

Short communication

Fractional generalization of Kac integral

Vasily E. Tarasov^{a,b,*}, George M. Zaslavsky^{a,c}

^a *Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University, 251 Mercer Street, New York, NY 10012, USA*

^b *Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Moscow State University, Moscow 119992, Russia*

^c *Department of Physics, New York University, 2-4 Washington Place, New York, NY 10003, USA*

Received 17 April 2007; accepted 23 April 2007

Available online 10 May 2007

Abstract

Generalization of the Kac integral and Kac method for paths measure based on the Lévy distribution has been used to derive fractional diffusion equation. Application to nonlinear fractional Ginzburg–Landau equation is discussed.

© 2007 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

PACS: 05.40.Fb; 45.10.Hj; 05.45.–a

Keywords: Kac path integral; Levy distribution; Fractional derivative; Fractional Ginzburg–Landau equation

1. Introduction

Kac integral [1–3] appears as a path-wise presentation of Brownian motion and shortly becomes, with Feynman approach [4], a powerful tool to study different processes described by the wave-type or diffusion-type equations. In the basic papers [1,4], the paths distribution was based on averaging over the Wiener measure. It is worthwhile to mention the Kac comment that the Wiener measure can be replaced by the Lévy distribution that has infinite second and higher moments. There exists a fairly rich literature related to generalizations of Wiener measure (see for example [5,6]). Recently the Lévy measure was applied to derive a fractional generalization of the Schrödinger equation [7,8] using the Feynman-type approach and expressing the Lévy measure through the Fox function [9].

In this paper, we derive the fractional generalization of the diffusion equation (FDE) from the path integral over the Lévy measure using the integral equation approach of Kac.

* Corresponding author. Address: Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University, 251 Mercer Street, New York, NY 10012, USA.

E-mail address: tarasov@theory.sinp.msu.ru (V.E. Tarasov).

2. Lévy distribution

Let us consider the transition probability $P(x, t|x', t')$ that describes the evolution of the probability density $\rho(x, t)$ by the equation

$$\rho(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx' P(x, t|x', t') \rho(x', t'), \tag{1}$$

where

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \rho(x, t) = 1. \tag{2}$$

The function $P(x, t|x', t')$ can be considered as conditional distribution function. Then the normalization condition

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx P(x, t|x', t') = 1 \tag{3}$$

holds. Assume that $P(x, t|x', t')$ satisfies the Markovian (semigroup) condition

$$P(x, t|x_0, t_0) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx' P(x, t|x', t') P(x', t'|x_0, t_0) \tag{4}$$

known also as the Chapman–Kolmogorov equation.

In physical theories, the stability of a family of probability distributions is an important property which basically states that if one has a number of random variables that belong to some family, any linear combination of these variables will also be in this family. The importance of a stable family of probability distributions is that they serve as “attractors” for linear combinations of non-stable random variables. The most noted examples are the normal Gaussian distributions, which form one family of stable distributions. By the classical central limit theorem the linear sum of a set of random variables, each with a finite variance tends to the normal distribution as the number of variables increases. All continuous stable distributions can be specified by the proper choice of parameters in the Lévy skew alpha-stable distribution [10] that is defined by

$$L(x, y, \alpha, \beta, c) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp e^{-ipx} U(p, y, \alpha, \beta, c), \tag{5}$$

where

$$U(p, y, \alpha, \beta, c) = \exp(iyp - |cp|^\alpha [1 - i\beta \text{sign}(p) \Phi(\alpha, p)]), \tag{6}$$

and

$$\Phi(\alpha, p) = \begin{cases} \tan(\pi\alpha/2), & 0 < \alpha \leq 2, \quad \alpha \neq 1; \\ -(2/\pi) \log |p|, & \alpha = 1. \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

Here y is a shift parameter, β is a measure of asymmetry, with $\beta = 0$ yielding a distribution symmetric about y . In Eq. (6), parameter c is a scale factor, which is a measure of the width of the distribution and α is the exponent or index of the distribution.

Consider $P(x, t|y, t')$ as a symmetric homogeneous Lévy alpha-stable distribution

$$P(y, t'|x, t) \equiv K(y - x, t' - t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp \exp(ip(y - x) - (t' - t)C_\alpha |p|^\alpha) \quad (0 < \alpha \leq 2). \tag{8}$$

For $\alpha = 2$, Eq. (8) gives the Gauss distribution

$$P(y, t'|x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi C_2(t' - t)}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4C_2(t' - t)}(y - x)^2\right). \tag{9}$$

Eq. (8) gives the function

$$K(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp \exp(ipx - tC_\alpha |p|^\alpha) \tag{10}$$

that can be presented as a Fourier transform

$$K(x, t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(e^{-tC_2|p|^\alpha}), \tag{11}$$

where

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(f(p)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp e^{ipx} f(p). \tag{12}$$

For $\alpha = 2$, Eq. (11) gives

$$K(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi C_2 t}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4C_2 t}\right). \tag{13}$$

In the general case, the function $K(x, t)$, given by Eq. (11), can be expressed in terms of the Fox H -function [7–9,11–14] (see Appendix).

3. Fractional Kac path integral

Let us denote by $C[t_a, t_b]$ the set of trajectories starting at the point $x_a = x(t_a)$ at the time t_a and having the endpoint $x_b = x(t_b)$ at the time t_b .

The Kac functional integral [2,3,15] is

$$W(x_b, t_b|x_a, t_a) = \int_{C[t_a, t_b]} \mathcal{D}_W x(t) \exp\left(-\int_{t_a}^{t_b} dt V(x(t))\right), \tag{14}$$

where $V(x)$ is some function, and

$$\mathcal{D}_W x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n K(\Delta x_k, \Delta t_k) dx_k. \tag{15}$$

For (13), expression (15) gives

$$\mathcal{D}_W x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{dx_k}{\sqrt{4\pi C_2 \Delta t_k}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\Delta x_k)^2}{4C_2 \Delta t_k}\right), \tag{16}$$

which is the Wiener measure of functional integration [15]. The integral (14) is also called the Feynman–Kac integral. Using (10) for $\alpha = 2$, the path integral (14) can be written as

$$W(x_b, t_b|x_a, t_a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} dx_1 dp_1 \dots dx_n dp_n \exp \sum_{k=0}^n (ip_k \Delta x_k - \Delta t_k [C_2 p_k^2 + V(x_k)]), \tag{17}$$

where the time interval $[t_a, t_b]$ is partitioned as

$$t_k = t_a + k \frac{t_b - t_a}{n}, \quad t_0 = t_a, \quad t_n = t_b, \tag{18}$$

and

$$\Delta x_k = x_{k+1} - x_k, \quad \Delta t_k = t_{k+1} - t_k, \quad x_k = x(t_k), \quad p_k = p(t_k). \tag{19}$$

The functional integral (17) can be rewritten as

$$W(x_b, t_b|x_a, t_a) = \int \mathcal{D}x \mathcal{D}p \exp\left(\int_{t_a}^{t_b} dt [ip\dot{x} - C_2 p^2 - V(x)]\right), \tag{20}$$

where

$$\mathcal{D}x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n dx_k, \quad \mathcal{D}p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{dp_k}{2\pi}. \tag{21}$$

The Kac functional integral in the form (20) is a classical analog of the Feynman phase-space path integral, which is also called the path integral in Hamiltonian form.

For the fractional generalization of the Wiener measure (15) and Kac integral (14), we consider $K(x, t)$ given by (10). Substitution of (10) into

$$W(x_b, t_b | x_a, t_a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \prod_{k=1}^n dx_k K(\Delta x_k, \Delta t_k) \exp(-\Delta t_k V(x_k)), \tag{22}$$

with

$$K(\Delta x_k, \Delta t_k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp_k \exp(ip_k \Delta x_k - \Delta t_k C_\alpha |p_k|^\alpha) \quad (0 < \alpha \leq 2), \tag{23}$$

gives

$$W(x_b, t_b | x_a, t_a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{dx_k dp_k}{2\pi} \exp \sum_{k=0}^n (ip_k \Delta x_k - \Delta t_k [C_\alpha |p_k|^\alpha + V(x_k)]). \tag{24}$$

Similarly to (20), (21) this expression can be written as

$$W(x_b, t_b | x_a, t_a) = \int \mathcal{D}x \mathcal{D}p \exp \left(\int_{t_a}^{t_b} dt [ip\dot{x} - C_\alpha |p|^\alpha - V(x)] \right). \tag{25}$$

This expression is a fractional generalization of (20).

If we introduce formally imaginary time such that

$$i\dot{x} = i \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dx}{ds},$$

then (25) transforms into the Feynman path integral with a generalized action [7,8]

$$S[x, p] = \int_{t_a}^{t_b} dt [p\dot{x} - C_\alpha |p|^\alpha - V(x)]$$

as an action. Hamiltonian-type formal equations of motion are

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = N_\alpha |p|^{\alpha-1}, \quad \frac{dp}{ds} = -\frac{\partial V(x)}{\partial x}, \tag{26}$$

where $N_\alpha = \alpha C_\alpha \text{sign}(p)$.

4. Fractional diffusion equations

It is known that the Kac integral (14) can be considered as a solution of the diffusion equation [2,15]. Let us derive the corresponding diffusion equation for the fractional generalization of the Kac integral (25).

In (25) the integration is performed over a set $C[t_a, t_b]$ of trajectories that start at point $x_a = x(t_a)$ at time t_a and end at point $x_b = x(t_b)$ at time t_b . For simplification, $t_a = 0, x_a = 0,$ and $t_b = t, x_b = x$ are used. In particular, we can consider two following cases of $C[t_a, t_b]$.

- (1) The set $C_f[0, t]$ consists of paths for which both the initial and final points are fixed. The integration over this set obviously gives the transition probability

$$\int_{C_f[t_a, t_b]} \mathcal{D}_W x = K(x_b - x_a, t_b - t_a) = P(x_b, t_b | x_a, t_a),$$

or

$$\int_{C_f[0, t]} \mathcal{D}_W x = K(x, t).$$

The conditional fractional Wiener measure corresponds to the integration over the set $C_f[0, t]$ of paths with fixed endpoints: $x_a = 0, x_b = x$.

- (2) If we consider a set $C_a[0, t]$ of trajectories with arbitrary endpoint $x_b = x$, the measure is called the unconditional Wiener measure. This measure satisfies the normalization condition

$$\int_{C_a[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx K(x, t) = 1, \tag{27}$$

since it is a probability that the system ends up anywhere.

For simplification, we introduce the notation

$$Z[x, t] = \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right), \tag{28}$$

and define the field

$$u(x, t) = W(x, t|0, 0). \tag{29}$$

For the Kac functional integral, we have with respect to (27),

$$\int_{C_a[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x Z[x, t] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x Z[x, t]. \tag{30}$$

Using notations (28), (29), expression (25) for $t_a = 0, x_a = 0$, and $t_b = t, x_b = x$ can be presented as

$$u(x, t) = \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) = \int_{C[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x Z[x, t]. \tag{31}$$

To derive a diffusion equation, we use the identity [15]

$$\exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) = 1 - \int_0^t d\tau \left[V(x(\tau)) \exp \left(- \int_0^\tau ds V(x(s)) \right) \right]. \tag{32}$$

Eq. (32) can be proved by using differentiation by t , and the value of the constant is found from the condition of coincidence of both sides for $t = 0$. For the notation (29), identity (32) has the form

$$Z[x, t] = 1 - \int_0^t d\tau [V(x(\tau))Z[x, \tau]]. \tag{33}$$

Eq. (33) can be integrated with respect to the conditional fractional Wiener measure:

$$\int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x Z[x, t] = \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x 1 - \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \int_0^t d\tau [V(x(\tau))Z[x, \tau]]. \tag{34}$$

Changing the order of the integration in the second term in the right hand-side of (34), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \int_0^t d\tau [V(x(\tau))Z[x, \tau]] &= \int_0^t d\tau \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x [V(x(\tau))Z[x, \tau]] \\ &= \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx_\tau \int_{C_f[0,\tau]} \mathcal{D}_W x \int_{C_f[\tau,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x [V(x(\tau))Z[x, \tau]] \\ &= \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx_\tau V(x(\tau)) \int_{C_f[0,\tau]} \mathcal{D}_W x Z[x, \tau] \int_{C_f[\tau,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x. \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

The first term in the right hand-side of (34) gives

$$\int_{C_f[t_a,t_b]} \mathcal{D}_W x 1 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \prod_{k=1}^n dx_k K(\Delta x_k, \Delta t_k) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \prod_{k=1}^n dx_k K(\Delta x_k, \Delta t_k) = K(x_b - x_a, t_b - t_a). \tag{36}$$

Using (29), (36) and (35), (34) gives the integral equation

$$u(x, t) = K(x, t) - \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx_\tau V(x_\tau) u(x_\tau, \tau) K(x - x_\tau, t - \tau). \tag{37}$$

For this equation there exists the infinitesimal operator \mathcal{L}_α (generator) of time shift such that

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_\alpha u(x, t). \tag{38}$$

Using (31) and (11), we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha u(x, t) = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} u(x, t) - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) u(y, \tau), \tag{39}$$

where $\partial^\alpha / \partial |x|^\alpha$ is a fractional Riesz derivative [16–19] of order $0 < \alpha < 2$ that is defined by its Fourier transform

$$\frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} u(x, t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(|p|^\alpha \tilde{u}(p, t)) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp |p|^\alpha \tilde{u}(p, t) e^{-ipx}, \tag{40}$$

where

$$\tilde{u}(p, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx u(x, t) e^{ipx}. \tag{41}$$

The initial condition $K(x, 0) = \delta(x)$ gives [15]

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) u(y, \tau) = V(x) u(x, t). \tag{42}$$

Then (39) gives

$$\mathcal{L}_\alpha = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} - V(x). \tag{43}$$

This generator is an operator of fractional differentiation of order α .

As a result, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha u(x, t)}{\partial |x|^\alpha} - V(x) u(x, t), \tag{44}$$

which is a diffusion equation with fractional coordinate derivatives. For $\alpha = 2$, Eq. (44) is the usual diffusion equation.

It is worthwhile to mention that the way of obtaining fractional equation (44) is based on the exploiting the properties of integral equation (37), while the expansion of exponents in (24) over small Δt_k has been used in [7,8] for Feynman path integral.

5. Fractional diffusion equations by Kac approach

It is useful also to derive the fractional diffusion equation from (14) using Kac approach described in Section 4. of [2].

The mathematical expectation value of $Z[x, t]$ is defined as

$$E \left\langle \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) \right\rangle = \int_{C_a[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \exp \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right). \tag{45}$$

Using the expansion

$$\exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right)^m, \tag{46}$$

we get

$$E \left\langle \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) \right\rangle = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \int_{C_a[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right)^m. \tag{47}$$

The expression (47) can be presented as

$$E \left\langle \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) \right\rangle = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx Q_m(x, t), \tag{48}$$

where

$$Q_m(x, t) = \frac{1}{m!} \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right)^m. \tag{49}$$

These functions (49) satisfy the recurrence equations [2]

$$Q_{m+1}(x, t) = \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) Q_m(y, \tau), \tag{50}$$

and

$$Q_0(x, t) = K(x, t). \tag{51}$$

Let us introduce

$$Q(x, t) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m Q_m(x, t). \tag{52}$$

Then

$$Q(x, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \exp \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right)^m = \int_{C_f[0,t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \exp \left(\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right), \tag{53}$$

and

$$E \left\langle \exp \left(- \int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau)) \right) \right\rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx Q(x, t). \tag{54}$$

It follows from (50) and (51) that the field $Q(x, t)$ satisfies the integral equation

$$Q(x, t) = Q_0(x, t) - \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) Q(y, \tau). \tag{55}$$

There exists an infinitesimal operator \mathcal{L}_x of time shift such that

$$\frac{\partial Q(x, t)}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_x Q(x, t). \tag{56}$$

Using (50) (49), and (11), this generator can be expressed through a fractional differential operator

$$\mathcal{L}_x Q(x, t) = C_x \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} Q(x, t) - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) Q(y, \tau). \tag{57}$$

The initial condition $K(x, 0) = \delta(x)$ similarly to (42)

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) Q(y, \tau) = V(x) Q(x, t). \tag{58}$$

Then

$$\mathcal{L}_x = C_x \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial |x|^\alpha} - V(x), \tag{59}$$

where $\partial^\alpha/\partial|x|^\alpha$ is a fractional Riesz derivative of order $0 < \alpha < 2$ [16–19] that is defined as Fourier transform of $|p|^\alpha$.

As a result, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial Q(x, t)}{\partial t} = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha Q(x, t)}{\partial|x|^\alpha} - V(x)Q(x, t), \tag{60}$$

which is fractional diffusion equation that coincides with (44). Then

$$Q(x, t) = W(x, t|0, 0) = \int_{C_f[0, t]} \mathcal{D}_W x \exp\left(-\int_0^t d\tau V(x(\tau))\right). \tag{61}$$

Using (52), the approximate solution of (44) can be presented as

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &\approx Q_0(x, t) - Q_1(x, t) + Q_2(x, t) \\ &= K(x, t) - \int_0^t d\tau \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) K(y, \tau) \\ &\quad + \int_0^t d\tau \int_0^\tau dt' \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy' K(x - y, t - \tau) V(y) K(y - y', \tau - t') V(y') K(y', t'). \end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

for small enough $V(x)$.

6. Nonlinear fractional equations

Eqs. (44) and (60) are linear equations with respect to the fields $u(x, t)$ and $Q(x, t)$. In general, nonlinear equations can be derived from the functional integral over the space of branching paths (see [21] and Section VI.4. of [20]). Note that Feynman path integral over the branching paths has been suggested in [22] (see also [23,24]). The multiplicative representations of nonlinear diffusion equations are also considered in [25–27]. As an example of nonlinear diffusion equation, which can be derived from integrals over the branching paths, is an equation with the polynomial nonlinearity [20,21]:

$$U(u) = \sum_{k=2}^m a_k [u(x, t)]^k. \tag{63}$$

Using fractional Kac integral over the branching Lévy paths [28,29], a nonlinear generalization of fractional equation (44) can be derived in the form

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha u(x, t)}{\partial|x|^\alpha} - V(x)u(x, t) + \sum_{k=2}^m a_k [u(x, t)]^k. \tag{64}$$

For example, fractional equations with cubical nonlinearity can be obtained

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = C_\alpha \frac{\partial^\alpha u(x, t)}{\partial|x|^\alpha} - V(x)u(x, t) + a_3 [u(x, t)]^3. \tag{65}$$

Eq. (65) is the fractional generalization of the Gross–Pitaevskii equation [30,31]. For $V(x) = \text{const}$, Eq. (65) is fractional Ginzburg–Landau equation that is suggested in [32] (see also [33,34]) to describe complex media with fractional dispersion law.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by the Office of Naval Research, Grant No. N00014-02-1-0056, and the NSF Grant No. DMS-0417800.

Appendix. Fox function representation for $K(x, t)$

In this section, we use the results of the paper [7] (see also [8]) to demonstrate how the function $K(x, t)$ defined by Eq. (10) can be expressed in the terms of the Fox H -function [9,11–14]. The Fox function representation of $K(x, t)$ can be considered as a fractional analog of expression (13).

To present $K(x, t)$ in terms of the Fox H -function, we consider the Mellin transform of (10). Comparing of the inverse Mellin transform with the definition of the Fox function [9,11], we obtain an expression in terms of Fox H -function.

Using the relation $K(x, \tau) = K(-x, \tau)$, it is sufficient to consider $K(x, \tau)$ for $x \geq 0$ only. The Mellin transformation of (10) is

$$\widehat{K}(s, \tau) = \int_0^\infty dx x^{s-1} K(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty dx x^{s-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dp \exp(ipx - C_\alpha |p|^\alpha \tau). \tag{66}$$

Changing the variables

$$p \rightarrow (C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} \eta, \quad x \rightarrow (C_\alpha \tau)^{1/\alpha} \xi,$$

we present $\widehat{K}(s, \tau)$ as

$$\widehat{K}(s, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} ((C_\alpha \tau)^{1/\alpha})^{s-1} \int_0^\infty d\xi \xi^{s-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\eta e^{i\eta\xi - |\eta|^\alpha}. \tag{67}$$

The integrals over $d\xi$ and $d\eta$ can be evaluated by using the equation [13]:

$$\int_0^\infty d\xi \xi^{s-1} \int_0^\infty d\eta e^{i\eta\xi - \eta^\alpha} = \frac{4}{s-1} \sin \frac{\pi(s-1)}{2} \Gamma(s) \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{s-1}{\alpha}\right), \tag{68}$$

where $s-1 < \alpha \leq 2$ and $\Gamma(s)$ is the gamma function.

Inserting of (68) into (67) and using the relations

$$\Gamma(1-z) = -z\Gamma(-z), \quad \Gamma(z)\Gamma(1-z) = \pi / \sin \pi z, \tag{69}$$

we find

$$\widehat{K}(s, \tau) = \frac{1}{\alpha} ((C_\alpha \tau)^{1/\alpha})^{s-1} \frac{\Gamma(s)\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{\alpha})}{\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1+s}{2})}. \tag{70}$$

Then the inverse Mellin transform of (70) is

$$K(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} ds x^{-s} \widehat{K}(s, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} ds ((C_\alpha \tau)^{1/\alpha})^{s-1} x^{-s} \frac{\Gamma(s)\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{\alpha})}{\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1+s}{2})}, \tag{71}$$

where the integration contour is the straight line from $c - i\infty$ to $c + i\infty$ with $0 < c < 1$. Replacing s by $-s$, we get

$$K(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{\alpha} (C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-c-i\infty}^{-c+i\infty} ds ((C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} x)^s \frac{\Gamma(-s)\Gamma(\frac{1+s}{\alpha})}{\Gamma(\frac{1+s}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1-s}{2})}. \tag{72}$$

The integration contour may be deformed into one running clockwise around $[-c, \infty)$. Comparison with the definition of the Fox H -function [9,11,12] gives

$$K(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{\alpha} (C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} H_{2,2}^{1,1} \left[(C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} x \left| \begin{matrix} (1-1/\alpha, 1/\alpha), (1/2, 1/2) \\ (0, 1), (1/2, 1/2) \end{matrix} \right. \right]. \tag{73}$$

Using the properties of the Fox H -function [9,11,12], we obtain

$$K(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{\alpha |x|} H_{2,2}^{1,1} \left[(C_\alpha \tau)^{-1/\alpha} |x| \left| \begin{matrix} (1, 1/\alpha), (1, 1/2) \\ (1, 1), (1, 1/2) \end{matrix} \right. \right]. \tag{74}$$

Let us show by analogy with [7] (see also [8]) that Eq. (74) includes as a particular case at $\alpha = 2$ the well known Gauss distribution (13). Assuming $\alpha = 2$ in Eq. (74)

$$K(x, \tau)|_{\alpha=2} = H_{2,2}^{1,1} \left[(C_2\tau)^{-1/2} |x| \left| \begin{matrix} (1, 1/2), (1, 1/2) \\ (1, 1), (1, 1/2) \end{matrix} \right. \right]. \quad (75)$$

The series expansion for the function (75) gives

$$K(x, \tau)|_{\alpha=2} = \frac{1}{2} (C_2\tau)^{-1/2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-C_2\tau)^{-1/2})^k \frac{|x|^k}{k!} \frac{1}{\Gamma(\frac{1-k}{2})}. \quad (76)$$

Substituting of $k \rightarrow 2l$ into (76), and using

$$\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} - l\right) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{(-1)^l (2l)!} (2)^{2l} l!, \quad (77)$$

the function $K(x, \tau)$ can be rewritten as

$$K(x, \tau)|_{\alpha=2} = \frac{(C_2\tau)^{-1/2}}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (-C_2\tau)^{-1/2})^{2l} \frac{(-1)^l x^{2l}}{2^{2l} l!} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi C_2\tau}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4C_2\tau}\right). \quad (78)$$

Thus, it is shown that (13) can be derived from Eq. (74) with $\alpha = 2$.

References

- [1] Kac M. On the distributions of certain Wiener functionals-Preliminary report. Bull Am Math Soc 1948;54:64;
Kac M. On distributions of certain Wiener functionals. Trans Am Math Soc 1949;65:1–13.
- [2] Kac M. Probability and related topics in physical sciences. London, New York: Interscience; 1957.
- [3] Moral PD. Kac formulae: genealogical and interacting particle systems with applications. New York: Springer; 2004.
- [4] Feynman RP. Space-time approach to non-relativistic quantum mechanics. Rev Mod Phys 1948;20:367–87.
- [5] Barndorff-Nielsen O, Mikosch T, Resnick SI, editors. Lévy processes: theory and applications. Boston: Birkhauser; 2001.
- [6] Sato Ken-iti. Lévy processes and infinitely divisible distributions. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 1999.
- [7] Laskin N. Fractional quantum mechanics and Lévy path integrals. Phys Lett A 2000;268(4):298–305. hep-ph/9910419.
- [8] Laskin N. Fractional quantum mechanics. Phys Rev E 2000;62:3135–45;
Laskin N. Fractals and quantum mechanics. Chaos 2000;10:780–90;
Laskin N. Fractional Schrödinger equation. Phys Rev E 2002;66:056108.
- [9] Fox C. The G and H functions as symmetrical Fourier kernels. Trans Am Math Soc 1961;98:395–429.
- [10] Lévy P. Sur les integrales dont les elements sont des variables aleatoires independantes. Ann Pisa 1934;3:337–66.
- [11] Mathai AM, Saxena RK. The H-function with applications in statistics and other disciplines. New Delhi: Wiley Eastern; 1978.
- [12] Srivastava HM, Gupta KC, Goyal SP. The H-function of one and two variables with applications. New Delhi–Madras: South Asian Publishers; 1982.
- [13] West BJ, Seshadri V. Linear-systems with Lévy fluctuations. Phys A 1982;113:203–16.
- [14] Glockle WG, Nonnenmacher TF. Fox function representation of non-Debye relaxation processes. J Stat Phys 1993;71:741–57.
- [15] Chaichian M, Demichev A. In: Path integrals in physics. Stochastic processes and quantum mechanics, vol. 1. Bristol: Institute of Physics; 2001.
- [16] Samko SG, Kilbas AA, Marichev OI. Fractional integrals and derivatives theory and applications. New York: Gordon and Breach; 1993.
- [17] Oldham KB, Spanier J. The fractional calculus. New York: Academic Press; 1974.
- [18] Podlubny I. Fractional differential equations. San Diego: Academic Press; 1999.
- [19] Kilbas AA, Srivastava HM, Trujillo JJ. Theory and application of fractional differential equations. Amsterdam: Elsevier; 2006.
- [20] Daleckij YuL, Fomin SV. Measures and differential equations in infinite-dimensional space. Moscow: Nauka; 1983 [in Russian];
Daleckij YuL, Fomin SV. Measures and differential equations in infinite-dimensional space. Dordrecht: Kluwer; 1991 [in English].
- [21] Daletskii YuL. Composition multiplicative integral of a formal power series. Funct Anal Appl 1980;14(4):309–11.
- [22] Maslov VP, Chebotarev AM. Path integral over branching paths. Theor Math Phys 1980;45(3):1058–69.
- [23] Jarvis PD, Bashford JD, Sumner JG. Path integral formulation and Feynman rules for phylogenetic branching models. J Phys A 2005;38:9621–47.
- [24] Peres Y. Intersection-equivalence of Brownian paths and certain branching processes. Commun Math Phys 1996;177(2):417–34.
- [25] Chernoff PR. Note on product formulas for operator semigroups. J Funct Anal 1968;2(2):238–42;
Chernoff PR. Product formulas, nonlinear semigroups and addition of unbounded operators. Memo Am Math Soc 1974;140:1–121.
- [26] Marsden J. On product formulas for nonlinear semigroups. J Funct Anal 1973;13(1):51–72.
- [27] Sevast'yanov BA. Branching processes. Moscow: Nauka; 1981 [in Russian].

- [28] Le Gall JF, Le Jan Y. Branching processes in Lévy processes: the exploration process. *Ann Prob* 1998;26(1):213–52;
Le Gall JF, Le Jan Y. Branching processes in Lévy processes: Laplace functionals of snakes and superprocesses. *Ann Prob* 1998;26(4):1407–32.
- [29] Vernon D, Howard M. Branching and annihilating Lévy flights. *Phys Rev E* 2001;63(4):041116.
- [30] Gross EP. Structure of a quantized vortex in boson system. *Nuovo Cimento* 1961;20:454–77;
Gross EP. Hydrodynamics of a superfluid condensate. *J Math Phys* 1963;4:195–207.
- [31] Pitaevskii LP. Vortex lines in an imperfect Bose gas. *Zh Eksp Teor Fiz* 1961;40:646–51;
Pitaevskii LP. English Transl Sov Phys. *JETP-USSR* 1961;13(2):451–4.
- [32] Weitzner H, Zaslavsky GM. Some applications of fractional derivatives. *Commun Nonlinear Sci Numer Simul* 2003;8:273–81.
nlin.CD/0212024.
- [33] Tarasov VE, Zaslavsky GM. Fractional Ginzburg–Landau equation for fractal media. *Phys A* 2005;354:249–61. physics/0511144.
- [34] Milovanov AV, Rasmussen JJ. Fractional generalization of the Ginzburg–Landau equation: an unconventional approach to critical phenomena in complex media. *Phys Lett A* 2005;337:75–80. cond-mat/0309577.