

Smoothness of Itô maps and diffusion processes on path spaces (I)

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Abstract

Let $p \in [1, 2)$ and $\alpha, \varepsilon > 0$ be such that $\alpha \in (p - 1, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Let V, W be two Euclidean spaces. Let $\Omega_p(V)$ be the space of continuous paths taking values in V and with finite p -variation. Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $f : W \rightarrow \text{Hom}(V, W)$ be a $\text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ map in the sense of E. M. Stein [27]. In this paper we prove that the Itô map, defined by $I(x) = y$, is a local $C^{k, \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}$ map (in the sense of Fréchet) between $\Omega_p(V)$ and $\Omega_p(W)$, where y is the solution to the differential equation

$$dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t, \quad y_0 = a.$$

This result strengthens the continuity results and Lipchitz continuity results in [19][24] particularly to the non-integer case. It allows us to construct the fractional like Brownian motion and infinite dimensional Brownian motions on the space of paths with finite p -variation. As a corollary in the particular case where $p = 1$, we obtain that the development from the space of finite 1-variation paths on \mathbb{R}^d to the space of finite 1-variation paths on a d -dimensional compact Riemannian manifold is a smooth bijection.

Résumé

Soit $p \in [1, 2)$, et α tel que $\alpha \in (p - 1, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Soit V et W deux espaces euclidiens. Soit $f : W \rightarrow \text{Hom}(V, W)$ une application de classe $\text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ au sens de E. M. Stein, où $k \in \mathbb{N}$ et $k \geq 1$. Dans cet article, nous montrons que l'application d'Itô $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$, définie par $I(x) = y$, où y est la solution de l'équation différentielle suivante :

$$dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t, \quad y_0 = a,$$

est localement de classe $C^{k, \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}$ au sens de Fréchet. Cela nous permet de construire des processus de type mouvement brownien fractionnaire ainsi que des mouvements brownien de dimension infinie sur l'espace des chemins de p -variation finie. Comme corollaire, nous obtenons dans le cas particulier où $p = 1$, que l'application de développement de l'espace des chemins de 1-variation finie sur \mathbb{R}^d à l'espace des chemins de 1-variation finie sur une variété riemannienne compacte d -dimensionnelle est une bijection régulière.

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1 Introduction

Differential equations model the evolution of systems; they can be classified in a number of ways, and fall loosely into two basic classes:

1. The deterministic or autonomous ones: these are specified in terms of a locally Lipschitz vector field f which defines a differential equation

$$\frac{dy_t}{dt} = f(y_t), \quad y_0 = a.$$

2. The controlled or non-autonomous ones: the essential feature that distinguishes these from the former is that one vector field defined the autonomous evolution, while the non-autonomous evolution is tangential to one of a collection of vector fields according to the choice of the controller, chance etc. Choosing a local basis, one might express these non-autonomous equations in the form

$$\frac{dy_t}{dt} = \sum_i f^i(y_t) \frac{dx_t^i}{dt}, \quad y_0 = a. \quad (1.1)$$

The former setting embraces the classical theory of dynamical systems where today most interest revolves around long term behaviour, attractors, etc. In the latter setting there is a much richer local theory, with classical concrete examples giving considerable insight. The Cartan development of a smooth path from the tangent space or Lie algebra into the frame bundle or Lie group using the canonical vector fields provides an excellent example. See [2].

Note that equation (1.1) has an invariance: time re-parameterisation of x and y produces a new solution pair. Moreover one can simplify the expression by assuming vector notation and it is now commonplace to write

$$dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t, \quad y_0 = a \quad (1.2)$$

and refer to the contact transformation taking the control x to the response of the system y as the *Itô functional* I_f [14].

The mathematics of this second class of objects is rich and spans from Hopf algebras to technical aspects of analysis. One area of current research aims to understand the ‘microlocal’ structure and extend classical analysis to allow such equations to make sense when x is not smooth. It is now understood that the Itô functional is defined for any rough¹ path providing the vector fields f are correspondingly smooth.

Interesting evolving systems are not necessarily finite dimensional. For example, there are many examples of real world dynamics where the state of the system is represented by a path or “a thread” that evolves or changes shape. Sometimes the evolution is parabolic in nature and can be dealt with via the techniques of PDE, where the path is regarded as a function and the “vector field” is the Laplace operator. But there are examples of a more hyperbolic nature where it seems that it is better to use modern mathematical methods to understand the vector fields and then use classical techniques to get solutions.

¹a technical term

This paper is in the second direction. The aim of this paper is to develop a machinery allowing one to smoothly regard Itô functionals as the vector fields on path spaces. Our goal is to get sufficient control on the vector fields to allow one to apply the rough path theory to differential equations on path spaces.

The Itô functional $x \rightarrow y$ produces one path from another; suppose that y takes its values in a space M and the control x takes its values in a Banach space E and that $F:M \rightarrow E$ is a smooth map, then $F(y)$ is a path in E . The path $F(y)$ can be regarded formally as a vector field on the space of paths in E and one has a differential equation on path space

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = F(I_f(x))$$

When correctly interpreted, Driver flows [5], as such equations are often called, have proved very natural and useful in probability theory, the classical Jacobi fields [23] and the geodesic equations on path and loop spaces [16, 17, 18] provide other examples with a similar flavour.

The analysis of such equations is not so straightforward. The basic Itô functional makes no sense for general continuous paths x . Even for bounded variation paths it is not so easy to establish the existence of the flow (which corresponds to a nonlinear hyperbolic PDE). Spaces of rough paths seem to provide the correct domain for these vector fields as $I_f(x)$ exists; it is proved in [22] that an evolution or flow does exist even for rough initial conditions. The solution may explode, but exists for at least for a finite period of time; the existence of a flow makes it clear that the functional $F(I_f(x))$ really is a vector field, and is not just a formal object; we can differentiate functions on rough path space in these directions. However, not much else is known, and for example the Lie Brackets of these fields, as well as the smoothness of these vector fields have remained obscure. This is a pity, as smoothness results might allow the direct construction of higher order differential operators, diffusions etc. on these spaces of paths.

The finite dimensional approach to solving a differential equation would have been to check that I_f was Lipschitz, and then use the Picard theorem to get a solution. There is an understanding that this does not work in infinite dimensions because the interesting examples do not have this sort of smoothness; however we show carefully here that this is not correct. We prove that, as the vector fields f get smoother, and for $1 \leq p < 2$ the Itô map is appropriately differentiable in the Lipschitz sense. In this way we get very good control over the errors in system response as one varies a control, and in addition we are able to solve differential equations. Taking matters further we can even use the rough path theory again to solve stochastic differential equations on these spaces directly and so construct interesting and non-trivial flows and diffusions on path space.

These methods can be developed to discuss the Itô functional on the rough paths of any degree $p \geq 1$ and we expect to publish a paper on this second case. However, we believe that even in the bounded variation case $p = 1$, our results are interesting as the differentiability of the control map as a function on paths of bounded variation already seems quite useful in engineering contexts. There is a phase transition of understanding between what happens for $1 \leq p < 2$ and for rougher paths with many new concepts. The case $1 \leq p < 2$ already exposes

some of the essential ideas, and so it makes sense to separate out these ideas and to present this case out in detail.

2 Part I - The Linear Case

2.1 Smoothness of Itô maps between path spaces

Let $1 \leq p < 2$. Let V, W be two real separable Banach spaces. We denote by $\Omega_p(V)$ the collection of continuous paths from $[0, 1]$ into V with finite p -variation:

$$\text{Var}_p(x) := \sup_{\mathcal{D}} \sum_{t_i \in \mathcal{D}} \|x_{t_i} - x_{t_{i-1}}\|^p < \infty, \quad (2.1)$$

where $\mathcal{D} = \{0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = 1\}$, $t_0 = 0$, and \mathcal{D} ranges over all finite partitions of $[0, 1]$. Then Wiener showed that $\Omega_p(V)$ is a Banach space with the norm

$$\|x\|_p = [\text{Var}_p(x)]^{1/p} + \sup_{u \in [0, 1]} \|x_u\|$$

It is straightforward that (1.2) has a solution in the classical sense whenever x has bounded variation. The paths of bounded variation are dense in $\Omega_p(V)$ for every $p' > p$ (see footnote²). By [19, 20, 24], this mapping $x \rightarrow y$ extends uniquely to a Lipschitz continuous functional $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ provided that $f \in \text{Lip}(\gamma)$ with $\gamma > p$. If $y = I(x)$, then y solves the obvious integral equation and can be recovered as the limit in p -variation of the associated Picard iterations. Indeed, the uniform convergence of the Picard iteration process and the continuity of the iteration step ensure that $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ is a continuous and in fact a Lipschitz function in x . We refer to this map as the Itô map or Itô functional $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ and denote by y the solution to the differential equation when driven by the rough path $x \in \Omega_p(V)$. In summary, we have the following

Theorem 2.1 ([19][24]) *Let $1 \leq p < 2$ and $f : W \rightarrow \text{Hom}(V, W)$ be $\text{Lip}(\gamma)$ with $\gamma > p$. There exists a $R > 0$ depending only on $\|f\|_{\text{Lip}(\gamma)}$ such that the differential equation*

$$dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t, \quad x_0 = a$$

has a unique solution $y \in \Omega_p(W)$ for any x that has p -variation less than R . Any path $x \in \Omega_p([0, 1], V)$ can be partitioned into finitely many pieces each of whose p -variation is less than R and so a solution is available for all $x \in \Omega_p([0, 1], V)$.

The case of a general x can then be treated by a careful chaining together of these pieces of x . Moreover, the Itô map $I : \Omega_p([0, 1], V) \rightarrow \Omega_p([0, 1], W)$ is continuous and 1-Lipschitz continuous with respect to the p -variation norms on bounded sets of paths.

Regarding $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ as a map between two Banach spaces, we can then ask whether there is a regularity condition on f that forces the Itô map I to be smooth in the sense of Fréchet.

Recall that for two real separable Banach spaces E_1 and E_2 , a map $F : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ is called Fréchet differentiable if for all $x \in E_1$ there exists a bounded

²Precisely, the dyadic linear interpolations of a path x have a p -variation at most 4^{p-1} times that of x and converge to x in p' -variation for every $p' > p$.

linear map denoted by $dF(x) \in L(E_1, E_2)$ such that for some $\varepsilon > 0$ and all $v \in B_{E_1}(0, \varepsilon) = \{v \in E_1 : \|v\|_{E_1} \leq \varepsilon\}$ we have

$$\|F(x+v) - F(x) - dF(x)v\|_{E_2} = o(\|v\|_{E_1}).$$

By induction, we can define the twice differentiability and k -times differentiability in the sense of Fréchet of a map $f : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$. For this, see e.g. [4] [Section 12, Chapter VIII]. As usual, we call $F : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ a smooth map in the sense of Fréchet if F is k -times differentiable in the sense of Fréchet for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Before stating the main results of this paper, let us recall that for all $0 < \alpha < 1$ the space $\text{Lip}(\alpha)$ of Lipschitz continuous functions on \mathbb{R}^n can be identified as $C^{0,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$, and for any non-integer number $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$, if we let $[\alpha]$ be the integer part of α and $\{\alpha\} = \alpha - [\alpha]$, then the space $\text{Lip}(\alpha)$ can be identified as $C^{[\alpha],\{\alpha\}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$. For this, we refer the reader to E.M. Stein [27] [Section 4 Chapter V, pp. 141-150]. Here we follow Stein in calling a ‘‘Hölder continuous function’’ a Lipschitz function. We also mention that an essential part of the definition in Stein is that f and all its derivatives of order less than α are bounded - in particular linear functions are not globally Lipschitz! This will also explain to some readers why the estimates in Theorem 2.1 does depend on a .

Now we are ready to state the main results of this paper as follows.

Theorem 2.2 *Suppose that V and W are finite dimensional Banach spaces. Let $p \in [1, 2)$, $\alpha, \varepsilon > 0$, $\alpha \in (p-1, 1-\varepsilon)$. Suppose that $f : W \rightarrow \text{Hom}(V, W)$ is in $\text{Lip}(k+\alpha+\varepsilon)$ where $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $k \geq 1$. Then the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ is locally k -times Fréchet-differentiable. More precisely, if we work in the Euclidean norms on V, W there exists a constant K depending only on $p, \alpha, k, \varepsilon$ and $\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon}$ such that for all $x \in \Omega_p$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$, there exists a bounded k -linear operator, denoted by $I^{(k)}(x) \in L_n(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))$, such that for $v_1, \dots, v_k \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|v_1\|_p, \dots, \|v_k\|_p \leq K$, and for $i = 1, \dots, k$, we have the Gâteaux derivatives*

$$I^{(i)}(x)(v_1, \dots, v_i) := \left\{ \frac{\partial^i}{\partial \varepsilon_1 \dots \partial \varepsilon_i} I\left(x + \sum_{j=1}^i \varepsilon_j v_j\right) \right\}_{\varepsilon_1 = \dots = \varepsilon_i = 0}$$

exist in $\Omega_p(W)$ with respect to the p -variation norm, and I is Fréchet differentiable

$$\left\| I(x+v) - I(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{I^{(i)}(x) v^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_p \leq C \|v\|_p^{k + \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Here C is a constant depending only on $p, \alpha, \varepsilon, \|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon}, \|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|v\|_p \leq K$.

The proof of Theorem 2.2 is based on the Fréchet differentiability of the Picard iteration $I_n : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$, $y_n = I_n(x)$, of the differential equation (1.2) given by

$$y_{n+1}(t) = a + \int_0^t f(y_n(s)) dx(s). \quad (2.2)$$

We shall prove that $I_n : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ is locally k -times differentiable in the sense of Fréchet and satisfies the estimate

$$\left\| I_n(x+v) - I_n(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{I^{(i)}(x) v^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_p \leq C \|v\|_p^{k + \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}$$

with a uniform constant C does not depend on n . To this end, we shall first prove that the Young integral

$$(x, y) \rightarrow \int_0^\cdot f(y(s)) dx(s)$$

is k -times Fréchet differentiable from $\Omega_p(V) \times \Omega_p(W)$ into $\Omega_p(W)$ under the assumption $f \in \text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$. By the chain rule and induction, we need only to prove that the map $\Phi_f : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}(W)$ defined by

$$\Phi_f(x) = f(x) \tag{2.3}$$

is smooth in the sense of Fréchet. The complete proof of Theorem 2.2 will be given in Section 2.3 and Section 2.4. Moreover, we can further prove that if $f \in C^{k+1, \alpha}$ with $p - 1 < \alpha < 1$, then

$$\left\| I(x+v) - I(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{I^{(i)}(x) v^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_p \leq C \|v\|_p^{k+1}.$$

Here C is a constant depending only on $p, \alpha, \varepsilon, \|f\|_{k+1, \alpha}, \|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|v\|_p \leq K$.

We emphasise that our techniques establish a rigorous machinery for considering many concrete problems on path space. The space $\Omega_1(M)$ comprises bounded variation paths on a compact Riemannian manifold. Many interesting computational problems arising in variational calculus on Riemannian manifolds aim to approximate (or identify) the global minimum or global maximum of a smooth functional $F : \Omega_1(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The smoothness of the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \Omega_p(M)$ allows us to study the optimisation problems on path spaces by transfer the optimisation problem of a smooth $F : \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to a corresponding problem for the map $\tilde{F} = F \circ I : x \rightarrow \tilde{F}(x) = F(I(x))$.

In the last section we point out that we have developed an infinite dimensional framework where the classical finite dimensional numerical tools (from steepest descent to simulated annealing) can be used. Of course, each specific example has essential features that would have to be addressed before real progress could be claimed (e.g. is the minimum attained). We cannot begin to answer these within this paper and would be delighted if we stimulate others to take up the challenges.

2.2 Smoothness of the Young integral

To prove the Fréchet smoothness of the Young integral $(x, y) \rightarrow \int_0^\cdot f(y) dx$ under the assumption $f \in \text{Lip}(1 + \alpha + \varepsilon)$, where $\alpha \in (0, 1), \varepsilon > 0$, we first prove that the map $\Phi_f : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}(W)$ defined by

$$\Phi_f(x) = f(x) \tag{2.4}$$

is smooth in the sense of Fréchet. It is interesting to note that our proof is essentially finite dimensional and exploits basic harmonic analysis, for example, Lemmas 2.9, 2.11 and Lemma 2.12 take the advantage of the Poisson integral formula and the characterisation of Lipschitz functions in terms of the partial derivatives of their harmonic extension.

Below we collect some elementary facts and results on the p -variation norm and the Young integral. Some proofs are easy and will be omitted. The reader can consult [7, 19, 20, 24] for the definition of the Young integral. Theorem 2.17 is our main result in this section.

Proposition 2.3 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V)$, $y \in \Omega_q(W)$, $p \geq q$. Then $xy \in \Omega_p(V \otimes W)$. Moreover, there exists a constant $C = C_p > 0$ such that*

$$\|x \otimes y\|_{[s,t],p} \leq C\|x\|_\infty\|y\|_q + C\|y\|_\infty\|x\|_p.$$

Here $V \otimes W$ is the tensor product of V and W , $\|\cdot\|_{V \otimes W}$ is any compatible norm on $V \otimes W$.

Corollary 2.4 *For any $1 < p < 2$, there exists a constant C_p such that*

$$\|xy\|_p \leq C_p\|x\|_p\|y\|_p.$$

For any $s, t \in [0, \infty)$, $s < t$, we denote by $\|x\|_{[s,t],p}$ the p -variation norm of $x : [s, t] \rightarrow V$. We now recall the so-called Young-Love inequality. For a proof, see [7] [19].

Proposition 2.5 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V)$, $y \in \Omega_q(W)$. If $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} > 1$, then the Young integral $\int_0^\cdot y_s \otimes dx_s$ exists and is a finite p -variation path. Moreover,*

$$\left\| \int_0^\cdot y \otimes dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} \leq (\xi(1/p + 1/q)\|y\|_{[s,t],q} + \|y\|_\infty) \|x\|_{[s,t],p}.$$

Proposition 2.6 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V)$, $y \in \Omega_q(W)$. Then $F : (x, y) \rightarrow \int_0^\cdot y \otimes dx$ is a C^∞ -smooth map from $\Omega_p(V) \times \Omega_q(W) \rightarrow \Omega_p(V \otimes W)$. Moreover, the first order derivative of F at (x, y) is given by*

$$(v, w) \rightarrow \int_0^\cdot w dx + \int_0^\cdot y dv$$

Proposition 2.7 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V)$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, and $f \in C^{0,\alpha}(V, W)$. Then $y = f(x) \in \Omega_q(W)$, for $q \geq \frac{p}{\alpha}$. Moreover*

$$\|f(x)\|_{[s,t],\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|x\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha. \quad (2.5)$$

Proof. Let $\|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}$ be the Hölder norm of f . Then

$$\|f(x_{s_i}) - f(x_{s_{i-1}})\|_W \leq \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|x_{s_i} - x_{s_{i-1}}\|_V^\alpha.$$

By a standard argument, it is easy to see that $f(x)$ is a finite q -variation path for all $q \geq \frac{p}{\alpha}$ and so (2.5) holds. \square

Combining Proposition 2.7 and the Young-Love inequality, we have the following

Corollary 2.8 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V_1)$, $y \in \Omega_q(V_2)$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, and for all $f \in C^{0,\alpha}(V_2, L(V_1, W))$. If $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha}{q} > 1$, then $z = \int_0^\cdot f(y) dx \in \Omega_p(W)$. Moreover,*

$$\left\| \int_0^\cdot f(y) dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} \leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/q)\|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}\|y\|_q^\alpha + \|f\|_\infty] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}$$

We need two technical lemmas. For a function $f \in \text{Lip}(\alpha)$, $\alpha > 0$ and defined on \mathbb{R}^m we introduce the Poisson integral of f by

$$f_t(x) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right)}{\pi^{\frac{m+1}{2}}} \int \frac{f(x-y)t}{\left(t^2 + |y|^2\right)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}} dy, \quad t > 0. \quad (2.6)$$

Lemma 2.9 *For any $0 < \beta < \alpha$, we have*

$$\|f_t\|_\alpha \leq C_{\alpha,\beta} \|f\|_\beta t^{\beta-\alpha}, \quad \forall t > 0.$$

Proof. By [27] [Section 4.3, p. 145], we see that $f \in \text{Lip}(\beta)$ with the norm $\|f\|_\beta$ if and only if for $k = [\beta] + 1$,

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} f_y \right\|_\infty \leq \|f\|_\beta y^{\beta-k}, \quad \forall y > 0.$$

Hence for all $t > 0$ and $y > 0$, we have

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} f_{y+t} \right\|_\infty \leq \|f\|_\beta (y+t)^{-k+\beta},$$

and therefore

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} f_{y+t} \right\|_\infty \leq \|f\|_\beta \sup_{y>0} \left[\frac{y^{k-\alpha}}{(y+t)^{k-\beta}} \right] y^{-k+\alpha}.$$

Now it is easy to see that $\sup_{y>0} \left[\frac{y^{k-\alpha}}{(y+t)^{k-\beta}} \right]$ is attained at $y = \frac{k-\alpha}{\alpha-\beta}t$. Thus

$$\sup_{y>0} \left[\frac{y^{k-\alpha}}{(y+t)^{k-\beta}} \right] = C_{\alpha,\beta,k} t^{\beta-\alpha}.$$

Hence

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} f_{y+t} \right\|_\infty \leq C_{\alpha,\beta,t} t^{\beta-\alpha} \|f\|_\beta y^{-k+\alpha}, \quad \forall y > 0,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\|f_t\|_\alpha < C_{\alpha,\beta} \|f\|_\beta t^{\beta-\alpha}.$$

□

Proposition 2.10 *Let $\beta > 0$, $\varepsilon > 0$, $\beta + \varepsilon < 1$. Then there exists a constant $C = C_{\beta,\varepsilon}$ such that*

$$y^{\beta+\varepsilon-1} - (y+h)^{\beta+\varepsilon-1} \leq C y^{\beta-1} h^\varepsilon, \quad \forall y > 0, h > 0.$$

Proof. Let $h = zy$. Then the desired inequality is equivalent to

$$1 - (1+z)^{\beta+\varepsilon-1} \leq C z^\varepsilon, \quad \forall z > 0.$$

Let

$$F_C(z) = C z^\varepsilon + (1+z)^{\beta+\varepsilon-1}, \quad z \geq 0.$$

Then

$$F_C(0) = 0.$$

We need only to prove that for any $\beta \in (0, 1)$, $\varepsilon \in (0, 1 - \beta)$ there exists a constant $C = C_{\beta, \varepsilon}$ such that

$$F'_C(z) > 0, \quad \forall z > 0.$$

Note that

$$F'_C(z) = \varepsilon C z^{\varepsilon-1} + (\beta + \varepsilon - 1)(1+z)^{\beta+\varepsilon-2}.$$

Moreover, the inequality $F'_C(z) > 0$ holds for all $z > 0$ is equivalent to

$$\gamma := \inf_{z>0} \log \frac{z^{\varepsilon-1}}{(1+z)^{\beta+\varepsilon-2}} > -\infty.$$

Indeed, if $\gamma > -\infty$, then for all

$$C \geq \frac{1 - \beta - \varepsilon}{\varepsilon e^\gamma},$$

we have $F'_C(z) > 0$ for all $z > 0$.

Below we prove $\gamma > -\infty$. Set

$$G_{\beta, \varepsilon}(z) = \log \frac{z^{\varepsilon-1}}{(1+z)^{\beta+\varepsilon-2}}, \quad z > 0.$$

Then

$$G_{\beta, \varepsilon} = (\varepsilon - 1) \log z - (\beta + \varepsilon - 2) \log(z + 1),$$

and

$$G_{\beta, \varepsilon}(z) = G_{\varepsilon, \beta}(z^{-1}), \quad z > 0.$$

Moreover,

$$G_{\beta, \varepsilon}(0) = G_{\varepsilon, \beta}(+\infty) = 0.$$

Combining this with the continuity of $G_{\beta, \varepsilon}(z)$ with respect to $z \in (0, +\infty)$, we get

$$\gamma := \inf_{z>0} G_{\beta, \varepsilon}(z) > -\infty.$$

□

Lemma 2.11 *For any $h > 0$, we have*

$$\|f_h - f\|_\alpha \leq C \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} h^\varepsilon.$$

Proof. Using the same argument as used in the proof of Lemma 2.9, for sufficiently small $\varepsilon > 0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} (f_{y+h} - f_y) \right\| &= \left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f_{y+\theta h} h d\theta \right\| \\ &\leq \int_0^1 \left\| \frac{\partial^{k+1}}{\partial y^{k+1}} f_{y+\theta h} \right\| h d\theta \\ &\leq \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \int_0^1 (y + \theta h)^{-(k+1)+\alpha+\varepsilon} h d\theta \\ &= (k - \alpha - \varepsilon)^{-1} \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} [y^{-k+\alpha+\varepsilon} - (y+h)^{-k+\alpha+\varepsilon}]. \end{aligned}$$

By Proposition 2.10, for all $y > 0$ and $h > 0$, we have

$$y^{-k+\alpha+\varepsilon} - (y+h)^{-k+\alpha+\varepsilon} \leq C_{k,\alpha,\beta} y^{-k+\alpha} h^\varepsilon.$$

Hence

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} (f_{y+h} - f_y) \right\| \leq C_{k,\alpha,\varepsilon} \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} h^\varepsilon y^{-k+\alpha},$$

which is equivalent to

$$\|f_h - f\|_\alpha \leq C \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} h^\varepsilon.$$

□

Lemma 2.12 *Let $f \in Lip(1+\alpha)$, $0 < \alpha < 1$. Then for any $K > 0$ and for any $x, y \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|y\|_p \leq K$, we have*

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_{\alpha,K} \|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|x - y\|_p.$$

Proof. By the mean value theorem we have

$$f(x) - f(y) = \int_0^1 f'(y + \theta(x-y))(x-y) d\theta.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq \max_{\theta \in [0,1]} \|f'(y + \theta(x-y))(x-y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \\ &\leq \max_{\theta \in [0,1]} \|f'(y + \theta(x-y))\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \|x-y\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \\ &\leq \max_{\theta \in [0,1]} [\|f'\|_\alpha \|y + \theta(x-y)\|_p^\alpha] \|x-y\|_p \\ &\leq \|f\|_{1+\alpha} [\|y\|_p^\alpha + \|x-y\|_p^\alpha] \|x-y\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C \|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|x-y\|_p.$$

with

$$C_{\alpha,K} = 3K^\alpha.$$

□

Theorem 2.13 *Let $f \in Lip(\alpha + \varepsilon)$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Then $x \rightarrow f(x)$ is $\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}$ -Lipschitz continuous from Ω_p into $\Omega_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}$. More precisely,*

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_{p,\varepsilon,\alpha} \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|x-y\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}. \quad (2.7)$$

Proof. Let f_h be the Poisson integral of f on $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^+$, $h > 0$. By Lemmas 2.9, 2.11 and Lemma 2.12, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq \|f - f_h\|_\alpha (\|x\|_p^\alpha + \|y\|_p^\alpha) + \|f_h\|_{1+\alpha} \|x-y\|_p \\ &\leq C_1 h^\varepsilon \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} + C_2 \frac{\|f\|_\alpha}{h} \|x-y\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq \inf_{h>0} \left[C_1 h^\varepsilon \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} + C_2 \frac{\|f\|_{\alpha}}{h} \|x-y\|_p \right] \\ &\leq \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \inf_{h>0} \left[C_1 h^\varepsilon + \frac{C_2 \|x-y\|_p}{h} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to show that the infimum of the right hand side is attained at

$$h = C_3 \|x-y\|_p^{\frac{1}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Substituting this into the previous inequality, we get

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_{p,\varepsilon,\alpha} \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|x-y\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

□

The following lemma holds even for infinite dimensional Banach spaces V and is used in the proof of our main theorem. This representation of differences as integrals seems critical and appears in slight different forms in

Lemma 2.14 *Let $f \in Lip(2+\alpha)$ with $0 < \alpha < 1$. Then for any $K > 0$ and for any $x, y \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|y\|_p \leq K$, there exists a constant C_K such that*

$$\|f(x) - f(y) - f'(x)(x-y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_K \|f\|_{2+\alpha} \|x-y\|_p^2.$$

Proof. Let $R(x, y) = f(x) - f(y) - f'(x)(x-y)$. By the mean value theorem,

$$R_f(x, y) = \int_0^1 (1-\theta) f''(y + \theta(x-y))(x-y, x-y) d\theta.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_f(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq \max_{\theta \in [0,1]} \|f''(y + \theta(x-y))\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \|x-y\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}^2 \\ &\leq \|f''\|_{\alpha} \max_{\theta \in [0,1]} \|y + \theta(x-y)\|_p^\alpha \|x-y\|_p^2 \\ &\leq \|f\|_{2+\alpha} [\|y\|_p^\alpha + \|x-y\|_p^\alpha] \|x-y\|_p^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for $C_K = 3K^\alpha$, we have

$$\|R_f(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_K \|f\|_{2+\alpha} \|x-y\|_p^2.$$

□

The following result uses our estimates that depended on the Poisson extension and plays a crucial role in the proof of our main theorem.

Theorem 2.15 *Let $f \in Lip(1+\alpha+\varepsilon)$, $\alpha \in (p-1, 1-\varepsilon)$. Then $\Phi_f : x \rightarrow f(x)$ is smooth in the sense of Fréchet from $\Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^m)$ into $\Omega_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}(\mathbb{R}^l)$. Moreover, there exists a constant $C = C(p, \alpha, \varepsilon)$ such that*

$$\|\Phi_f(y) - \Phi_f(x) - \Phi'_f(x)(y-x)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \|x-y\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Proof. By definition, we need to prove

$$\|f(y) - f(x) - f'(x)(y-x)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|x-y\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Let f_h be the harmonic extension of f on $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^+$. Using Lemma 2.12 and Lemma 2.14, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_f(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq \|R_{f-f_h}(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} + \|R_{f_h}(x, y)\| \\ &\leq \|f(x) - f_h(x) - (f(y) - f_h(y))\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \\ &\quad + \|(f-f_h)'(x)(x-y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} + \|R_{f_h}(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \\ &\leq C_1\|f-f_h\|_{1+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p + \|(f-f_h)'(x)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}\|x-y\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \\ &\quad + C_2\|f_h\|_{2+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p^2 \\ &\leq C_2\|f_h\|_{2+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p^2 + C_1\|f-f_h\|_{1+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p \\ &\quad + \|(f-f_h)'\|_{\alpha}\|x\|_p^{\alpha}\|x-y\|_p \\ &\leq C_2\|f_h\|_{2+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p^2 \\ &\quad + [C_1\|f-f_h\|_{1+\alpha} + \|(f-f_h)'\|_{\alpha}\|x\|_p^{\alpha}]\|x-y\|_p \\ &\leq C_2\|f_h\|_{2+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p^2 + C_3\|f-f_h\|_{1+\alpha}\|x-y\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Now by Lemmas 2.9 and 2.11, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_h\|_{2+\alpha} &\leq C_4\frac{\|f\|_{1+\alpha}}{h}, \\ \|f-f_h\|_{1+\alpha} &\leq C_5\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}h^{\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence for all $h > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_f(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} &\leq C_6\|x-y\|_p^2\|f\|_{1+\alpha}h^{-1} + C_7\|x-y\|_p\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}h^{\varepsilon} \\ &\leq \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|x-y\|_p [C_6\|x-y\|_p h^{-1} + C_7h^{\varepsilon}]. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the infimum over h we get

$$\|R_f(x, y)\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C_8\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|x-y\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

□

By repeating the argument as set out above, we can prove a general result as follows

Theorem 2.16 *Let $f \in Lip(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$, $\alpha \in (p-1, 1-\varepsilon)$. Then there exists a constant $C = C(k, \alpha, \varepsilon)$ such that*

$$\left\| \Phi_f(y) - f(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\Phi_{f^{(i)}}(x)(x-y)^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}} \leq C\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|x-y\|_p^{k+\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}},$$

where $\Phi_{f^{(i)}}(x) := f^{(i)}(x)$, $i = 0, \dots, k$, $x \in \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Now we are ready to prove the main result of this section. Let V_1 and V_2 be two finite dimensional Banach spaces.

Theorem 2.17 *Let $x \in \Omega_p(V_1)$, $y \in \Omega_q(V_2)$, $f \in Lip(1 + \alpha + \varepsilon, V_2, L(V_1, W))$. If $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha}{q} > 1$, then $\Phi : (x, y) \rightarrow \int_0^\cdot f(y) dx$ is differentiable in the sense of Fréchet from $\Omega_p(V_1) \times \Omega_q(V_2)$ into $\Omega_p(W)$. Moreover, the Gâteaux derivative of Φ at (x, y) is given by*

$$\Phi'(x, y)(v, w) = \int_0^\cdot f'(y_s)w_s dx_s + \int_0^\cdot f(y_s)dv_s.$$

Moreover,

$$\left\| \int_0^\cdot f(y) dv \right\|_{[s,t],p} \leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/q) \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_{[s,t],q}^\alpha + \|f\|_\infty \right] \|v\|_{[s,t],p},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_0^\cdot f'(y) w dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/q) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_q^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\xi(1/p + 1/q) \|w\|_{[s,t],q} + \|w\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let F be as in Proposition 2.6, i.e., $F(x, y) = \int_0^\cdot y dx$. Then

$$\Phi(x, y) = F(x, f(y)).$$

Combining Theorem 2.15 with Proposition 2.6 and using the chain rule, we can conclude that the Young integral Φ is Fréchet differentiable from $\Omega_p(V_1) \times \Omega_q(V_2)$ into $\Omega_p(W)$. Moreover, for $(x, y), (v, w) \in \Omega_p(V_1) \times \Omega_p(V_2)$, we have

$$\Phi'(x, y)(v, w) = F'(x, f(y)) \circ (Id, f'(y))(v, w).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi'(x, y)(v, w) &= F'(x, f(y))(v, f'(y)w) \\ &= F(x, f'(y)w) + F(v, f(y)) \\ &= \int_0^\cdot f'(y_s)w_s dx_s + \int_0^\cdot f(y_s)dv_s. \end{aligned}$$

The estimate on $\left\| \int_0^\cdot f(y) dv \right\|_{[s,t],p}$ follows from Corollary 2.8. By the Young-Love inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_0^\cdot f'(y) w dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/q) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_q + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\ &\quad \times \left\| \int_0^\cdot w dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/q) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_q + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\xi(1/p + 1/q) \|w\|_q + \|w\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

□

2.3 Uniform convergence of the derivatives of the Picard iterates

Recall that our goal is to prove that the Fréchet differentiability of the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ with a quantitative control. The Itô map is the limit of

Picard iterates in the same way that the exponential function e^x is the limit of a sequence of polynomials $\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{x^k}{k!}$. Every undergraduate knows that, as each of these polynomials is differentiable and their derivatives converge uniformly (to e^x), the exponential function e^x is differentiable (with derivative e^x). In Section 2.2 we proved that the Picard iterates are Fréchet differentiable. If we can prove their derivatives converge uniformly on bounded sets we will have our main result on the differentiability of the Itô map.

Let $I_n : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ be the n -th Picard iterate, given by $I_0(x) = y_0 = a$, $I_n(x) = y_n$, where y_n is defined recursively:

$$y_{n+1}(t) = a + \int_0^t f(y_n(s)) dx(s). \quad (2.8)$$

Theorem 2.18 *Let $f \in Lip(1 + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ with $\alpha \in (p - 1, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Then $I_n : \Omega_p \rightarrow \Omega_p$ is Fréchet differentiable. For any $v \in \Omega_p(V)$, let $z_n := I'_n(x)v$. Then*

$$z_{n+1} = \int_0^t f'(y_n(s))z_n(s) dx(s) + \int_0^t f(y_n(s)) dv(s), \quad (2.9)$$

with

$$\left\| \int_0^{\cdot} f(y_n) dv \right\|_{[s,t],p} \leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f\|_\infty \right] \|v\|_{[s,t],p},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} f'(y_n) z_n dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y_n\|_p^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\xi(2/p) \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z_n\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, if for some constant $A \in (0, 1)$, one has the inequality

$$\xi(2/p) \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \sup_n \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p} < A, \quad (2.10)$$

then there is a constant $C = C(\|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}}, p, \alpha, A)$ such that one has the uniform a priori bound

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} < C \|v\|_{[s,t],p}.$$

Proof. By definition, $I_{n+1}(x) = a + \Phi(x, I_n(x))$, where $\Phi(x, y) = \int_0^{\cdot} f(y) dx$. By induction and by Theorem 2.17, I_n is differentiable in the sense of Fréchet and $z_n = I'_n(x)v$ satisfies the recursive formula (2.9). The first and the second a priori estimates follow from the Young-Love inequality. Moreover, by (2.9) and these estimates, we obtain

$$\|z_{n+1}\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A_n \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} + B_n,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A_n &= \xi(2/p) \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p} \\ B_n &= \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f\|_\infty \right] \|v\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

By [19], we see that y_n converges in Ω_p to y , which is the solution of the differential equation $dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t$ with the initial condition $y_0 = a$. Thus $\|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}$ is bounded by a constant $M = M(\|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha},p,\alpha,K})$ for all x with p -variation less than K :

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq M.$$

This also yields that $B_n \leq C\|v\|_p$ for some constant $C = C(\|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha},p,\alpha,A})$. Hence under the condition 2.10 we have $A_n \leq A < 1$, therefore

$$\|z_{n+1}\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A\|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} + C\|v\|_p.$$

By induction, and since $z_0 = 0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq A^n \|z_0\|_{[s,t],p} + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A^i C \|v\|_p \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A^i C \|v\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq \frac{C}{1-A} \|v\|_p.$$

□

Now we are ready to state our main result in this section.

Theorem 2.19 *Under the same assumptions as in Theorem 2.18, for any $A \in (0, 1)$, and for all x with*

$$\|x\|_{[s,t],p} \leq \frac{A}{2} [\xi(2/p) (\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} n^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty)]^{-1},$$

the sequence (z_n) converges in Ω_p with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{[s,t],p}$. If z is the limit

$$z = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n \text{ in } \Omega_p \quad (2.11)$$

then

$$z = \int_0^t f'(y(s))z(s)dx(s) + \int_0^t f(y(s))dv(s). \quad (2.12)$$

and for the some constant $C = C(\|f\|_{C^{1,\alpha+\varepsilon},p,\alpha,A})$

$$\|z\|_p \leq C\|v\|_p. \quad (2.13)$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_0^\cdot f(y) dv \right\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f\|_\infty \right] \|v\|_{[s,t],p}, \\ \left\| \int_0^\cdot f'(y) z dx \right\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{C^{0,\alpha}} \|y\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\xi(2/p) \|z\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By (2.9), we have $z_{n+1} - z_n = I_1 + I_2 + I_3$, where

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_0^t [f(y_n(r)) - f(y_{n-1}(r))] dv(r), \\ I_2 &= \int_0^t f'(y_{n-1}(r)) [z_n(r) - z_{n-1}(r)] dx(r), \\ I_3 &= \int_0^t [f'(y_n(r)) - f'(y_{n-1}(r))] z_n(r) dx(r). \end{aligned}$$

By the Young-Love inequality, Corollary 2.8 and Theorem 2.13, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|I_1\|_{[s,t],p} &= \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} [f(y_n(r)) - f(y_{n-1}(r))] dv(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f(y_n) - f(y_{n-1})\|_{[s,t],p/\alpha} \|v\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\quad + \|f(y_n) - f(y_{n-1})\|_{\infty} \|v\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq C_1 \xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p/\alpha}^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|v\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\quad + \|f'\|_{\infty} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{\infty} \|v\|_{[s,t],p}; \\ \|I_2\|_{[s,t],p} &= \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} f'(y_n(r)) [z_n(r) - z_{n-1}(r)] dx(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^{\alpha} + \|f'\|_{\infty} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} [z_n(r) - z_{n-1}(r)] dx(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^{\alpha} + \|f'\|_{\infty} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[\xi(2/p) \|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{\infty} \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}; \\ \|I_3\|_{[s,t],p} &= \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} [f'(y_n(r)) - f'(y_{n-1}(r))] z_n(r) dv(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'(y_n) - f'(y_{n-1})\|_{[s,t],p/\alpha} \\ &\quad \times \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} z_n(r) dx(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\quad + \|f'(y_n) - f'(y_{n-1})\|_{\infty} \left\| \int_0^{\cdot} z_n(r) dx(r) \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \left[C_1 \xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p}^{\varepsilon/(1+\varepsilon)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|f'\|_{\alpha} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{\infty}^{\alpha} \right] \left[\xi(2/p) \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z_n\|_{\infty} \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_{n+1} - z_n\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq A_n \left[\|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{\infty} \right] + B_n \\ &\leq 2A_n \|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p} + B_n. \end{aligned}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned}
A_n &= \xi(2/p) \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}, \\
B_n &= \xi(1/p + \alpha/p) C_1 \|f\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|v\|_{[s,t],p} \\
&\quad + \|f'\|_\infty \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_\infty \|v\|_{[s,t],p} \\
&\quad + \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + \|f'\|_\alpha \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_\infty^\alpha \right] \\
&\quad \times \left[\xi(2/p) \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p} + \|z_n\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\sup_{n \in M} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq M,$$

we have

$$A_n \leq \xi(2/p) \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} n^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \|x\|_{[s,t],p}.$$

Thus, for any $A \in (0, 1)$ and for all x such that

$$\|x\|_{[s,t],p} \leq \frac{A}{2} \left[\xi(2/p) \left(\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} n^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right) \right]^{-1}$$

we have

$$\|z_{n+1} - z_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A \|z_n - z_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p} + 2B_n.$$

By induction, and since $z_0 = 0$,

$$\|z_{n+1} - z_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A^n \|z_1\|_{[s,t],p} + 2 \sum_{i=0}^n A^i B_{n-i}. \quad (2.14)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|z_{n+1} - z_n\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \frac{A}{1-A} \|z_1\|_{[s,t],p} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^n A^i B_{n-i} \\
&= \frac{A}{1-A} \|z_1\|_{[s,t],p} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A^n \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} B_{n-i} \\
&= \frac{A}{1-A} \|z_1\|_p + \frac{2A}{1-A} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n.
\end{aligned}$$

To show that (z_n) converges in Ω_p we need only to show that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n < +\infty$.

By Theorem 2.18, we have $\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|z_n\|_{[s,t],p,\infty} < C_2 \|v\|_p$. Moreover, from the explicit expression for B_n , we have

$$B_n \leq C_1 \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|v\|_p + C_2 \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_\infty^\alpha \|v\|_p + C_3 \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_\infty \|v\|_p,$$

where $C_1 = C \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}$, $C_2 = C \|f\|_{1+\alpha}$, $C_3 = C \|f\|_1$ and

$$C = C(\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}, \alpha, \varepsilon, p, A).$$

Let $\beta = \min\{\alpha, \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &\leq C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|v\|_p \left[\|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^\alpha + \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p \right] \\ &\leq C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^\beta \left[1 + \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^{\alpha - \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + \|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^{1-\beta} \right] \\ &\leq C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}\|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_p^\beta \\ &\quad \times \left[1 + \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \|y_k - y_{k-1}\|_p^{\alpha - \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + \sup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \|y_k - y_{k-1}\|_p^{1-\beta} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Following [19, p461], there exists a constant $C_4 = C_4 \left(K \geq \max \|x\|_{[0,1],p}^n \right)$ such that

$$\|y_n - y_{n-1}\|_{[s,t],p} \leq [1 + \xi(2/p)]^{n-1} C_4^n \|f\|_{1+\alpha}^n \left[\frac{\|x\|_{[0,1],p}^n - \|x\|_{[0,s],p}^n}{n!} \right]^{1/p}.$$

Hence, there exists a constant C_5 such that

$$B_n \leq C_5 \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \left([1 + \xi(2/p)] C_4 \|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|x\|_{[0,T],p}^{1/p} \right)^{n\beta} (n!)^{-\beta/p}.$$

Therefore for an appropriate constant C we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n &\leq C_5 \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{C^n}{(n!)^{\beta/p}} \\ &\leq C_5 \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \left(C + \frac{1}{C} \right) \frac{p}{\beta} e^{C \frac{p}{\beta}}. \end{aligned}$$

since $(n!)^{\beta/p} > [n\beta/p]!$

Now we come back to the proof of Theorem 2.19 . The convergence of (z_n) in $(\Omega_p, \|\cdot\|_{[s,t],p})$ follows from $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n < +\infty$. Using the continuity of the Young integral (see [20] [24]) and (2.9), it is easy to see that $z = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n$ satisfies (2.12). The lower-semi-continuity of the norm $\|\cdot\|_p$ and the last inequality in Theorem 2.18 yield the uniform bound $\|z\|_p \leq C\|v\|_p$. The *a priori* estimates in Theorem 2.18 follow from the Young-Love inequality. \square

2.4 Lipschitz continuity of the derivatives of the Itô map

In this section we shall prove the Lipschitz continuity of the derivative of the Itô map under the appropriate smoothness assumption on f .

Theorem 2.20 *Let $f \in Lip(1 + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ with $\alpha \in (p-1, 1-\varepsilon)$. and M (the same constant appeared in the proof of Theorem 2.18, see [19]) be such that $\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|y_n\|_{[s,t],p} \leq M$. Let K be chosen so that*

$$K \leq A [(\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'\|_{0,\alpha} M^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty)]^{-1}, \quad 0 < A < 1.$$

Then for all $x, \tilde{x} \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$ and for all $v \in \Omega_p(V)$,

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\| \leq C \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|v\|_p$$

where $z = I'(x)v$, $\tilde{z} = I'(\tilde{x})v$.

Proof. Let $y = I(x)$, $\tilde{y} = I(\tilde{x})$. By Theorem 2.19, we have

$$\begin{aligned} dz &= f'(y)zdx + f(y)dv, z_0 = v, \\ d\tilde{z} &= f'(\tilde{y})\tilde{z}d\tilde{x} + f(\tilde{y})d\tilde{v}, \tilde{z}_0 = v. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} [z - \tilde{z}]_{st} &= \int_s^t f'(y)[z - \tilde{z}]dx + \int_s^t f'(\tilde{y})\tilde{z}d(x - \tilde{x}) \\ &\quad + \int_s^t [f(y) - f(\tilde{y})]dv + \int_s^t [f'(y) - f'(\tilde{y})]\tilde{z}dx. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Young-Love inequality, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|z - \tilde{z}\|_p &\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f'\|_\alpha n^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty] \|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \|x\|_p \\ &\quad + C\|f'\|_\alpha \|y\|_p^\alpha \|z\|_p \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p + C\|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p \|v\|_p \\ &\quad + C\|f'\|_{\alpha+\varepsilon} \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|\tilde{z}\|_p \|x\|_p, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used Theorem 2.13 for the estimate of $\|f'(y) - f'(\tilde{y})\|_{\frac{p}{\alpha}}$. Therefore

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \leq A\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p + B.$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} A &= [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f'\|_\alpha n^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty] \|x\|_p, \\ B &= C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \left[\|x\|_p \|\tilde{z}\|_p \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + \|y\|_p^\alpha \|z\|_p \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p + \|v\|_p \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p \right] \\ &\leq C\|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} [\|x\|_p + \|y\|_p^\alpha] \left[\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p + \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p + \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \right] \|v\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Lipschitz continuity of the Itô map, cf. [20] [24], we have

$$\|y - \tilde{y}\|_p \leq C\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p.$$

Modifying the proof of Theorem 2.18, we can also prove that for $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$, we have

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \leq C_K \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|v\|_p.$$

□

Now we are ready to prove Theorem 2.2 concerning the Fréchet differentiability of the Itô map.

Proof of Theorem 2.2 By the main result of [19], I_n converges uniformly to I and I is continuous from the p -variation ball $B_p(0, K) \subset \Omega_p(V)$ into $\Omega_p(W)$. Moreover, Theorem 2.19 says that the derivatives $z_n = I'_n(x)v$ converges uniformly to $z = z(x)$ in $\Omega_p(W)$, and Theorem 2.20 says that $x \rightarrow z(x)$ is $\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}$ -Hölder continuous on $B_p(0, K) = \{x \in V : \|x\|_p \leq K\}$. We conclude that I is locally Fréchet differentiable³ from the ball $B_p(0, K) \subset \Omega_p(V)$ into $\Omega_p(W)$. Moreover, its derivative is given by

$$I'(x)v = z.$$

³If $f_n : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ is a sequence of continuously Fréchet differentiable (in the sense of) functions between two Banach spaces such that $f_n \rightarrow f$ and their derivatives $f'_n \in L(E_1, E_2)$ are uniformly convergent with continuous limit $g \in L(E_1, E_2)$, then f is Fréchet differentiable and $f' = g$.

Furthermore, Theorem 2.20 can be reformulated as

$$\|I'(x) - I'(\tilde{x})\| \leq C \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

This proves the $\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}$ -Hölder continuity of the derivative of the Itô map. \square

Theorem 2.21 *Let $f \in Lip(1 + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ with $\alpha \in (p - 1, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Then, defining K as in Theorem 2.20, one has that for any $x, v \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|v\|_p \leq K$:*

$$\|I(x + v) - I(x) - I'(x)v\|_p \leq C \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \|v\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}, \quad (2.15)$$

and $C = C(K, \alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha})$ is a constant.

Proof. Denote $\tilde{x} = x + v$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} dy_t &= f(y_t)dx_t, & y_0 &= a, \\ d\tilde{y}_t &= f(\tilde{y}_t)d\tilde{x}_t, & \tilde{y}_0 &= a, \\ dz_t &= f'(y_t)z_t dx_t + f(y_t)dv_t, & z_0 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} d(\tilde{y}_t - y_t - z_t) &= f(\tilde{y}_t)d\tilde{x}_t - f(y_t)dx_t - f'(y_t)z_t dx_t - f(y_t)d(\tilde{x}_t - x_t) \\ &= f(\tilde{y}_t)d\tilde{x}_t - f(y_t)d\tilde{x}_t - f'(y_t)z_t dx_t \\ &= f'(y_t)z_t dv_t + f'(y_t)[\tilde{y}_t - y_t - z_t]d\tilde{x}_t \\ &\quad + [f(\tilde{y}_t) - f(y_t) - f'(y_t)(\tilde{y}_t - y_t)]d\tilde{x}_t. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} \leq J_1 + J_2 + J_3,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= \left\| \int_0^\cdot f'(y_u)z_u dv_u \right\|_{[s,t],p}, \\ J_2 &= \left\| \int_0^\cdot f'(y_u)[\tilde{y}_u - y_u - z_u]d\tilde{x}_u \right\|_{[s,t],p}, \\ J_3 &= \left\| \int_0^\cdot [f(\tilde{y}_u) - f(y_u) - f'(y_u)(\tilde{y}_u - y_u)]d\tilde{x}_u \right\|_{[s,t],p}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Young-Love inequality, Theorem 2.15 and the Lipschitz continuity theorem of the Itô map [19, 24], we have

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f'(y)\|_{[s,t],p} + \|f'(y)\|_\infty] \left\| \int_0^\cdot z_u dv_u \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f\|_{1+\alpha}\|y\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty] \|z\|_{[s,t],p} \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}, \\ J_2 &\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f'(y)\|_{[s,t],\alpha/p} + \|f'(y)\|_\infty] \left\| \int_0^\cdot [\tilde{y}_u - y_u - z_u]d\tilde{x}_u \right\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f'(y)\|_{[s,t],\alpha/p} + \|f'(y)\|_\infty] \\ &\quad \times [\xi(2/p)\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} + \|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_\infty] \|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq \|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p}(1 + \xi(2/p)) \\ &\quad \times [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f\|_{1+\alpha}\|y\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty] \|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
J_3 &\leq [1 + \xi(1/p + \alpha/p)] \|f(\tilde{y}) - f(y) - f'(y)(\tilde{y} - y)\|_{[s,t],p} \|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p} \\
&\leq C(\alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}) \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p} \\
&\leq C_2(\alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}) K \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}},
\end{aligned}$$

Note that by Theorem 2.18 and the lower-semi-continuity of the norm $\|\cdot\|_p$, we have

$$\|z\|_{[s,t],p} \leq C_3 \|v\|_{[s,t],p} = C_3 \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq \|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p} \left[\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|y\|_{[s,t],p}^\alpha + \|f'\|_\infty \right] \\
&\quad \times \|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} + C_2(\alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}, K) \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \\
&\quad + C_4(\alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha}, K) \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, for $x, \tilde{x} \in \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^m)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$, $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$, we have

$$\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A \|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} + C_2 \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} + C_4 \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^2.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} &\leq (1 - A)^{-1} C_2 \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}} \\
&\quad + (1 - A)^{-1} C_4 \|f\|_{1+\alpha} \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^2 \\
&\leq C_5(K, \alpha, p, \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon}) \|f\|_{1+\alpha+\varepsilon} \|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

In the special case where $f \in \text{Lip}(2 + \alpha)$ we have the following estimate.

Theorem 2.22 *Let $f \in \text{Lip}(2 + \alpha)$. Then for $x, \tilde{x} \in B(0, K)$, we have*

$$\|I'(x) - I'(\tilde{x})\|_p \leq C_6(\alpha, \|f\|_{2+\alpha}, K) \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p.$$

$$\|I(\tilde{x}) - I(x) - I'(x)(\tilde{x} - x)\|_p \leq C_7(\alpha, \|f\|_{2+\alpha}, K) \|x - \tilde{x}\|_p^2.$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.12 and the Young-Love inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left\| \int_0^1 [f'(y) - f'(\tilde{y})] \tilde{z} dx \right\|_p \\
&\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) \|f'(y) - f'(\tilde{y})\|_{p/\alpha} + \|f'(y) - f'(\tilde{y})\|_\infty] \|\tilde{z}\|_p \|x\|_p \\
&\leq [\xi(1/p + \alpha/p) C(\alpha, K, \|f'\|_{1+\alpha}) \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p + \|f''\|_\infty \|y - \tilde{y}\|_\infty] \|z\|_p \|x\|_p \\
&\leq C(\alpha, K, \|f\|_{2+\alpha}) \|v\|_p \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p.
\end{aligned}$$

From this and the proof of Theorem 2.20 we have

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \leq A \|z - \tilde{z}\|_p + C(\alpha, K, \|f\|_{2+\alpha}) [\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p + \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p] \|v\|_p.$$

Hence for $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$ we have

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \leq C \|f\|_{2+\alpha} \|v\|_p [\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p + \|y - \tilde{y}\|_p].$$

Using the Lipschitz continuity of the Itô map, we obtain

$$\|z - \tilde{z}\|_p \leq C\|f\|_{2+\alpha}\|v\|_p\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p.$$

This is equivalent to

$$\|I'(x) - I'(\tilde{x})\|_p \leq C(\alpha, K, \|f\|_{2+\alpha})\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p.$$

Similarly, using Lemma 2.14 and the Young-Love inequality we can prove

$$\begin{aligned} J_2 &\leq \xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|f(\tilde{y}) - f(y) - f'(y)(\tilde{y} - y)\|_p\|\tilde{x}\|_p \\ &\quad + \|f(\tilde{y}) - f(y) - f'(y)(\tilde{y} - y)\|_\infty\|\tilde{x}\|_p \\ &\leq [C(\alpha, p, \|f\|_{2+\alpha})\xi(1/p + \alpha/p)\|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^2 + \|f''\|_\infty\|y - \tilde{y}\|_\infty^2]\|\tilde{x}\|_{[s,t],p} \\ &\leq C(\alpha, p, K, \|f\|_{2+\alpha})K\|y - \tilde{y}\|_p^2 \\ &\leq C(\alpha, p, K, \|f\|_{2+\alpha})\|x - \tilde{x}\|_p^2. \end{aligned}$$

From this and the proof of Theorem 2.21 we deduce that

$$\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} \leq A\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} + C\|\tilde{x} - x\|_{[s,t],p}^2.$$

Hence for $\|x\| \leq K$ and $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$ we get

$$\|\tilde{y} - y - z\|_{[s,t],p} \leq C(K, \alpha, p, \|f\|_{2+\alpha})\|\tilde{x} - x\|_p^2.$$

□

2.5 Higher order differentiability of the Itô map

By induction, for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, a map $f : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ between two Banach spaces E_1 and E_2 is k -times differentiable at $x_0 \in E_1$ in the sense of Fréchet if there exist a constant $K > 0$ and a bounded linear map $f^{(k)}(x_0) \in L_k(E_1, E_2) := L(E_1, L_{k-1}(E_1, E_2))$ such that for $v \in B(0, K)$,

$$\|f^{(k-1)}(x_0 + v) - f^{(k-1)}(x_0) - f^{(k)}(x_0)v\|_{L_{k-1}(E_1, E_2)} = o(\|v\|_{E_1})$$

If there exists a bounded open subset $O \subset E_1$ such that f is k -times differentiable at x_0 for all $x_0 \in O$, we call f a locally k -times Fréchet differentiable function in O . We now prove the higher order Fréchet differentiability of the Itô map.

Theorem 2.23 *Let $f \in Lip(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ with $\alpha \in (p - 1, 1 - \varepsilon)$. Then the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ is locally k -times Fréchet differentiable. More precisely, there exists a constant K depended on $\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon}$ such that for $x, \tilde{x}, v \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$, $\|\tilde{x}\|_p \leq K$, and $\|v\|_p \leq K$, there exist bounded multilinear maps denoted by $I^{(i)}(x) : \Omega_p \rightarrow L_i(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, such that*

$$\|I^{(k-1)}(x+v) - I^{(k-1)}(x) - I^{(k)}(x)v\|_{L_{k-1}(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))} \leq C(\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon})\|v\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}},$$

and

$$\|I^{(k)}(\tilde{x}) - I^{(k)}(x)\|_{L_k(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))} \leq C(\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon})\|\tilde{x} - x\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Moreover, in the case where $f \in \text{Lip}(k+1+\alpha)$ with $\alpha \in (p-1, 1)$, one has

$$\|I^{(k-1)}(x+v) - I^{(k-1)}(x) - I^{(k)}(x)v\|_{L_{k-1}(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))} \leq C(\|f\|_{k+1+\alpha})\|v\|_p^2,$$

and

$$\left\| I^{(k)}(\tilde{x}) - I^{(k)}(x) \right\|_{L_k(\Omega_p(V), \Omega_p(W))} \leq C(\|f\|_{k+1+\alpha})\|\tilde{x} - x\|_p.$$

Proof. Since the proofs for all k are similar we will only give a proof for $k=2$. Let $z_i(x, t) = (I'(x)v_i)(t)$, $i=1, 2$. Then

$$dz_i = f'(y)z_idx + f(y)dv_i, \quad z_i(0) = 0.$$

Thus

$$z_1(x + \varepsilon v_2) = \int_0^t f'(y(x + \varepsilon v_2))z_1(x + \varepsilon v_2)d(x + \varepsilon v_2) + \int_0^t f(y(x + \varepsilon v_2))dv_1.$$

Using the same argument as used in Section 2.3, we can prove that for any $\|x\|_p \leq K$,

$$W(x) := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{z_1(x + \varepsilon v_2) - z_1(x)}{\varepsilon}$$

exists in $\Omega_p(W)$ and satisfies the following linear differential equation

$$dW = f'(y)Wdx + f''(y)(z_2 \otimes z_1)dx + f'(y)z_1dv_2 + f'(y)z_2dv_1,$$

with the initial condition $W(0) = 0$. Repeating the same argument used in the proof of Theorem 2.15, we can prove that for $\|x\|_p \leq K$, $\|v_1\|_p \leq K$, and $\|v_2\|_p \leq K$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|W(x)\|_p &\leq C\|v_1\|_p\|v_2\|_p, \\ \|z_1(x + v_2) - z_1(x) - W(x)\|_p &\leq C\|v_1\|_p\|v_2\|_p^{\frac{1+2\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}, \\ \|W(\tilde{x}) - W(x)\|_p &\leq C\|\tilde{x} - x\|_p^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$ is locally $C^{2, \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}$ -differentiable in the sense of Fréchet with

$$I''(x)(v_1, v_2) = W(x), \quad \forall x, v_1, v_2 \in B_p(0, K).$$

The proof for the latter case where $f \in \text{Lip}(k+1+\alpha)$ is easy so we omit it. \square

The following Taylor formula holds for the Itô map $I : \Omega_p(V) \rightarrow \Omega_p(W)$.

Theorem 2.24 *Let $f \in \text{Lip}(k+\alpha+\varepsilon)$ with $\alpha \in (p-1, 1-\varepsilon)$. Then, for $x, v \in \Omega_p(V)$ with $\|x\|_p \leq K$ and $\|v\|_p \leq K$, we have*

$$I(x+v) - I(x) - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \frac{I^{(i)}(x)v^{\otimes i}}{i!} = \left(\int_0^1 \frac{I^{(k)}(x+sv)(1-s)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} ds \right) v^{\otimes k},$$

and

$$\left\| I(x+v) - I(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{I^{(i)}(x)v^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_p \leq C(\|f\|_{k+\alpha+\varepsilon})\|v\|_p^{k+\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}.$$

Moreover, in the case where $f \in Lip(k+1+\alpha)$ with $\alpha \in (p-1, 1)$ one has

$$\left\| I(\tilde{x}) - I(x) - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{I^{(i)}(x) (\tilde{x} - x)^{\otimes i}}{i!} \right\|_p \leq C(p, k, \alpha, K, \|f\|_{k+1+\alpha}) \|\tilde{x} - x\|_p^{k+1}.$$

Proof. Let $g(t) = I(x + tv)$, $t \in (-1 - \delta, 1 + \delta)$, $\delta > 0$. By the chain rule, we have $g \in C^{k, \frac{\alpha}{1+\varepsilon}}(-1, 1)$. Applying the Taylor formula to f , we have

$$g(t) = g(0) + g'(0)t + g''(0)\frac{t^2}{2} + \dots + g^{(k)}(0)\frac{t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} + \int_0^t g^{(k)}(s)\frac{(1-s)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} ds.$$

Now

$$g^{(i)}(t) = I^{(i)}(x + tv)v^{\otimes i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Substituting this to the previous formula, we prove Taylor's formula with an integral remainder. Obtaining the stated estimates on this remainder are very easy. \square

3 Part II - The Nonlinear Case

3.1 Path spaces on manifolds

In this section let M be a d -dimensional compact Riemannian manifold endowed with the Levi-Civita connection, let $m_0 \in M$ be a fixed point and let $O(M)$ be the orthonormal frame bundle over M . For $1 \leq p < 2$, let $\Omega_p(M)$ be the collection of p -variation paths on M :

$$\Omega_p(M) = \{\gamma \in C([0, 1], M) : Var_p(\gamma) < \infty\}$$

where

$$Var_p(\gamma) = \sup_{\mathcal{D}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n d(\gamma_{s_i}, \gamma_{s_{i+1}})^p \right)^{1/p},$$

and the supremum is taken over all finite partitions

$$\mathcal{D} = \{0 = s_0 < s_1 < \dots < s_n < s_{n+1} = 1\}.$$

We now extend Theorem 2.2 to nonlinear case where the driving signal x and the response y take values in compact Riemannian manifolds M and N .

Theorem 3.1 *Let M and N be two compact Riemannian manifolds, $f : TM \rightarrow \Gamma(TN)$ be a $Lip(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ bundle map⁴, $\alpha \in (p-1, 1 - \varepsilon)$, $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$. Let $I : \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \Omega_p(N)$ be the Itô map defined by $I(x) = y$, where y solves the differential equation on N driven by a finite p -variational path $x \in \Omega_p(M)$:*

$$dy_t = f(y_t)dx_t, \quad y_0 = n_0 \in N.$$

Then $I : \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \Omega_p(N)$ is $C^{k, \frac{\alpha}{1+\varepsilon}}$ in the sense of Fréchet.

⁴That is to say, for all $(x, v) \in TM$, $f(x, v) : N \rightarrow TN$ is a vector field, moreover, $v \rightarrow f(x, v)$ is linear.

Proof. Following the Nash isometric embedding theorem, we regard M and N as closed sub-manifolds of some Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^l . Using the Whitney extension theorem for Lipschitz functions (see [27], p. 177), we can extend the $\text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ -function $f : M \rightarrow \text{End}(TM, TN)$ to a $\text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ -function $\bar{f} : \mathbb{R}^l \rightarrow \text{End}(T\mathbb{R}^l, T\mathbb{R}^l)$. Let $i_M : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^l$ be our Nash embedding. Then $i_M \in C^\infty(M, \mathbb{R}^l)$. Let $\bar{I} : \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^l) \rightarrow \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^l)$ be the Itô map associated to the differential equation

$$d\bar{y} = \bar{f}(y) d\bar{x}, \quad \bar{y}_0 = a \in M.$$

By Theorem 2.2, we have $\bar{I} \in C^{k, \frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}(\Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^l), \Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^l))$. By the chain rule and the uniqueness of solutions to differential equations

$$I = \bar{I} \circ i_M,$$

we can easily conclude Theorem 3.1. \square

Remark 3.2 *Because the extension of the vector fields from M to \mathbb{R}^l increases the $\text{Lip}(k + \alpha + \varepsilon)$ norm in a bounded way that is independent of the manifold M*

$$\|\bar{f}\|_{\text{Lip}(k+\alpha+\varepsilon)} \leq C_l \|f\|_{\text{Lip}(k+\alpha+\varepsilon)}$$

and the estimate obtained only depend on M through l .

The compactness of N ensures the extrinsic and intrinsic distances on N are equivalent and so also ensures that the induced p -variation metrics on paths in N are also equivalent.

3.2 Dynamics on path spaces

By [19], for any $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$, we can solve the parallel transport differential equation along γ :

$$\nabla_{d\gamma(s)} U_s(\gamma) = 0, \quad s \in [0, 1]. \quad (3.1)$$

Working in a local coordinate chart at $\gamma(s)$, it can be written as:

$$dU_s^k(\gamma) = -\Gamma_{ij}^k(\gamma(s)) d\gamma^i(s) dU_s^j(\gamma), \quad s \in [0, 1],$$

with the initial condition $U_0(\gamma) = U_0 \in O(M)$, where Γ_{ij}^k denotes the Christoffel symbol of the Levi-Civita connection, and U_0 is a given initial orthonormal frame over $\gamma(0)$. Since $U_t(\gamma)$ is an isometry from $T_{\gamma(0)}M$ to $T_{\gamma(t)}M$, we see that $\Omega_p(M)$ is a Banach manifold modelled on $\Omega_p(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with a global chart $U(\gamma)(s) := U_s(\gamma)$ from $\Omega_p(T_{m_0}(M))$ to $\Omega_p(M)$, $s \in [0, 1]$.

Remark 3.3 *Any bounded variation path γ is differentiable almost everywhere on $[0, 1]$. So one can define $J : \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \Omega_p(T_{m_0}(M))$ by*

$$x(t) = \int_0^t U^{-1}(s) d\gamma(s), \quad t \in [0, 1]. \quad (3.2)$$

$$J(\gamma) := x.$$

Now, $\gamma \rightarrow U$ is differentiable if Γ_{ij}^k is $\text{Lip}(p + 1 + \varepsilon)$. Using the smoothness of the Young integral, we see that J is Fréchet differentiable. Conversely, if $x \in$

$\Omega_p(T_{m_0}(M))$, then there are unique $U \in \Omega_p(O(M))$ and $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$ satisfying (3.1) and such that

$$d\gamma_t = U(\gamma_t) d\gamma_t, \quad \gamma_0 = m, \quad U_0 = u_0.$$

Then the Cartan-Itô development of a path in $\Omega_p(T_{m_0}(M))$ is the map

$$\begin{aligned} I : \Omega_p(T_{m_0}(M)) &\rightarrow \Omega_p(M), \\ I(x) &:= \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 3.1, I is Fréchet differentiable. Moreover, one can prove that $I \circ J = Id_{\Omega_p(M)}$, and $J \circ I = Id_{\Omega_p(T_{m_0}M)}$. Hence, one can deduce from the chain rule that the derivatives of I and J are invertible at every point.

Remark 3.4 Let $h \in \Omega_p(T_{m_0}M)$. For any $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$ with the initial condition $\gamma(0) = m_0$, we define a vector fields along γ by

$$X_h(\gamma, s) = U_s(\gamma)h(s). \quad (3.3)$$

By Theorem 2.2, the Itô map $\gamma \rightarrow U(\gamma)$ is a local C^1 -map (indeed it is a local C^∞ -smooth map). Hence $\gamma \rightarrow X_h(\gamma)$ is a local C^1 -Lipschitz vector field on $\Omega_p(M)$. Therefore, applying the classical results showing the existence and the uniqueness of solutions to differential equations on Banach spaces, see e.g. [4], we have the following

Theorem 3.5 The vector field X_h generates a flow on $\Omega_p(M)$. More precisely, there exist some $T > 0$ and a C^1 -curve $\Phi : [-T, T] \times \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \Omega_p(M)$ such that for every $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$ and $t \in [-T, T]$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Phi_t(\gamma) &= X_h(\Phi_t(\gamma)), \\ \Phi_0(\gamma) &= \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

In view of earlier work on the Brownian setting, see e.g. [5], we call Φ_t the Driver flow generated by the vector field X_h on the finite p -variation path space $\Omega_p(M)$. Here we would like to point out that the vector fields X_h and the corresponding Driver flows are the natural ways to develop the variational calculus on the path space $\Omega_p(M)$ for the following reasons. First, the parallel transport $U : \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow T\Omega_p(M)$ along a curve γ provides with us a “moving frame” which is global over $\Omega_p(M)$ and preserves the p -variation metric. Second, the parallel transport gives us a way to test whether a vector field along every $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$ is good or not. The most important point is that, since for $h \in \Omega_p(T_{m_0}M)$, the vector field X_h generates a local flow on $\Omega_p(M)$, we can use this flow to introduce the variational calculus on $\Omega_p(M)$ in a usual way: for every functional F defined on $\Omega_p(M)$, we say that F is a differentiable functional on $\Omega_p(M)$ if the following limit exists

$$D_{X_h} F(\gamma) := \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(\gamma_\varepsilon) - F(\gamma)}{\varepsilon}.$$

3.3 Fractional like motions on path spaces

As our first simple application we show how it is possible to construct fractional Brownian motion type processes on path spaces. Let $(h_i)_{i=1}^n$ be a family of elements of $\Omega_p(T_{m_0}M)$. Take w_t to be n -dimensional fractional Brownian motion with the Hurst parameter $H \in (1/4, 1)$; by [3] we can consider w as a q -rough path for any $q > H^{-1}$. Consider the stochastic differential equation on the path space $\Omega_p(M)$ driven by w and starting from a given p -path γ in M as follows:

$$d\Pi_t = \sum_{i=1}^n X_{h_i}(\Pi_t) \circ dw_t^i, \quad (3.4)$$

$$\Pi_0 = \gamma. \quad (3.5)$$

Since $p \in [1, 2)$, we can apply our main theorems Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 3.1 to conclude that the vector fields X_{h_i} are locally C^∞ on $\Omega_p(M)$. Therefore, applying the standard theory of differential equations driven by q -rough paths (which is infinite dimensional but requires smoothness of the vector fields) ([19]), one sees that equation (3.4) has a unique solution Π_t which is continuously dependent on the initial path γ and the driving path w .

Of course Π_t is a nonlinear object and does not the scaling or invariance properties that characterise true fractional Brownian motion and there is a great deal of arbitrariness in the choices of h_i in $\Omega_p(T_{m_0}M)$.

3.4 Infinite dimensional Brownian motions on path spaces

As a second application of our methods we specialise the above example to the case where $H = 1/2$ but extend the analysis to the case where the dimension of the driving Brownian motion is infinite. We construct an infinite dimensional Brownian motion on path spaces.

Fix a control ω on the triangle $\Delta = \{(s, t) : 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1\}$. Taking $p \in [1, 2)$ and $p' \in (p, 2)$. Let E be the completion of $\Omega_{p,\omega}([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^d)$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{p'}$. The smooth paths are dense in E with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{p'}$ and so E is a separable Banach space. Let $\{e_n, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be a countable collection of linearly independent elements in the unit ball of E such that the vector space spanned by (e_n) is dense in E . Let $\{x_n(t), n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be a sequence of independent Brownian motions, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-2} x_n e_n$ converges in probability to an E -valued Brownian denoted by B_t with law μ_t at time t . Then the support of $\mu = \mu_1$ is dense in $\text{span}(e_n)$ and so is E . Let $H := \{h = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e_n : \|h\|_H < \infty\}$ where

$\|h\|_H^2 := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 n^4$. Then

$$\left\| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e_n \right\|_E \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| \leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^2 n^4 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-4} \right)^{1/2}$$

and $\|h\|_E \leq C \|h\|_H$. So H is densely embedded in E and (E, H, μ) is a Wiener space in the sense of Leonard Gross.

Let $\{h_n, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be an orthonormal basis of H . Then $h_n \in E \subset \Omega_p([0, 1], T_{m_0}M)$. Using Theorem 3.1 we can see that the vector fields X_{h_i} defined in (3.3) are C^2

in the injective tensor product norm as a map

$$\Omega_p(M) \xrightarrow{X_{h_i}} \Omega_p(TM).$$

Define

$$X : \Omega_p(T_{m_0}M) \times \Omega_p(M) \rightarrow \Omega_p(TM)$$

by

$$(h, \gamma) \rightarrow X_h(\gamma).$$

Then X is a bounded linear operator from E to the C^2 vector fields on $\Omega_p(M)$. Since every Brownian Motion on a Banach space is a rough path when one uses the injective tensor product [21] we have the following

Theorem 3.6 *Let $p \in [1, 2)$. For any $\gamma \in \Omega_p(M)$ with $\gamma(0) = m_0$, there exists a unique diffusion process⁵ $\{X_t, t \in [-T, T]\}$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} d\Sigma_t &= X(\Sigma_t) \circ dB_t, \\ \Sigma_0 &= \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Following [25] [6], we call $\{\Sigma_t, t \in [0, T]\}$ a Brownian motion on the path space $\Omega_p(M)$ and refer to the law Σ_t as the heat kernel measure on $\Omega_p(M)$ and the law of Σ as the associated Wiener measure on $C([0, T], \Omega_p(M))$. Of course, the above construction only depends on the reproducing Hilbert space H of the Gaussian space (E, H, μ) (and this was somewhat arbitrarily chosen) but is at least independent of the choice of $\{h_n, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. It might be interesting to investigate the construction for other Gaussian measures on E .

4 Part III - A challenge for the future

In the earlier parts of this article we have set down techniques for analysing differential equations driven by paths and given particular attention to the smoothness of the Itô map. The Itô map is a nonlinear functional on path space that is known to be difficult to handle; even so, we have shown that if one chooses appropriate norms, it is differentiable and amenable to methods of calculus in much the same way as in finite dimensional problems.

We are well aware that there are a number of extremely important problems coming from other areas of mathematics and applications where it is natural to look at functions on path spaces of similar types to those we consider in the earlier part of the paper. We are also conscious of the fact that there is a significant literature on the numerical analysis of such problems. At this point, it seems to us that the urgency of these problems quite naturally leads people to develop pragmatic and ad hoc approaches. We hope that in developing rigorous methods for dealing with some specific differential equations and functionals on path spaces we will stimulate others to address some of the issues. It would be exciting to have a rigorous foundation for the numerical analysis of these critical problems.

⁵Here the “diffusion process” means that the trajectory $t \rightarrow \Sigma_t$ are almost surely $2 + \epsilon$ -rough paths for any arbitrary small $\epsilon > 0$, which corresponds to the classical situation of diffusion processes on any finite dimensional Euclidean space and manifold. See e.g. [20].

To partially motivate this perspective, we set out and briefly discuss one or two problems that we believe might be amenable to analysis. We frankly confess and even emphasise that we do not make a significant contribution here although we might return to these problems.

There are a number of situations where it is desirable to minimise a functional of the form

$$\psi(\gamma) = \int_0^1 F(\gamma(t), \dot{\gamma}(t)) dt$$

over some infinite dimensional path space.

For example, a minimizing geodesic on M from A to B is a path of bounded variation of minimal total variation subject to constraints $\gamma(0) = A$, $\gamma(1) = B$; the Morse theory of critical points for the energy function on the finite energy loop space $L(M) = H^1(S^1, M)$

$$E(\gamma) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 |\dot{\gamma}(s)|^2 ds$$

gives the existence of closed geodesics on a compact Riemannian manifold.

For another example of a much more directly applied nature consider the functional

$$\psi(\gamma) = \int_0^1 |(\nabla V)^\perp(\gamma(s))|^2 ds.$$

Motivated by questions from applied science, E et al. [8] developed algorithms for minimising this functional for the case where $V \in C^1(M)$ has two local minimizers A and B and γ is a path in M with $\gamma(0) = A$ and $\gamma(1) = B$. Here $(\nabla V)^\perp(\gamma)$ denotes the component of $\nabla V(\gamma)$ normal to $\dot{\gamma}$ at γ . Their algorithms involved stochastic simulation or a sort of “simulated annealing” to successively produce improved approximations to the minimiser. E suggested to the authors that there are still many aspects in their programme that would benefit from a more rigorous development.

In view of these and many other similar examples, it seems worthwhile to establish a rigorous framework within which one can consider simulated annealing and other random algorithms designed to approximate to minima on path spaces. A real test of success would be that one could prove that the algorithms construct paths of finite length converging to the minimisers. Simulate annealing has been heavily studied in finite dimensions and is sometimes effective as a practical tool. Essential references include B. Hájek [10] [11], Holley-Stroock [12], and Holley-Kusuoka-Stroock [13], and for high dimensional applications Azencott [1]. Attempts to treat the infinite dimensional case include [32, 33, 29, 30, 31].

Our results might contribute in at least two different ways.

1. As we remarked above, the smoothness of the Itô functional allows one to construct diffusions on these spaces of paths and could perhaps be used as a basis for constructing the random perturbation processes required in simulated annealing and other stochastic optimisation algorithms.
2. If we are interested in searching for a minimizer of a given smooth function

$$\phi : \Omega_1(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

then it is equivalent to search for a minimizer for the pull-back function defined on $\Omega_1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by

$$\tilde{\phi} = \phi \circ I$$

where $I : \Omega_1(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \Omega_1(M)$ is the Cartan-Itô development map. By our main theorems, the Itô map and its inverse are smooth in the sense of Fréchet (Remark 3.4), thus critical points of ϕ pull back to critical points of $\tilde{\phi}$.

In particular, one could build algorithms out of standard diffusions on flat path space such as the Orenstein-Uhlenbeck process on Wiener space. One understands the recurrence and spectral gap properties of these processes very well.

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