

A SOLVABLE QSDE THROUGH SEMIGROUPS OF OPERATORS AND SOME PHYSICAL APPLICATIONS

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Abstract: In this paper we give a characterization, through semigroups theory, of the solution of a quantum stochastic differential equation (QSDE). In the physical interpretation of the problem, we show that the group that characterizes the quantum dynamics appears as the strong limit a family of translations perturbed by a Gaussian potential. Finally, we use the model to study a two-level atom in an electromagnetic field.

AMS Subject Classification: 81Q10, 81Q80, 81V80

Key Words: quantum stochastic differential equation, number process, evolution equation, exponential vector

1. Introduction

The QSDE, like the Hudson-Parthasarathy equation, has been mathematically studied from several points of view [1], [2], [7], [4], [8], but has not been solved in an exactly manner. In this work, we formalize mathematically the idea of solution given in [1], we also give a physical interpretation in the case $L = 0$ and obtain the quantum dynamics of a two-level atom interacting with an electromagnetic field [5]. This will be done through operators semigroup

Received: November 4, 2012

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theory, characterizing the infinitesimal operator that generates the dynamics.

2. Preliminaries

In this section we give the definition of the Fock space, which is a new Hilbert space builded from a given Hilbert space.

Let \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 be Hilbert spaces; for each $\varphi_1 \in \mathcal{H}_1$ and $\varphi_2 \in \mathcal{H}_2$, the product $\varphi_1 \otimes \varphi_2$ denotes the bilinear form that acts on $\mathcal{H}_1 \times \mathcal{H}_2$ by the following rule:

$$(\varphi_1 \otimes \varphi_2)(\psi_1, \psi_2) = \langle \psi_1, \varphi_1 \rangle_1 \langle \psi_2, \varphi_2 \rangle_2,$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_i$ is the inner product in the Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_i .

Let \mathcal{E} be the set of all finite linear combinations:

$$\mathcal{E} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (\varphi_{i1} \otimes \varphi_{i2}) : \forall i = 1, \dots, n \quad \varphi_{i1} \in \mathcal{H}_1, \varphi_{i2} \in \mathcal{H}_2, \alpha_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

We define an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ over \mathcal{E} , as follows:

$$\langle \varphi \otimes \psi, \eta \otimes \mu \rangle = \langle \varphi, \eta \rangle_1 \langle \psi, \mu \rangle_2.$$

This definition extends to all \mathcal{E} by the bilinearity property and it can be proved that $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is positive definite and well defined.

Definition 1. Let be the space $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$ as the completion of \mathcal{E} under the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ defined above. $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$ will be called the tensor product of \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 ; $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$ is a Hilbert space.

We have the following two propositions whose proofs can be found in [6].

Proposition 1. If $\{\varphi_k\}$ and $\{\psi_l\}$ are orthonormal basis of \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 respectively, $\{\varphi_k \otimes \psi_l\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$.

Proposition 2. Let (M_1, μ_1) and (M_2, μ_2) be measure spaces, and let consider the spaces $L^2(M_1, d\mu_1)$ and $L^2(M_2, d\mu_2)$. Then, there exists a unique isomorphism from $L^2(M_1, d\mu_1) \otimes L^2(M_2, d\mu_2)$ to $L^2(M_1 \times M_2, d\mu_1 \otimes d\mu_2)$ such that, $f \otimes g \mapsto f \cdot g$.

Definition 2. If $\{\mathcal{H}_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is a sequence of Hilbert spaces, let us define the direct sum space as the set

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{n=1}^\infty \mathcal{H}_n = \left\{ \{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty : x_n \in \mathcal{H}_n, \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|x_n\|_{\mathcal{H}_n}^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

Again, the set \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space under the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ given by

$$\langle \{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty, \{y_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \langle x_n, y_n \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_n}.$$

Definition 3. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space, we denote by $\mathcal{H}^{\otimes n}$ the tensorial product of n -th order, i.e, $\mathcal{H}^{\otimes n} = \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{H}$. Let $\mathcal{H}^0 = \mathbb{C}$, and we introduce

$$\Gamma(\mathcal{H}) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^\infty \mathcal{H}^{\otimes n}.$$

$\Gamma(\mathcal{H})$ is called the Fock space over \mathcal{H} ; this space will be separable if \mathcal{H} is separable.

If $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{R})$, then an element $\psi \in \Gamma(L^2(\mathbb{R}))$ is a sequence of functions that is of the form

$$\psi = \{\psi_0, \psi_1, \psi_2, \dots\}$$

where $\psi_0 \in \mathbb{C}$, and for all k , $\psi_k \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^k)$. From Definition 2 we have that the inner product and the norm in $\Gamma(\mathcal{H})$ are:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi, \varphi \rangle_{\Gamma(\mathcal{H})} &= \overline{\psi_0} \varphi_0 + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \langle \psi_k, \varphi_k \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^k)}, \\ \|\psi\|_{\Gamma(\mathcal{H})}^2 &= |\psi_0|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \langle \psi_k, \psi_k \rangle_{\mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}} \\ &= |\psi_0|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} |\psi_k(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)|^2 dx_1 \cdots dx_k < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

To conclude this section we define for each $g \in \mathcal{H}$ the exponential vector $\psi(g)$, of argument g , whose components are given by:

$$\psi_0 = 1, \quad \psi_k(g) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k!}} g \otimes \cdots \otimes g;$$

it can be shown that the set of exponential vectors over the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is dense on $\Gamma(\mathcal{H})$.

3. Study of the QSDE

Let us consider the following Quantum Stochastic Differential Equation (QSDE) [4], [8]:

$$\begin{cases} dV_t = [(W - I)d\Lambda_t - L^*WdA_t + LdA_t^\dagger - (iH + \frac{1}{2}L^*L)dt]V_t, \\ V_0 = I. \end{cases} \tag{3.1}$$

where W, L and H are the operators in the separable Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , while $d\Lambda_t, dA_t, dA_t^\dagger$ are the basic stochastic differentials in a symmetric Fock space.

According to the main results of quantum stochastic calculus [8], the solution of the previous QSDE, $\{V_t\}_{t \geq 0}$, is an adapted process of operators in $\Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)) \otimes \mathcal{H}$, that describes the total evolution of the quantum system along with its environment.

There is a one-parametric group $\{U_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$, canonically associated with $\{V_t\}_{t \geq 0}$; [2].

In order to construct U_t is necessary to consider the second quantization Θ_t , over the symmetric Fock space

$$\Gamma(L^2(\mathbb{R})) = \Gamma(L^2(\mathbb{R}_-)) \otimes \Gamma(L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)),$$

of the unitary strongly continuous group of the translation operator θ_t on $L^2(\mathbb{R})$; which is defined for each $t \in \mathbb{R}$ by

$$\theta_t v(r) = v(r + t), \text{ for all } v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) \text{ continuous,}$$

$$\Theta_t \psi(v) = \psi(\theta_t v), \text{ for each } v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}),$$

where $\psi(v)$ is the exponential vector associated with v .

The operator Θ_t , can be identified with its extension to all space $\Gamma(L^2(\mathbb{R})) \otimes \mathcal{H}$, and satisfies the cocycle property of V_t with respect to Θ_t :

$$V_{s+t} = \Theta_s^* V_t \Theta_s V_s, \quad \forall s, t \geq 0.$$

The strong continuity of V_t and Θ_t and the cocycle property of V_t , ensure the strong continuity of U_t .

We can define the unitary strong continuous one-parametric group $\{U_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$, by means of

$$U_t = \begin{cases} \Theta_t V_t & t \geq 0 \\ V_{|t|}^* \Theta_t & t < 0. \end{cases}$$

By the Stone theorem [9], U_t and Θ_t are generated by some self adjoint operators (their Hamiltonians), i.e., for each $t \in \mathbb{R}$ we formally have,

$$U_t = e^{-itF}, \quad \Theta_t = e^{-itE}.$$

While the operator E is known, the problem of completely characterize the operator F is not easy since, in general F is a singular operator and its domain is described by using boundary conditions.

4. Infinitesimal generator of $\{U_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$

The presents results were studied mathematically in [7]. There, it was considered the $L = 0$ case, and W was an unitary operator that commutes with the self adjoint and bounded operator H , that is the Hamiltonian of the system. The associated unitary group of the QSDE is defined for each $t \in \mathbb{R}$ by [1],

$$U_t \Psi = (\psi_0, U_{t,1}\psi_1, U_{t,2}\psi_2, \dots)$$

where

$$\Psi = (\psi_0, \psi_1, \psi_2, \dots) \in \Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)) \otimes \mathcal{H}$$

with ψ_n continuous for each $n \geq 1$, $\psi_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathbb{R}_* = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$. For each $n \geq 1$ we have,

$$U_{t,n} = \begin{cases} U_{t,n} & t \geq 0 \\ U_{|t|,n}^* & t < 0, \end{cases}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} (U_{t,n}\psi_n)(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= e^{-itH} \bigotimes_{j=1}^n \{I_{(-t,0)}(x_j)v(x_j + t)W \\ &\quad + I_{\mathbb{R} \setminus (-t,0)}(x_j)v(x_j + t)\} \otimes h, \end{aligned}$$

where e^{-itH} and W can be identified with $I \otimes e^{-itH}$ and $I \otimes W$, respectively. I_A is the indicator function of the set A and $\psi_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = v(x_1) \otimes \dots \otimes v(x_n) \otimes h$, $h \in \mathcal{H}$. The definition of $U_{t,n}$ can be extended by density to all $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*^n) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

In [1], an idea was given of how to characterize the corresponding infinitesimal generator; however, there was not given a complete proof of such a result. Here we will outline a characterization of the generator of the unitary group U_t .

Let us consider the dense subspace of $\Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ given by

$$\mathbb{F} = \{\Psi \in \Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)) \otimes \mathcal{H} : \exists k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ tal que } \psi_n = 0 \forall n > k\}$$

Let F_j be the operator $F_j = \sum_{k=1}^j i\partial_{x_k} + H$, defined as

$$D_j = \{\psi_j \in \mathcal{W}_{2,1}^s(\mathbb{R}_*^j) \otimes \mathcal{H} : \psi_j(0^-) = W\psi_j(0^+)\},$$

where, $\mathcal{W}_{1,2}^s$ is the set of vectors on $\Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*))$ whose j -th component is element of the Sobolev space $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*^j)$. $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}^s(\mathbb{R}_*^j)$ is the projection of $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}^s$ on j -particle space $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*^j)$.

Theorem 1. *The closure of the operator F on $\Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ given by $F\Psi = (0, F_1\psi_1, \dots, F_n\psi_n, \dots)$ with domain $\mathcal{D} = \{\Psi \in \mathcal{F} : \psi_j \in D_j, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$, is the infinitesimal generator of the strongly continuous group $\{U_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ in $\Gamma^s(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)) \otimes \mathcal{H}$.*

In order to proof the previous theorem let us consider the one particle space, i.e., the first component of the Fock space.

Proposition 3. *The closure of the operator $F_1 = i\partial_x + H$ with domain $D_1 = \{\psi \in \mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H} : \psi(0^-) = W\psi(0^+)\}$ is the infinitesimal generator of the strongly continuous group of unitary operators. $\{U_{t,1}\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ in $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)$.*

Proof. The proof is to show that D_1 is an essential domain for F_1 . Because of a well known result for essential domains of infinitesimal generators [2]; is enough to proof the following:

1. D_1 is dense on $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H}$.
2. D_1 remains invariant under $U_{t,1}$.
3. $D_1 \subset D(F_1)$.

To illustrate the demonstration of these points, we will only consider the proof of point (3). Let $\psi \in D_1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \frac{1}{t}(U_{t,1} - I)\psi(x) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right\|^2 \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{-t} \left| \frac{1}{t}(U_{t,1} - I)\psi(x) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right|^2 dx \\ &+ \int_{-t}^0 \left| \frac{1}{t}(U_{t,1} - I)\psi(x) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right|^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \int_0^\infty \left| \frac{1}{t}(U_{t,1} - I)\psi(x) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right|^2 dx.$$

The first and third integrals tends to zero as $t \rightarrow 0$, this is because of the fact that the operator iF_1 defined on $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ is the infinitesimal generator of the unitary group $(V_t\psi)(x) = e^{-itH}\psi(x + t)$, for each continuous function $\psi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H}$.

To perform the the second integral, we can introduce the function

$$\tilde{\psi}(x) = \begin{cases} W\psi(x) & , x \geq 0 \\ \psi(x) & , x < 0 \end{cases}$$

by substituting in the second integral we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-t}^0 \left| \frac{1}{t}(U_{t,1} - I)\psi(x) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{-t}^0 \left| \frac{1}{t}(e^{-itH}W\psi(x + t) - \psi(x)) - (i\partial_x + H)\psi(x) \right|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{-t}^0 \left| \frac{1}{t}(e^{-itH}\tilde{\psi}(x + t) - \tilde{\psi}(x)) - (i\partial_x + H)\tilde{\psi}(x) \right|^2 dx \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

when $t \rightarrow 0$, the last limit holds because the operator $-\partial_x + iH$ defined in $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ is the infinitesimal generator of the unitary group

$$(V_t\psi)(x) = e^{-itH}\psi(x + t), \quad \psi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_*) \otimes \mathcal{H}.$$

In this way we have proved that $D_1 \subset D(F_1)$. □

The proof of Theorem 1 can be completed by taking the second quantization of the unitary group and its generator in proposition 3. This method allows to determine the essential domain of the operator F .

5. Physical Applications

5.1. Linear Motion of a Photon with Local Interaction

If we consider the group $U_{t,1}$ in $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)$, i.e., if $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}$; and we take the operators $W = e^{i\theta}$ and $H = 0$ with θ a real nonzero, then we obtain the strongly continuous group of unitary operators

$$U_{t,1}^\theta = \begin{cases} U_{t,1}^{\theta+} & , t \geq 0 \\ U_{|t|,1}^{\theta*} & , t < 0 \end{cases}$$

where, for each $t \geq 0$

$$\left(U_{t,1}^{\theta+} \right) (x) = \psi(x + t) \{ e^{i\theta} I_{(-t,0)}(x) + I_{\mathbb{R} \setminus (-t,0)}(x) \}.$$

Physically, this system models the evolution of a photon that moves across an optical axis (the real line), from right to left and, permanently interacts at the origin, with an external quantum system, which imprints to it a phase shift equal to $e^{i\theta}$.

According to proposition 3, the infinitesimal generator of $U_{t,1}^\theta$ is the closure of the operator $F_1^\theta = i\partial_x$ with domain $D_1 = \{ \psi \in \mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*) : \psi(0^-) = e^{i\theta} \psi(0^+) \}$.

If for each $t \in \mathbb{R}$ we define on $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)$ the family of operators given by

$$U_{t,1}^{\theta,\alpha} = \begin{cases} U_{t,1}^{\theta,\alpha+} & , t \geq 0 \\ U_{|t|,1}^{\theta,\alpha*} & , t < 0 \end{cases}$$

where, for each $t \geq 0$

$$\left(U_{t,1}^{\theta,\alpha+} \psi \right) (x) = \psi(x + t) e^{i\theta \int_0^t V_\alpha(x+t-\tau) d\tau}$$

with $V_\alpha = (2\pi\alpha)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\alpha}}$, then the following propositions can be established:

Proposition 4. *The family $\{U_{t,1}^{\theta,\alpha}\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ is a strongly continuous group of unitary operators in $L^2(\mathbb{R}_*)$ whose infinitesimal generator is the operator $F_1^{\theta,\alpha} = \partial_x + i\theta V_\alpha$ defined on $\mathcal{W}_{2,1}(\mathbb{R}_*)$.*

Proposition 5. *$U_{t,1}^{\theta,\alpha} \rightarrow U_{t,1}^\theta$ when $\alpha \rightarrow 0^+$ strongly in $\mathcal{B}(L^2(\mathbb{R}_*))$. Then, $F_1^{\theta,\alpha} \rightarrow F_1^\theta$ when $\alpha \rightarrow 0^+$ strongly in the resolvers sense.*

According to these propositions, the dynamics generated by the operator F_1^θ , is the limit of the dynamics generated by the operator $F_1^{\theta,\alpha}$, when $\alpha \rightarrow 0^+$.

5.2. Two-Level Atom Model

In quantum optics the basic model consists of some physical system of interest, for example, a two-level atom, a cloud of atoms, or an atom in a cavity, in interaction with an electromagnetic field. The interaction between the electromagnetic field and the system is described by quantum electrodynamics [3].

Suppose we are studying a two-level atom in interaction with the electromagnetic field; in this case the operators W , L y H acting over $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2$, are

given by

$$W = I, \quad L = \gamma\sigma_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \gamma & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H = \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2}\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2} \end{pmatrix},$$

where \hbar is the Planck constant, $\gamma \geq 0$ is a decay parameter, ω_0 the atomic frequency and $\hbar\omega_0$ the difference of energy between the two levels. The interaction with the electromagnetic field is through the QSDE:

$$\begin{cases} dV_t = [LdA_t^\dagger - L^*dA_t - (iH + \frac{1}{2}L^*L)dt]V_t \\ V_0 = I. \end{cases} \tag{5.1}$$

Now, taking into account the two-level atom model, we have

$$\begin{cases} dV_t = [\gamma\sigma_-dA_t^\dagger - \gamma\sigma_+dA_t - \frac{\gamma^2}{2}\sigma_+\sigma_-dt - i\frac{\hbar}{2}\sigma_z]V_t \\ V_0 = I, \end{cases} \tag{5.2}$$

whose formal solution is:

$$V_t = \mathcal{T}exp\left\{\int_0^t \gamma\sigma_-dA_s^\dagger - \gamma\sigma_+dA_s - i\frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2}\sigma_z ds\right\},$$

where \mathcal{T} denotes the time-ordered product of operators.

6. Summary

By a different approach from that developed by A. Chebotarev [1] and [2], we studied the problem of characterizing the solution of a QSDE in the framework of the theory of operators. The method outlined in third section allows to characterize the infinitesimal generator of the unitary group $\{U_t\}_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$. This unitary group admits the physical interpretation described in the fourth section and it is the strong limit of a family of translations perturbed by a Gaussian potential. Formally, the family of infinitesimal generators of these unitary groups is the singular operator $\partial_x + \delta_0$ with δ_0 the Dirac delta measure concentrated at the origin; in our approach this singular operator was rigorously defined as the operator F_1^θ .

In physics, there also exist some systems that could be modeled through equations like (3.1), such is the case of the equation for the amplitude of a laser, which must consider noise effects due to both the quantum nature of the laser, and its interaction with the environment [10]. Such noise could be modeled through stochastic processes and modeled in a QSDE as (3.1); however, to complete the connection further studies are still required.

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