \square

3. L^P -Estimates

In the previous section, we have investigated the existence and uniqueness of the solution to (8). In this section, as above, let $x(t), t_0 \leq t \leq T$ be the unique solution of (8) with initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0$ and $\gamma(t_0)$, and we will estimate the p th moment of the solution.

Theorem 12. Assume that there is a function $V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in C^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{R}_+)$ and positive constants p, η, θ such that for all $(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}$,

$$\eta|x|^p \leq V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)), \tag{82}$$

$$LV(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \leq \theta V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)). \tag{83}$$

Assume also the initial condition $x(t_0) = x_0$ and $\gamma(t_0)$ obeys $EV(x_0, t_0, \gamma(t_0)) < \infty$, then one has

$$\begin{aligned} & E|x(t)|^p \\ & \leq \frac{EV(x_0, t_0, \gamma(t_0)) \exp\{\theta(t - t_0)\}}{\eta}, \quad \forall t \in [t_0, T]. \end{aligned} \tag{84}$$

Proof. For each integer $k \geq 1$, define the stopping time

$$\sigma_k = T \wedge \inf\{t \geq t_0 : |x(t)| \geq k\}. \tag{85}$$

Thus $\sigma_k \rightarrow T$ a.s. Using the generalized Itô's formula and (83), we obtain that for $t \in [t_0, T]$

$$\begin{aligned} & EV(x(t \wedge \sigma_k), t \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(t \wedge \sigma_k)) \\ & \leq EV(x_0, t_0, \gamma(t_0)) \\ & \quad + \theta \int_{t_0}^t EV(x(s \wedge \sigma_k), s \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(s \wedge \sigma_k)) ds. \end{aligned} \tag{86}$$

Then the Gronwall inequality indicates

$$\begin{aligned} & EV(x(t \wedge \sigma_k), t \wedge \sigma_k, \gamma(t \wedge \sigma_k)) \\ & \leq EV(x_0, t_0, \gamma(t_0)) \exp\{\theta(t - t_0)\} \end{aligned} \tag{87}$$

for all $t \in [t_0, T]$. By virtue of condition (83) we obtain the required assertion (84). \square

Corollary 13. Assume $p \geq 2$ and $x_0 \in L^p_{\mathcal{F}_{t_0}}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. Assume also that there exists a constant $\theta > 0$ such that, for all $(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}$,

$$x^T f(x, t, i_1) + \frac{p-1}{2} |g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \leq \theta(1 + |x|^2). \tag{88}$$

Then one has

$$\begin{aligned} & E|x(t)|^p \\ & \leq 2^{(p-2)/2} (1 + E|x_0|^p) \exp\{p\theta(t - t_0)\} \quad \forall t \in [t_0, T]. \end{aligned} \tag{89}$$

Proof. Define $V(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) = (1 + |x|^2)^{p/2}$. Making use of (88) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & LV(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \\ & = p(1 + |x|^2)^{(p-2)/2} x^T f(x, t, i_1) \\ & \quad + \frac{p}{2} (1 + |x|^2)^{(p-2)/2} |g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{p(p-2)}{2} (1 + |x|^2)^{(p-4)/2} |x^T g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \\ & \leq p(1 + |x|^2)^{(p-2)/2} \left[x^T f(x, t, i_1) + \frac{p-1}{2} |g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \right] \\ & \leq p\theta(1 + |x|^2)^{p/2}. \end{aligned} \tag{90}$$

Then by Theorem 12, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & E(1 + |x(t)|^2)^{p/2} \\ & \leq E(1 + |x_0|^2)^{p/2} \exp\{p\theta(t - t_0)\} \end{aligned} \tag{91}$$

and the required assertion (89) follows.

It is useful to point out that if the linear growth condition (43) is satisfied, then (88) is fulfilled with $\theta = \sqrt{K} + K(p-1)/2$. Now, we will show the other important properties of the solution. \square

Theorem 14. Let $p \geq 2$ and $x_0 \in L^p_{\mathcal{F}_{t_0}}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. Assume also that the linear growth condition (43) holds. Then one has

$$E|x(t) - x(s)|^p \leq C(t - s)^{p/2}, \tag{92}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} & C = 2^{p-2} (1 + E|x_0|^p) \exp\{p\theta(T - t_0)\} \\ & \quad \times \left([2(T - t_0)]^{p/2} + [p(p-1)]^{p/2} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{93}$$

and $\theta = \sqrt{K} + K(p-1)/2$. Particularly, the p th moment of the solution is continuous on $[t_0, T]$.

Proof. Applying the elementary inequality $|a + b|^p \leq 2^{p-1}(|a|^p + |b|^p)$, the Hölder inequality, and the linear growth condition, we can derive that

$$\begin{aligned} E|x(t) - x(s)|^p &\leq 2^{p-1} E \left| \int_s^t f(x(u), u, \gamma_1(u)) du \right|^p \\ &\quad + 2^{p-1} E \left| \int_s^t g(x(u), u, \gamma_2(u)) dB(u) \right|^p \\ &\leq [2(t-s)]^{p-1} E \int_s^t |f(x(u), u, \gamma_1(u))|^p du \quad (94) \\ &\quad + 0.5[2p(p-1)]^{p/2} (t-s)^{(p-2)/2} E \\ &\quad \times \int_s^t |g(x(u), u, \gamma_2(u))|^p du \\ &\leq C_1(t-s)^{(p-2)/2} \int_s^t E(1 + |x(u)|^2)^{p/2} du, \end{aligned}$$

where $C_1 = 2^{(p-2)/2} K^{p/2} ([2(T-t_0)]^{p/2} + [p(p-1)]^{p/2})$. Using (91) yields

$$\begin{aligned} E|x(t) - x(s)|^p &\leq C_1(t-s)^{(p-2)/2} \\ &\quad \times \int_s^t 2^{(p-2)/2} (1 + E|x_0|^p) \exp\{p\theta(u-t_0)\} du \quad (95) \\ &\leq C_1 2^{(p-2)/2} (1 + E|x_0|^p) \\ &\quad \times \exp\{p\theta(T-t_0)\} (t-s)^{(p/2)}, \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired inequality. □

Theorem 15. Let $p \geq 2$ and $x_0 \in L^p_{\mathcal{F}_{t_0}}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$. Assume that there is a $K > 0$ such that for all $(x, t, (i_1, i_2)) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times [t_0, T] \times \mathbb{S}$

$$x^T |f(x, t, i_1)| \vee |g(x, t, i_2)|^2 \leq K(1 + |x|^2). \quad (96)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} |x(t)|^p \right) &\leq (1 + 2E|x_0|^p) \exp\{2p(10p+1)K(T-t_0)\}. \quad (97) \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Making use of the generalized Itô's formula and condition (96), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t)|^p &\leq |x_0|^p + M(t) \\ &\quad + \int_{t_0}^t p|x(s)|^{p-2} \left[x^T(s) f(x(s), s, \gamma_1(s)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{p-1}{2} |g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s))|^2 \right] ds \quad (98) \\ &\leq |x_0|^p + M(t) + 0.5p(p+1)K \\ &\quad \times \int_{t_0}^t |x(s)|^{p-2} (1 + |x(s)|^2) ds \\ &\leq |x_0|^p + M(t) + p(p+1)K \int_{t_0}^t (1 + |x(s)|^p) ds, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$M(t) = \int_{t_0}^t p|x(s)|^{p-2} x^T(s) g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s)) dB(s). \quad (99)$$

Therefore, for any $t_1 \in [t_0, T]$,

$$\begin{aligned} E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right) &\leq E|x_0|^p + E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |M(t)| \right) \\ &\quad + p(p+1)KE \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (1 + |x(s)|^p) ds. \quad (100) \end{aligned}$$

At the same time, applying the well-known Burkholder-Davis-Gundy inequality (see, e.g., [2]) gives

$$\begin{aligned} E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |M(t)| \right) &\leq 3E \left(\int_{t_0}^{t_1} p^2 |x(s)|^{2p-2} |g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s))|^2 ds \right)^{0.5} \\ &\leq 3E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \int_{t_0}^{t_1} p^2 |x(s)|^{p-2} |g(x(s), s, \gamma_2(s))|^2 ds \right)^{0.5} \\ &\leq 0.5E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right) + 4.5E \\ &\quad \times \int_{t_0}^{t_1} p^2 K |x(s)|^{p-2} (1 + |x(s)|^2) ds \\ &\leq 0.5E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right) + 9p^2 KE \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (1 + |x(s)|^p) ds. \quad (101) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the above inequality into (100) gives

$$E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right) \leq 2E|x_0|^p + 2p(10p+1)K \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (1 + |x(s)|^p) ds. \quad (102)$$

Thus

$$1 + E \left(\sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq t_1} |x(t)|^p \right) \leq 1 + 2E|x_0|^p + 2p(10p+1)K \times \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left(1 + \sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq s} |x(t)|^p \right) ds. \quad (103)$$

Then the required assertion follows from the Gronwall inequality.

Up to now, we have discussed the L^p -estimates for the solution in the case when $p \geq 2$. As for $0 < p < 2$, the similar results can be given without any difficulty as long as we note that the Hölder inequality implies

$$E|x(t)|^p \leq [E|x(t)|^2]^{0.5p}. \quad (104)$$

□

4. Example

Consider the following Black-Scholes model:

$$dX(t) = \mu(\gamma_1(t))X(t)dt + \nu(\gamma_2(t))X(t)dB(t), \quad (105)$$

where $\gamma_1(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain taking values in finite state spaces $\mathbb{S}_1 = \{1, 2\}$ and $\gamma_2(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain taking values in finite state spaces $\mathbb{S}_2 = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $\mu(i) = i$, $i = 1, 2$, $\nu(j) = j + 1$, $j = 1, 2, 3$. Taking $\bar{K} = 16$, $K = 9$, then (42) and (43) hold. Therefore, by Theorem 7, (105) has a unique solution.

5. Conclusions and Further Research

This paper is devoted to studying the existence and uniqueness of solution of SDEs with multi-Markovian switchings and estimating the p th moment of the solution. We have used two continuous-time Markovian chains to model the SDEs. This area is becoming increasingly useful in engineering, economics, communication theory, active networking, and so forth. The sufficient criteria for existence and uniqueness of solution, local solution, and maximal local solution were established. Those results indicate that (8) keeps many properties that (89) owns. At the same time, although the hypothesis (H1) is used in this paper, we want to point out that this hypothesis is not essential. In fact, (H1) can be replaced by the following generalized hypothesis.

(H1)': both $\gamma_1(t)$ and $\gamma_2(t)$ are right-continuous homogenous Markovian chains such that $\gamma(t) = (\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t))$ is a homogenous vector chain.

Under hypothesis (H1)', the results given in this paper can be established similarly. It is easy to see that if $\gamma_1(t) \equiv \gamma_2(t)$ and $\gamma_1(t)$ is a right-continuous homogenous Markovian chain, then (H1)' is fulfilled immediately. At the same time, if $\gamma_1(t) \equiv \gamma_2(t)$, (8) will reduce to the classical SDEs with single Markovian chain; that is to say, the classical theory about SDEs with single Markovian chain is a special case of our theory. On the other hand, many theorems in this paper will play important roles in further study. For example, Theorem 15 will be useful when one studies the approximate solutions.

Some important and interesting questions can be further investigated using the results in this paper. For example, approximate solutions, boundedness and stability, stochastic functional differential equations with vector Markovian switching and their applications. In particular, the stability of (8) is one of the most important and interesting topics, and those investigations are in progress.

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