

Quadratic Variation

February 12, 2018

Setting up iPython

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from pylab import *
```

Generate and plot a Brownian motion.

```
In [2]: %matplotlib inline

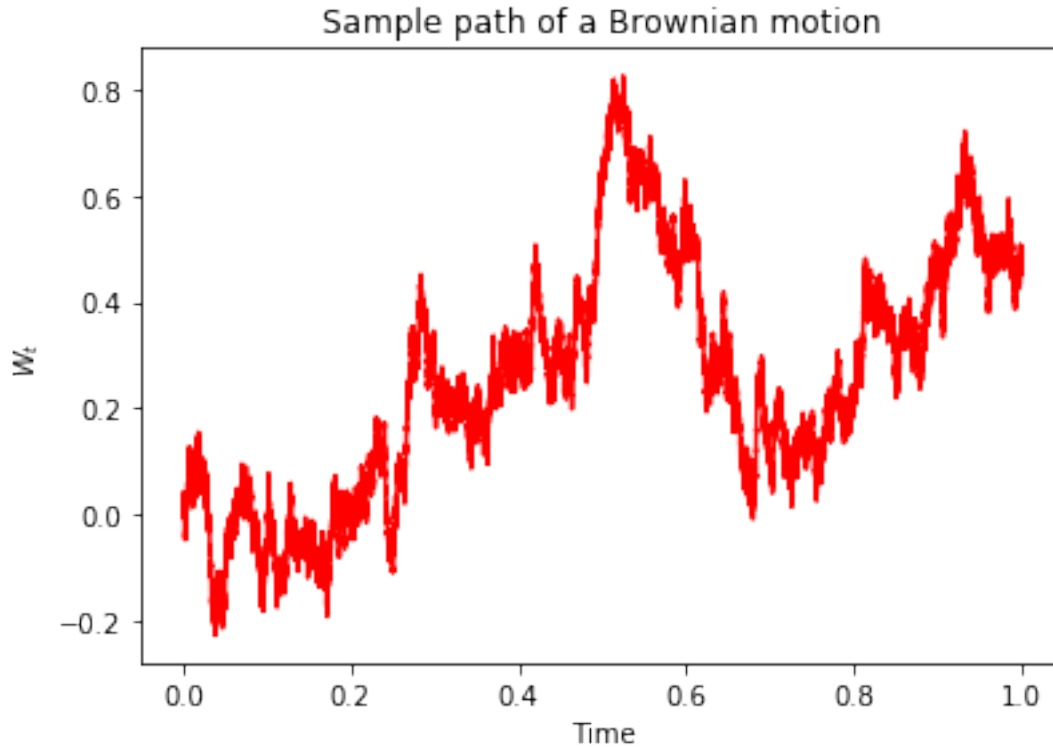
#Normal Increments
noiseT = lambda N,T: np.random.normal(0,sqrt(T/float(N)),N)

# Number of time steps:
N = 1000000
t = np.linspace(0,1,N+1) # time discretisation
# append a 0 to the start of the noise vector, and compute the cumulative sum:
W = cumsum(np.hstack((arange(1),noiseT(N,1))))

fig = plt.figure()
axes = fig.add_axes([0.1, 0.1, 0.8, 0.8])

axes.plot(t, W, 'r')

axes.set_xlabel(r'Time')
axes.set_ylabel(r'$W_t$')
axes.set_title(r'Sample path of a Brownian motion');
```



Now let's compute the sum of squared increments:

$$V_t^M := \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor Mt \rfloor} (W_{k/M} - W_{(k-1)/M})^2$$

```
In [3]: # Write a function to plot the resulting sum of
# squared increments for different values of M
def V_plot(NN,X):
    "This plots V_t^M[X] for all values of M in NN"
    # Set up multiple axes for plotting:
    fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=NN.size, figsize=(12,4))

    # Loop over NN and plots:
    for index, ax in enumerate(axes, start=0):
        M = NN[index] # 1/Size of steps
        K = (N/M).astype(int) # Total number of steps
        t = np.linspace(0,1,M+1) # time discretisation
        # Compute squared differences
        Q = np.square(np.diff(X[0:(N+1):K]))
        # append a 0 to the start of the squared difference
        # vector, and compute the cumulative sum:
        V = cumsum(np.hstack((arange(1),Q)))
```

```

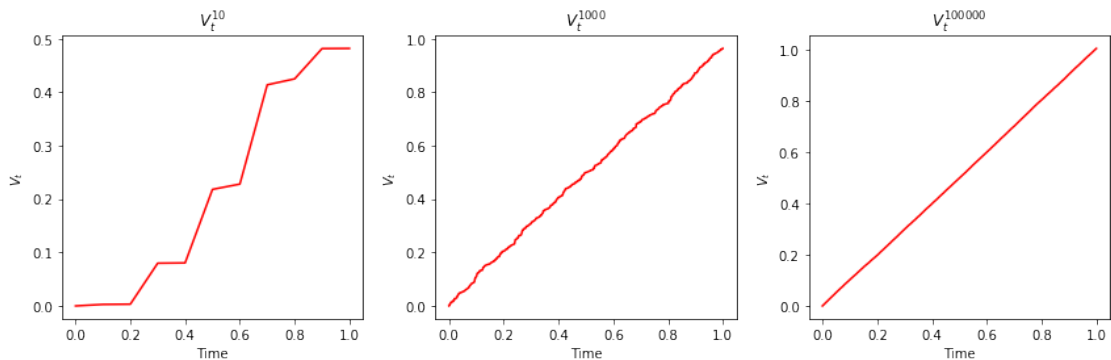
ax.plot(t, V, 'r')

ax.set_xlabel(r'Time')
ax.set_ylabel(r'$V_t$')
ax.set_title(r'$V_t^{\{0\}}$'.format(M))

fig.tight_layout()

NN = np.array([10,1000,100000])
V_plot(NN,W)

```



What we see is that the cumulative sum: $V_t^M \rightarrow t$ as $M \rightarrow \infty$.
 In a similar manner, we can compute:

$$H_t^M := \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor Mt \rfloor} |W_{k/M} - W_{(k-1)/M}|$$

```

In [4]: # Write a function to plot the resulting sum of squared
#       increments for different values of M
def H_plot(NN,X):
    "This plots H_t^M[X] for all values of M in NN"
    # Set up multiple axes for plotting:
    fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=NN.size, figsize=(12,4))

    # Loop over NN and plots:
    for index, ax in enumerate(axes, start=0):
        M = NN[index] # 1/Size of steps
        K = (N/M).astype(int) # Total number of steps
        t = np.linspace(0,1,M+1) # time discretisation
        # Compute squared differences
        Q = np.absolute(np.diff(X[0:(N+1):K]))
        # append a 0 to the start of the squared difference vector,
        # and compute the cumulative sum:
        H = cumsum(np.hstack((arange(1),Q)))

```

```

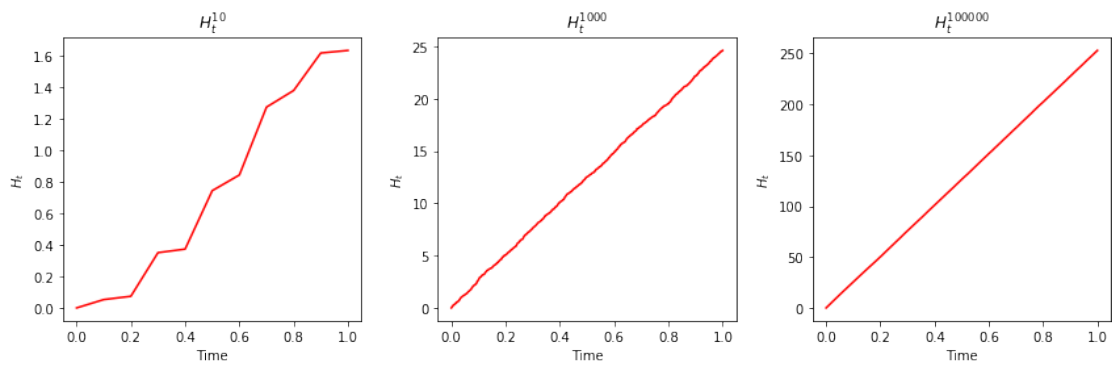
ax.plot(t, H, 'r')

ax.set_xlabel(r'Time')
ax.set_ylabel(r'$H_t$')
ax.set_title(r'$H_t^{\{0\}}$'.format(M))

fig.tight_layout()

NN = np.array([10,1000,100000])
H_plot(NN,W)

```



We see from the scale on the y -axis that the process is growing in N .