## 1 A GEL'FAND TRIPLE APPROACH TO THE SMALL NOISE PROBLEM 2 FOR DISCONTINUOUS ODE'S

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we develop a variational approach to study perturbation problems of ordinary differential equations (ODE's) with discontinuous coefficients. We propose a mathematical framework which can be used to construct stable (and regular) solution processes of discontinuous ODE's.

5 Key words and phrases: Malliavin calculus, local time, small random perturbations,
6 strong solutions of SDE's.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

9 In this paper, we aim at analyzing the small noise problem of discontinuous ODE's. More 10 precisely, we want to provide conditions under which the solutions  $X_t^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , of the stochastic 11 differential equations (SDE's)

$$dX_t^n = b(t, X_t^n)dt + \frac{1}{n}dB_t, \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ X_0^n = x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$
(1.1)

12 for  $n \to \infty$  converge to a solution (process)  $X_t$  of the ODE

$$dX_t = b(t, X_t)dt, \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ X_0 = x \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$
(1.2)

13 where the drift term  $b : [0,T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$  is allowed to be a discontinuous function. Here 14  $\{B_t\}_{0 \le t \le 1}$  is a *d*-dimensional  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -Brownian motion on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ , where 15  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{0 \le t \le 1}$  is a  $\mu$ -augmented filtration generated by B.

In the case of continuous drift coefficients b the small noise problem (1.1), (1.2) has been 16 17 studied by various authors in the literature. See e.g [2, 3, 4, 8, 13, 25] and [26]. The author in 18 [25] introduces the large deviation principle to study the convergence rate of solutions of (1.1)to (1.2) with (Lipschitz-) continuous coefficients. We mention that the authors in [2, 3] and 19 20 [4] employ the Skorohod embedding in combination with certain boundary value problems to 21 establish criteria for the convergence to solutions processes of (1.2). See also [26]. The work 22 [4] deals with a selection principle based on viscosity solutions to construct Feller solutions of 23 ill-posed degenerate diffusion processes. See also the interesting paper of [13] in the context 24 of (stochastic) superposition solutions of ODE's (SDE's). We shall also refer the reader to [1] 25 and the references therein.

The perturbation problem (1.1), (1.2) for discontinuous or even merely measurable drift terms b is in general challenging and sparsely covered by the current literature. See [7, 9, 15, 16]. In the interesting work [7] the authors use the Skorohod embedding technique

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to derive (under fairly general conditions on b) generalized solutions to (1.2) in the sense of Filippov. Further, the papers [15, 16] are concerned with the convergence rate of the probability densities of  $X^n$  for some (concrete) non-Lipschitzian drift terms b. The method used in the latter papers are based on large deviation techniques and viscosity solutions of Hamilton-Jacobi equations. We also emphasize the work [9], where the authors develop large deviations techniques to treat ODE's for certain discontinuous coefficients b. Other techniques for the construction of solutions of discontinuous ODE's can be e.g. found in [6, 24].

36 Our approach to problem (1.1), (1.2) is different from the above mentioned authors' ones 37 and is based on the use of Gel'fand triples

$$\mathbb{D}_{1,2} \hookrightarrow L^2(\mu) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{D}_{-1,2} \tag{1.3}$$

38 and

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$$(\mathcal{S}) \hookrightarrow L^2(\mu) \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{S})^*.$$
 (1.4)

39  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$  denotes the stochastic Sobolev space of Malliavin differentiable square integrable Brow-40 nian functionals and  $\mathbb{D}_{-1,2}$  is its topological dual. Further,  $(\mathcal{S})$  is the Hida test function space 41 and  $(\mathcal{S})^*$  the Hida distribution space. Here the symbol  $\hookrightarrow$  stands for continuous inclusions of 42 spaces. We mention that

$$(\mathcal{S}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{D}_{1,2} \hookrightarrow L^2(\mu) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{D}_{-1,2} \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{S})^*.$$
(1.5)

43 For more information about Malliavin calculus the reader may consult [11, 18] or [21]. As for
44 the construction of the triple (1.4) and its applications in white noise analysis, we recommend
45 the books of [17] or [22].

To be more precise, our method to tackle the perturbation problem (1.1), (1.2) relies on a compactness criterion in  $L^2(\mu)$  based on Malliavin calculus (see [10]), a "variational calculus" technique with respect to local time [12], and a compactness criterion for continuous functions with values in  $(S)^*$ . Using these tools, we are able to show (under certain stochastic conditions on b) that  $X^n$  in (1.1) converges in  $L^2(\mu)$  (or even in  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$ ) for a subsequence to a (possibly Malliavin differentiable) cluster point  $X_t$ , which solves the ODE, almost surely (or on a set with positive probability).

53 We point out that we obtain solutions of discontinuous ODE's which are stable under 54 random perturbations. This approach also provides a natural selection procedure for solutions 55 of discontinuous ODE's which, as one knows, have no unique solutions in general. See e.g [13] 56 for a general discussion of this topic.

57 2. Main results

## In this section, we want to introduce a new technique to study the behavior of the solutions $X^n$ of SDE's (1.1) when $n \to \infty$ . Before we proceed, we shall send ahead some notions and definitions which we will make use of later on in this paper.

In the following, let  $S([0,1]) \subseteq L^2([0,1])$  be the Schwartz space on [0,1] as e.g., constructed in [22]. Using the theorem of Bochner-Minlos, we shall denote by  $\pi$  the unique probability measure on the Borel sets  $\mathcal{B}(S'([0,1]))$  of S'([0,1]) (topological dual of S([0,1])) such that

$$\int_{S'([0,1])} e^{i\langle\omega,\phi\rangle} \pi(d\omega) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\|\phi\|_{L^2([0,1])}^2}$$

61 for all  $\phi \in S([0,1])$ , where  $\langle \omega, \phi \rangle$  is the action of  $\omega \in S'([0,1])$  on  $\phi \in S([0,1])$ .

From now on, we assume that the Brownian motion  $B_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$  in (1.1) is defined on the 62 63 probability space

$$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu) := \left(\prod_{i=1}^{d} \Omega_i, \otimes_{i=1}^{d} \mathcal{F}_i, \otimes_{i=1}^{d} \mu_i\right), \qquad (2.1)$$

where  $\Omega_i = S'([0,1]), \ \mathcal{F}_i = \mathcal{B}(S'([0,1])), \ \mu_i = \pi \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, d.$ 64

Further, we briefly recall the definition of the S-transform, which can be used to characterize 65 elements of the Hida test function and distribution spaces. See [17]. The S-transform of a 66  $\Phi \in (\mathcal{S})^*$ , denoted by  $S(\Phi)$  is defined as 67

$$S(\Phi)(\phi) = \langle \Phi, \widetilde{e}(\phi, \cdot) \rangle \tag{2.2}$$

for  $\phi \in S_{\mathbb{C}}([0,1])^d$ , where  $S_{\mathbb{C}}([0,1])$  is the complexification of S([0,1]) and  $\tilde{e}(\phi, \cdot) \in (\mathcal{S})$  is the exponential functional

$$\widetilde{e}(\phi,\omega) := \exp\left\{ \langle \omega, \phi \rangle - rac{1}{2} \, \|\phi\|_{L^2([0,1];\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 
ight\}$$

for  $\omega = (\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_d) \in \Omega$ ,  $\Phi = (\Phi^{(1)}, \ldots, \Phi^{(d)}) \in (S([0,1]))^d$ , and  $\langle \omega, \phi \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^d \langle \omega_i, \phi_i \rangle$ In what follows, we shall denote by D. the Malliavin derivative on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ , which is a 68

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linear operator from  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$  to  $L^2(\lambda \otimes \mu)$  ( $\lambda$  Lebesgue measure). See e.g [11] or [21] for the 70

definition of D. We Mention that  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$  in (1.3) is a Hilbert space with a norm  $\|\cdot\|_{1,2}$  given by 71

$$\|F\|_{1,2}^{2} := \|F\|_{L^{2}(\mu)}^{2} + \|D.F\|_{L^{2}([0,1]\times\Omega,\lambda\otimes\mu)}^{2}$$
(2.3)

(for d = 1). We shall also use the notation  $\delta$  for the adjoint operator of D, which is referred 72 73 to as divergence operator.

In this section, we also want to introduce the crucial concept of stochastic integration 74

$$\int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(s, x) L(ds, dx) \tag{2.4}$$

75 over the plane with respect to Brownian local time L(t,x) for integrands  $f:[0,1]\times\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$ 76 in the Banach space  $(\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|)$  with the norm

$$||f|| := 2 \left( \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} (f(s,x))^2 \exp(-\frac{x^2}{2s}) \frac{ds \, dx}{\sqrt{2\pi s}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} |xf(s,x)| \exp(-\frac{x^2}{2s}) \frac{ds \, dx}{s\sqrt{2\pi s}}.$$
(2.5)

See [12]. We need the following auxiliary result ([12, Theorem 3.1, Corollary 3.2]) 77

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ . Suppose that for all  $t \in [0,1]$   $f(t,\cdot)$ , the derivative  $f'(t,\cdot)$  (in the generalized sense with respect to the Lebesque measure) exists and that

$$\int_0^1 \int_{-A}^A \left| f'(s,x) \right| \frac{ds}{\sqrt{s}} dx < \infty$$

78 for all  $A \ge 0$ . Then

$$\int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(s, x) L(ds, dx) = -\int_{0}^{t} f'(s, B_s) ds.$$
(2.6)

Later on in this paper, we shall also use the following decomposition of local time space
integral (see the proof of Theorem 3.1 in [12])

$$\int_{0}^{t} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_{i}(s,x) L_{i}(ds,dx) = \int_{0}^{t} f_{i}(s,B_{s}^{(i)}) dB_{s}^{(i)} + \int_{1-t}^{1} f_{i}(1-s,\widehat{B}_{s}^{(i)}) d\widetilde{W}_{s}^{(i)} + \int_{1-t}^{1} f_{i}(1-s,\widehat{B}_{s}^{(i)}) \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}^{(i)}}{1-s} ds,$$
(2.7)

81  $0 \le t \le 1$ , a.e., for  $f_i \in \mathcal{H}$ , i = 1, ..., d, where  $L_i(ds, dx)$  denotes the local time-space with 82 respect to  $B^{(i)}$  (the i-th component of B) on  $(\Omega_i, \mu_i)$ , i = 1, ..., d. Here  $\widehat{B}^{(i)}$  is the *i*-th 83 component of the time-reversed Brownian motion, that is of

$$\widehat{B}_t := \left(\widehat{B}_t^{(1)}, \dots, \widehat{B}_t^{(d)}\right) := B_{1-t},$$
(2.8)

84  $0 \le t \le 1$ . Further  $\widetilde{W}_t^{(i)}$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$ , are independent  $\mu_i$ -Brownian motions (see (2.1)) with 85 respect to the filtration  $\mathcal{F}_t^{\widehat{B}^{(i)}}$  generated by  $\widehat{B}_t^{(i)}$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, d$ . 86 Now consider the SDE's (1.1) with Borel measurable drift  $b : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ . For our main

Now consider the SDE's (1.1)with Borel measurable drift  $b : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ . For our main result (Theorem 2.2) we will need the existence of a sequence  $b_p : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , of approximating drift coefficients which fulfill the following five conditions. For notational convenience we set  $b_0 := b$ .

90 (C1): The coefficients  $b_p$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , are continuous with compact support such that  $b_p(t, \cdot)$  is 91 continuously differentiable,  $0 \le t \le 1$ , with bounded derivative on  $[0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}^d$ . It is well known 92 that bounded coefficients admit unique strong solutions  $X_t^{n,p}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , of the SDE's

$$dX_t^{n,p} = b(t, X_t^{n,p})dt + \frac{1}{n}dB_t, \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ X_0^{n,p} = x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$
(2.9)

93 (C2): Let  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  denote the class of continuous matrix valued functions  $\mathcal{M}(t) : [0, 1] \rightarrow$ 94  $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}(t)$  commutes with  $\int_s^t \mathcal{M}(u) \, du$  for all  $0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1$ . Suppose that 95  $b'_p(\cdot, X^{n,p}_{\cdot}) \in \mathcal{M}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}, p \in \mathbb{N}$ , where the symbol ' stands for the derivative with 96 respect to the space variable.

(C3): For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$\sup_{p \ge 0} \left\| \exp\left\{ 512 \int_0^1 n^2 \left\| b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) \right\|^2 ds \right\} \right\|_{L^1(\mu)} < \infty$$

and the sequence of coefficients  $b_p, p \in \mathbb{N}$ , approximates b in the sense that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$E[J_{n,p}] \xrightarrow[p \to \infty]{} 0,$$

97 where

$$J_{n,p} = \sum_{j=1}^{d} \left( 2 \int_{0}^{1} \left( n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x) - n \, b^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x) \right)^{2} ds + \left( \int_{0}^{1} \left| (n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x))^{2} - (n \, b^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x))^{2} \right| ds \right)^{2} \right).$$
(2.10)

98 (C4): Using the notation  $(\cdot)_{0 \le i,j \le d}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ -matrices, we require

$$\sup_{n,p \ge 1} \sup_{0 \le t < t' \le 1} \left\| \prod_{i=1}^{4} A_i(n, p, t, t') \right\|_{L^1(\mu)} < \infty,$$
(2.11)

99 where

$$A_1(n, p, t, t') = \exp\left\{\int_0^1 n \, b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) dB_s - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 n^2 \left\| b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) \right\|^2 ds \right\}.$$
 (2.12)

$$A_{2}(n, p, t, t') = \left\| \exp\left\{ \left( -\int_{t'}^{1} n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x) dB_{s}^{(i)} - \int_{0}^{1-t'} n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{n} + x) d\widetilde{W}_{s}^{(i)} \right. \\ \left. + \int_{0}^{1-t'} n \, b_{p}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{n} + x) \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}^{(i)}}{1 - s} ds \right)_{0 \le i, j \le d} \right\} \right\|^{2}.$$

$$(2.13)$$

$$A_{3}(n, p, t, t') = \sup_{0 \le \lambda \le 1} \left\| \exp\left\{ \left( -\lambda \int_{t}^{t'} n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_{s}}{n} + x) dB_{s}^{(i)} - \lambda \int_{1-t'}^{1-t} n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{n} + x) d\widetilde{W}_{s}^{(i)} + \lambda \int_{1-t'}^{1-t} n \, b_{p}^{(j)}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{n} + x) \frac{\widehat{B}_{s}^{(i)}}{1 - s} ds \right)_{0 \le i, j \le d} \right\} \right\|^{2},$$

$$(2.14)$$

100

$$A_4(n, p, t, t') = \frac{1}{n^2} \frac{\|I_4(n, p, t, t')\|^2}{|t - t'|^{\alpha}}, \ t \neq t'$$
(2.15)

101 for some  $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$  with

$$I_4(n, p, t, t') = \left(\int_t^{t'} n \, b_p^{(j)}(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) dB_s^{(i)} - \int_{1-t'}^{1-t} n \, b_p^{(j)}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_s}{n} + x) d\widetilde{W}_s^{(i)} + \int_{1-t'}^{1-t} n \, b_p^{(j)}(1 - s, \frac{\widehat{B}_s}{n} + x) \frac{\widehat{B}_s^{(i)}}{1 - s} ds \right)_{0 \le i, j \le d},$$
(2.16)

102 (C5):

$$\sup_{n,p\geq 1} \sup_{0\leq t< t'\leq 1} \left\| A_5(n,p,t,t') A_1(n,p,t,t') \right\|_{L^1(\mu)} < \infty,$$
(2.17)

103 where

$$A_5(n, p, t, t') = \frac{\left\| \int_t^{t'} b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) ds \right\|^2}{|t - t'|^{\beta}}, \ t \neq t'$$
(2.18)

104 for some  $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** Consider the family of SDE's in (1.1) with Borel measurable drift coefficient  $b: [0,1] \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ . Suppose there exists a sequence of approximating coefficients  $(b_p)_{p\geq 1}$ 107 such that  $\{b, (b_p)_{p\geq 1}\}$  fulfill conditions (C1)-(C5). Then for all  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  the set of solutions  $(X_t^{n,p})_{n\geq 1,p\geq 1}$  of (2.9) is relatively compact in  $L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$ . Further, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist 109 a unique strong solution  $X_t^n$  of (1.1) and the sequence of solutions  $X_t^n$  to (1.1) is relatively 110 compact in  $L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$ , and there exists a cluster point  $(X_t)_{0 \le t \le 1}$  of  $(X_t^n)_{0 \le t \le 1}$ , 111 that is one finds a subsequence  $(n_m)_{m>1}$  such that

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} X_t^{n_m} = X_t \text{ in } L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$$
(2.19)

112 for all  $0 \le t \le 1$ . In particular, if  $||b(t, X_t^n)||_{L^2(\mu)} \le M < \infty$ ,  $n \ge 1$ , t-a.e for some constant 113 M, then

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t \lim_{m \to \infty} b(s, X_s^{n_m}) ds$$
(2.20)

114 in  $L^2(\mu)$ .

115 Remark 2.3. Note that in case of a bounded drift coefficient b there obviously exists a se-

116 quence of approximating coefficients  $(b_p)_{p\geq 1}$  that fulfill conditions (C1), (C3), and (C5). In

117 that case, the crucial conditions to check are (C2) and (C4).

**Remark 2.4.** In the case of dimension d = 1, the commutativity requirement (C2) is obviously always fulfilled. In the case d = 2, condition (C2) can be verified, if e.g.,

$$b(t,x) = \begin{pmatrix} f(x_1 + x_2) \\ f(x_1 + x_2) \end{pmatrix},$$

118 where  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a bounded Borel measurable function. See [19] for other examples and 119 more general criteria.

We postpone the proof of Theorem 2.2 to a later time point. In the sequel, we discuss some consequences of the previous result:

122 **Corollary 2.5.** Retain the conditions in Theorem 2.2 and assume additionally that the drift 123 coefficient b in (1.1) is continuous. Then there exists a Malliavin differentiable process  $X_t$ 124 such that

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t b(s, X_s) ds.$$
 (2.21)

125 Proof. Equation (2.21) follows from (2.20) and the continuity of b. The Malliavin differentia-126 bility of  $X_t$  follows from a weak compactness argument. See the proof of Theorem 2.2.

127 The next two result treats the case of discontinuous ODE's:

128 **Theorem 2.6.** Keep the conditions in Theorem 2.2 and assume additionally that the drift 129 coefficient b in (1.1) is bounded. Further require that the process  $X_t$  in (2.19) doesn't hit the 130 set of points of discontinuity of  $b(t, \cdot) \mu$ -a.e. for almost all (fixed) t. Then  $X_t$  solves the ODE

$$X_t = x + \int_0^t b(s, X_s) ds.$$
 (2.22)

**Theorem 2.7.** Retain the conditions in Theorem 2.2 and require additionally that the drift coefficient b in (1.1) is bounded and time-homogeneous. Then

$$X_t^{(i)} \in \mathbb{D}_{1,2}$$

for all i = 1, ..., d,  $0 \le t \le 1$ . Moreover, if the Malliavin matrix  $\sigma_{X_t} = (\sigma_{X_t}^{i,j})_{1 \le i,j \le d}$  with

$$\sigma_{X_t}^{i,j} = (D.X_t^{(i)}, D.X_t^{(j)})_{L^2([0,1])}$$

6

- 131 is invertible a.e for each t, then  $X_t$  is a solution of (2.22).
- 132 The proofs of these two theorems are also put off to a later time point.
- 133 The following result will be needed in the proof of Theorem 2.2.

134 Lemma 2.8. Suppose that the conditions of Theorem 2.2 hold. Then the double sequence 135  $(t \mapsto X_t^{n,p}, n, p \ge 1)$  is relatively compact in  $C([0,1], (\mathcal{S})^*)$ .

136 *Proof.* Let  $\zeta$  belong to the Hida test function space (S). Denote by  $\langle F, \rho \rangle$  the dual pairing 137 for  $F \in (S)^*$ ,  $\rho \in (S)$ . Using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, Girsanov's theorem and (C3), 138 and (C5) we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \left\langle X_{t_1}^{n,p} - X_{t_2}^{n,p}, \zeta \right\rangle \right| &= E\left[ \left( X_{t_1}^{n,p} - X_{t_2}^{n,p} \right) \zeta \right] \le E\left[ \left\| X_{t_1}^{n,p} - X_{t_2}^{n,p} \right\|^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} E\left[ |\zeta|^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\le C \left| t_2 - t_1 \right|^{\beta} E\left[ |\zeta|^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

for some  $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$ . On the other hand, we directly see that

$$\sup_{0 \le t \le T} \|X_t^{n,p}\|_{L^2(\mu)} \le M$$

139 for all  $n, p \ge 1$ . The desired result then follows from Mitoma's theorem (see [20]) applied to 140 the conuclear space  $(S)^*$  and Arzelá-Ascoli's theorem with respect to C([0, 1]).

141 *Proof.* (Theorem 2.2).

142 We first want to employ a compactness criterion based on Malliavin calculus [10, Theorem 143 1] to show that  $(X_t^{n,p})_{p\geq 0,n\geq 1}$  is relatively compact in  $L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$  for all  $t\geq 0$ . To this end 144 we assume without loss of generality that t = 1. Our assumptions and the chain rule of the 145 Malliavin derivative  $D_t$  (see e.g., [21]) imply that

$$D_t X_1^{n,p} = \frac{1}{n} \exp\left\{\int_t^1 b_p'(s, \frac{X_s^{n,p}}{n}) ds\right\} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}, \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ n, p \ge 1.$$
(2.23)

146 Fix  $0 \le t < t' \le 1$ . Then using Girsanov's theorem we find that

$$E\left[\|D_{t}X_{1}^{n,p} - D_{t'}X_{1}^{n,p}\|^{2}\right]$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{n^{2}}E\left[\left\|\exp\left\{\int_{t}^{1}b'_{p}(s,\frac{B_{s}}{n} + x)ds\right\} - \exp\left\{\int_{t'}^{1}b'_{p}(s,\frac{B_{s}}{n} + x)ds\right\}\right\|^{2}A_{1}\right],$ 

147 where  $A_1 = \exp\left\{\int_0^1 n \, b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x) dB_s - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 n^2 \left\|b_p(s, \frac{B_s}{n} + x)\right\|^2 ds\right\}.$ 

Applying the properties of evolution operators for linear systems of ODE's and the meanvalue theorem, we have

150 Consider the local time-space  $L_i(ds, dx)$  with respect to  $B^{(i)}$  (the i-th component of B) on

151  $(\Omega_i, \mu_i), i = 1, \dots, d$ . Using Lemma 2.1 and the decomposition (2.7), we get

$$\begin{split} & E\left[\left\|D_{t}X_{1}^{n,p}-D_{t'}X_{1}^{n,p}\right\|^{2}\right] \\ \leq CE\left[\left\|\exp\left\{\left(-\int_{t'}^{1}\int_{\mathbb{R}}n\,b_{p}^{(j)}(s,\frac{x}{n})L_{i}(ds,dx)\right)_{1\leq i,j\leq d}\right\}\right\|^{2} \\ & \left\|\left\{\left(-\int_{t}^{t'}\int_{\mathbb{R}}n\,b_{p}^{(j)}(s,\frac{x}{n})L_{i}(ds,dx)\right)_{1\leq i,j\leq d}\right\}\right\|^{2} \\ & \sup_{0\leq\lambda\leq 1}\left\|\exp\left\{\lambda\left(-\int_{t}^{t'}\int_{\mathbb{R}}n\,b_{p}^{(j)}(s,\frac{x}{n})L_{i}(ds,dx)\right)_{1\leq i,j\leq d}\right\}\right\|^{2}A_{1}\right] \\ & \leq C\left|t'-t\right|^{\alpha}\left(\sup_{n,p\geq 1}\sup_{0\leq t< t'\leq 1}\left\|\prod_{i=1}^{4}A_{i}(n,p,t,t')\right\|_{L^{1}(\mu)}\right) \end{split}$$

152 for some constant C. In particular, we see that the family  $(X_1^{n,p})_{p\geq 0,n\geq 1}$  is bounded in  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$ . 153 Then the relative compactness of  $(X_1^{n,p})_{p\geq 0,n\geq 1}$  follows from [[10], Lemma 1] in connection 154 with [10, Theorem 1].

In the next step of the proof we aim at constructing a solution process  $X_t$  to the ODE's (1.2) based on the double sequence  $(X_t^{n,p})_{p\geq 1,n\geq 1}$ . Using the condition **(C3)** in connection with Theorem 4 in [19], we obtain that for all  $n \geq 1$  there exists a subsequence  $(p_{k,n})$  (independent of t) such that

$$X_t^n = \lim_{k \to \infty} X_t^{n, p_{k, n}} \in L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$$

155 satisfies the SDE's (1.1). In particular,  $(X_t^n)_{n\geq 1}$  is relatively compact in  $L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$  for each

156 t. We also mention that  $X_t^n$  is Malliavin differentiable for all n, t by a weak compactness 157 argument (see [19, Lemma 1,2,3]). On the other hand, it follows from Lemma 2.8 that there exists a subsequence  $(n_k)$  such that

$$X_t^{n_k} \xrightarrow[k \to \infty]{} X_t \text{ in } (\mathcal{S})^*$$

uniformly in t. The latter and the uniqueness of chaos decompositions in  $(\mathcal{S})^*$  entail that

$$X_t^{n_k} \xrightarrow[k \to \infty]{} X_t \text{ in } L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$$

158 for all t.

Finally, if the drift coefficient is bounded, we can apply dominated convergence for functions from [0,1] to  $L^2(\mu; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and obtain (2.20).

161 *Proof.* (Theorem 2.6).

- 162 We shall argue by contradiction. Assume that  $b(t, X_t^n)$  does not converge to  $b(t, X_t)$  in  $L^2(\mu)$
- 163 for some t for which the points of discontinuity cannot be reached. Then there exists a  $\epsilon > 0$
- 164 and a subsequence  $(n_k)$  such that

$$\|b(t, X_t^{n_k}) - b(t, X_t)\|_{L^2(\mu)} > \epsilon.$$
(2.24)

We know that

$$X_t^{n_{\tilde{n}_l(t)}} \longrightarrow X_t$$
 a.e.

for some subsequence  $(\tilde{n}_l(t))$ . Using the fact that  $X_t$  doesn't hit the points of discontinuity of  $b(t, \cdot)$  a.e., we see that

$$b(t, X_t^{n_{\tilde{n}_l}(t)}) \longrightarrow b(t, X_t)$$
 a.e.

Since b is bounded, it follows from the dominated convergence theorem that

$$\left\| b(t,X_t^{n_{\tilde{n}_l}(t)}) - b(t,X_t) \right\|_{L^2(\mu)} \underset{l \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0$$

165 For  $k = \tilde{n}_l(t)$ , this leads to a contradiction to (2.24). Therefore

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} b(t, X_t^n) = b(t, X_t) \text{ in } L^2(\mu), \ t\text{-a.e.}$$

166

*Proof.* (Theorem 2.7).

We recall that each  $X_s^n$  is Malliavin differentiable (see [19]). We want to justify that we may set  $b_p = b$  for all  $p \ge 1$  in the proof of Theorem 2.2. To this end we shall derive a certain representation for  $D_t X_s^n$  by employing the S-transform (see (2.2)). Without loss of generality, we assume that s = 1 and d = 1 (one-dimensional case). Let us evaluate

$$S(D_t X_1^{n,p})(\phi), \ \phi \in S_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{R}), \ n \ge 1.$$

167 Then, using Girsanov's theorem and the local time-space decomposition (2.7), we find that

$$S(D_{t}X_{1}^{n,p})(\phi) = E\left[\frac{1}{n}\exp\left\{\int_{t}^{1}n\,b_{p}(\frac{1}{n}B_{s}+x)dB_{s}-\int_{0}^{1-t}n\,b_{p}(\frac{1}{n}B_{s}+x)d\widetilde{W}_{s}\right. \\ \left.+\int_{0}^{1-t}n\,b_{p}(\frac{1}{n}\widehat{B}_{s}+x)\frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{1-s}ds\right\}$$
(2.25)  
$$\exp\left\{\int_{0}^{1}\left(n\,b_{p}(\frac{1}{n}B_{s}+x)+\phi(x)\right)dB_{s}-\frac{1}{2}\int_{0}^{1}\left(n\,b_{p}(\frac{1}{n}B_{s}+x)+\phi(x)\right)^{2}ds\right\}\right]$$

168 for all  $\phi \in S(\mathbb{R})$ . By analyticity, we see that relation (2.25) also holds for all  $\phi \in S_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{R})$ .

169 Using an appropriate sequence of coefficients  $b_p$ ,  $p \ge 1$ , which approximates the bounded 170 function b (compare e.g the proof of [19, Lemma 12]) and a weak compactness argument in 171 Hilbert spaces, we deduce that

$$S\left(\int_{0}^{1} D_{t}X_{1}^{n}.h(t)dt\right)(\phi)$$

$$= E\left[\int_{0}^{1} \left(\frac{1}{n}\exp\left\{-\int_{t}^{1} n b(\frac{B_{s}}{n}+x)dB_{s}-\int_{0}^{1-t} n b(\frac{B_{s}}{n}+x)d\widetilde{W}_{s}\right.\right.\right.$$

$$\left.+\int_{0}^{1-t} n b(\frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{n}+x)\frac{\widehat{B}_{s}}{1-s}ds\right\}$$

$$\left.\exp\left\{\int_{0}^{1} \left(n b(\frac{B_{s}}{n}+x)+\phi(s)\right)dB_{s}-\frac{1}{2}\int_{0}^{1} \left(n b(\frac{B_{s}}{n}+x)+\phi(s)\right)^{2}ds\right\}\right)h(t)dt\right]$$
(2.26)

for all bounded Borel-measurable functions h on [0,1],  $\phi \in S_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $n \ge 1$ . Repeated use of the local time-space decomposition (2.7), Girsanov's theorem and the Itô-Tanaka formula for continuous semimartingales in [23, p.220] give that

$$S(D_t X_1^n)(\phi) = S(\Psi_t^n)(\phi)$$

for all  $\phi \in S_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{R})$ , where

$$\Psi_t^n = \frac{1}{n} \exp\left\{\int_t^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} n \, b(\frac{y}{n} + x) L^{n(X^n - x)}(ds, dy)\right\}$$

172 where  $L^{n(X^n-x)}(s,y)$  denotes the local time at y of  $n(X^n_{\cdot}-x)$ . Thus

$$D.X_1^n = \Psi_{\cdot}^n \tag{2.27}$$

173 for all n.

174 Using this representation and the line of reasoning in the proof of Theorem 2.2 in connection

175 with the weak compactness in  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$ , we conclude that  $X_t$  is Malliavin differentiable for all t.

176 The last statement of Theorem 2.7 is a direct consequence of [21, Theorem 2.1.2]

177 **Remark 2.9.** Assume  $b : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 2.6. Consider the 178 case, when

$$D_{\cdot}X_{u} = 0 \tag{2.28}$$

179 on a measurable set A such that  $(\lambda \otimes \mu)(A) > 0$  for some  $0 < u \leq 1$ . Then using relation 180 (2.27) in the proof of Theorem 2.6 in connection with Girsanov's theorem shows that there is 181 a subsequence  $n_k$  such that

$$-\log n_k + \mathcal{L}_1(n_k, t, u) + \mathcal{L}_2(n_k, u) \xrightarrow[k \to \infty]{} -\infty$$
(2.29)

182 on  $A(t, \omega)$ -a.e., where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_1(n,t,u) &= \int_t^u n \, b_p(\frac{1}{n}B_s + x) dB_s - \int_{1-u}^{1-t} n \, b_p(\frac{1}{n}B_s + x) d\widetilde{W}_s \\ &+ \int_{1-u}^{1-t} n \, b_p(\frac{1}{n}\widehat{B}_s + x) \frac{\widehat{B}_s}{1-s} ds \end{aligned}$$

183 and

$$\mathcal{L}_2(n,u) = \int_0^u n \, b_p(\frac{1}{n}B_s + x) dB_s - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u n^2 b_p^2(\frac{1}{n}B_s + x) ds.$$

184 So (2.29) is a necessary condition for (2.28). In particular, if  $(\lambda \otimes \mu)(A) < 1$  there is a set 185 B of positive measure such that the conditional density of  $X_u$  with respect to B exists and 186 condition (2.29) is violated.

187 The next result provides a sufficient condition for the assumptions of Theorem 2.6 in the 188 one dimensional case.

**189 Theorem 2.10.** Let the drift coefficient  $b : [0,1] \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  and its approximating sequence **190**  $b_p : [0,1] \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  satisfy the assumptions of Theorem 2.2. Further suppose that

$$E\left[\left(\int_0^s A_2(n, p, u, s)du\right)^{-4} A_1(n, p, u, s)\right] < \infty$$
(2.30)

191 for all  $0 < s \le 1$ ,  $n \ge 1$ ,  $p \ge 1$ , and that for all compact sets  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  there exists a constant 192  $M < \infty$  such that

$$\int_{K} \left( E\left[ \int_{0}^{s} m\chi_{(y,y+\frac{1}{m})}(\frac{1}{n}B_{s}+x)A_{2}(n,p,u,s) \right. \\ \left. \left( \int_{0}^{s} A_{2}(n,p,u,s)du \right)^{-1} A_{1}(n,p,u,s)du \right] \right)^{2} dy < M$$
(2.31)

193 for all  $m, n \ge 1$ ,  $p \ge 1$ . Then there exists a cluster point  $X_t$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$  of the processes 194  $X_t^n$ ,  $0 \le t \le 1$  in (1.1) such that X. solves the ODE's (1.2).

*Proof.* For convenience we assume that  $K = \mathbb{R}$ . Using Girsanov's theorem and the local time-space decomposition (2.7) we see that the condition (2.30) is equivalent to

$$E\left[\|D.X_s^{n,p}\|_{L^2[0,1]}^{-8}\right] < \infty.$$

195 The latter and our assumptions on  $b_p$ ,  $p \ge 1$  imply that  $\frac{D.X_s^{n,p}}{\|D.X_s^{n,p}\|_{L^2[0,1]}^2}$  is in the domain of

- 196 the divergence operator  $\delta$  for all  $0 < s \le 1$ . See e.g [21].
- 197 From this it follows that  $X_s^{n,p}$  has a continuous and bounded probability density  $\rho_s^{n,p}$  which 198 has the representation

$$\rho_s^{n,p}(y) = E\left[\chi_{(y,\infty)}(X_s^{n,p})\delta\left(\frac{D.X_s^{n,p}}{\|D.X_s^{n,p}\|_{L^2[0,1]}^2}\right)\right], \ y \in \mathbb{R}, \ n,p \ge 1.$$
(2.32)

199 See [21, Proposition 2.1] or [11]. Consider now the sequence of Lipschitz continuous functions 200  $0 \le \rho_m \le \chi_{(x,\infty)}$  with  $\rho_m(z) \to \chi_{(y,\infty)}(z), z \in \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$\varrho_m(z) = \begin{cases}
mz - my & , \quad y < z < y + \frac{1}{m} \\
0 & , \quad z \le y \\
1 & , \quad z \ge y + \frac{1}{m}
\end{cases}$$

Then the functions  $\rho_s^{m,n,p}$  defined as

$$\rho_s^{m,n,p}(y) = E\left[\varrho_m(X_s^{n,p})\delta\left(\frac{D.X_s^{n,p}}{\|D.X_s^{n,p}\|_{L^2[0,1]}^2}\right)\right]$$

converge to  $\rho_s^{n,p}$ , pointwisely for all s, n, p. On the other hand one infers from the duality relation and the chain rule of the Malliavin derivative (see e.g [21, 11]) that

$$\rho_s^{m,n,p}(y) = E\left[\int_0^s \chi_{(y,y+\frac{1}{m})}(X_s^{n,p}) \frac{(D_u X_s^{n,p})^2}{\|D_{\cdot} X_s^{n,p}\|_{L^2[0,1]}^2} du\right].$$

Then we obtain from (2.31) in connection with the Girsanov's theorem and the decomposition (2.7) that

$$\|\rho_s^{m,n,p}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}^2 \le M < \infty \quad \text{for all} \quad m,n,p.$$

201 Using weak compactness of  $\rho_s^{m,n,p}$ , m, n, p in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , pointwise convergence of  $\rho_s^{m,n,p}$  with 202 respect to m and the fact that  $X_s^{n,p}$  converges to  $X_s^n$  in  $L^2(\mu)$  (for a subsequence), we observe 203 that  $X_s^n$  has a probability density  $\rho_s^n$  and that  $\rho_s^n$  is weakly compact in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . Repeated use 204 of weak compactness and  $L^2(\mu)$ -convergence shows that the cluster point  $X_s$  in Theorem 2.6 205 has a density  $\rho_s$ ,  $0 < s \leq 1$ . So the result follows.

Finally, we give an application of Theorem 2.6 in the case of a discontinuous ODE.

207 Example 2.11. Consider the ODE (1.2) with initial value x and the drift coefficient b given 208 by the sign function, that is the special case of a step function

$$b(t, y) = \operatorname{sign}(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & , y \ge 0 \\ -1 & , y < 0 \end{cases}$$

209 We want to show that there exists a subsequence  $(n_k)$  such that the solutions  $X_s^n$  converge in 210  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$  to a deterministic process  $X_s$ ,  $0 \le s \le 1$  (for certain  $x \ne 0$ ).

211 Without loss of generality, let s = 1. Since the sign function is bounded, we know from the 212 proof of Theorem 2.6 that

$$D_t X_1^n = \frac{1}{n} \exp\left\{-\int_t^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} n \operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{1}{n}y + x\right) L^{n(X^n - x)}(ds, dy)\right\},\,$$

213 where  $L^{n(X^n-x)}(s,y)$  is the local time at y of  $n(X^n-x)$ . Using the latter representation, we 214 may replace the coefficient  $b_p$ ,  $p \ge 1$  in Theorem 2.2 by the sign function itself. In order to 215 verify condition (C4) we apply Girsanov's theorem and Hölder's inequality and find that it 216 is sufficient to show that

$$I_1(n,t,t') \cdot I_2(n,t,t') \le C \cdot |t-t'|^{\alpha}, \ 0 \le t \le t' \le 1$$
(2.33)

217 for some  $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$  and a constant C (independent of n), where

$$I_1(n,t,t') := \frac{1}{n^2} E\left[ \left( -\int_t^{t'} \int_{\mathbb{R}} n \operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{1}{n}y + x\right) L(ds,dy) \right)^4 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(2.34)

218 and

$$I_2(n,t,t') := E\left[\exp\left\{-4\int_t^{t'}\int_{\mathbb{R}}n\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{1}{n}y+x\right)L(ds,dy)\right\}\right]$$
$$\cdot \exp\left\{\int_0^1 n\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{1}{n}B_s+x\right)dB_s-\frac{1}{2}\int_0^1 n^2ds\right\}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
(2.35)

219 Using the Itô-Tanaka formula and Burkholder's inequality we find that  $I_1(n, t, t')$ 

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} E \left[ \left( \int_t^{t'} n^2 (\operatorname{sign}(X_u^n))^2 du + \int_t^{t'} n \operatorname{sign}(X_u^n) dB_u - (|n X_{t'}^n - nx| - |n X_t^n - nx|) \right)^4 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \le C n^4 |t - t'|$$
(2.36)

220 for some constant C.

221 On the other hand, by applying [12, Corollary 3.2] we get that

$$-\int_t^1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} n \operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{1}{n}y + x\right) L(ds, dy) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\int_t^1 2n \, d_s L_s^y\right) \delta_{\{-nx\}}(dy)$$
$$= 2n \left(L(1, -nx) - L(t, -nx)\right),$$

222 where  $\delta_{\{-nx\}}$  is the Dirac measure in -nx.

223 Repeated use of Girsanov's theorem and the formula of Itô-Tanaka gives that

$$I_{2}(n,t,t') = E\left[\exp\left\{8n\left(L(1,-nx) - L(t,-nx)\right)\right\}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\exp\left\{n\left(|B_{1}+nx| - n|x| - 2L(1,-nx) - \frac{1}{2}n\right)\right\}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\leq E\left[\exp\left\{6nL(1,-nx) + n|B_{1}+nx| - n^{2}(|x| + \frac{1}{2})\right\}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

224 Then using the probability density of  $(L(s, y), B_s)$  for a Brownian motion starting in a (see 225 e.g. [5, p.155]) that is

$$P_a \left( L(t,x) \in dy, B_t \in dz \right)$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{t\sqrt{2\pi t}} \left( y + |z - x| + |x - a| \right) \exp\left\{ -\frac{(y + |z - x| + |x - r|)^2}{2t} \right\} dz \, dy,$ 

226 we obtain that

$$\begin{split} I_2^2(n,t,t') &\leq \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp\left\{ 6ny + n \left| z + nx \right| - n^2(|x| + \frac{1}{2}) \right\} \\ & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left( y + |z + nx| + |nx| \right) \exp\left\{ -\frac{(y + |z + nx| + |nx|)^2}{2} \right\} dz \, dy. \end{split}$$

Using substitution and the fact that

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_r^\infty e^{-v^2} dv \cong \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}r} e^{-r^2}$$

227 for  $r \to \infty$  (see e.g. [5]). We conclude that

$$I_{2}^{2}(n,t,t') \leq \frac{2}{(n(|x|-1)-1)(n(|x|-11)-1)} \exp\left\{72n^{2}-7n^{2}|x|-(n(|x|-11)-1)^{2}\right\}$$
(2.37)

228 for  $n \ge n_0$  and |x| > 11.

Combining this with the estimate in (2.36) we see that (C4) is fulfilled for initial values with |x| > 11. On the other hand the boundedness of the sign function implies the validity of the conditions (C3) and (C5) for |x| > 11. So it follows from Theorem 2.2 that the solutions

.

 $X_s^n$ ,  $0 \le s \le 1$  converge to  $X_s$ ,  $0 \le s \le 1$  in  $L^2(\mu)$  for a subsequence if |x| > 11. Moreover, by weak compactness and the estimates in (2.36) and (2.37) we can even deduce that this convergence is in  $\mathbb{D}_{1,2}$  and that

$$D X_s = 0, \ 0 \le s \le 1.$$

Hence,  $X_s$ ,  $0 \le s \le 1$  is a deterministic process. On the other hand, since |x| > 11 we get that

$$|X_s| \ge ||x| - s| \ge 10$$
 for all  $0 \le s \le 1$ , a.e.,

229 that is  $X_s$  cannot hit the discontinuity point zero.

230 So X. must be a deterministic solution (i.e.,  $x \pm t$ ) of the ODE (1.2).

**Remark 2.12.** The arguments in Example 2.11 show that we may also consider drift coefficients b given by e.g. step functions of the form

$$b(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_i \chi_{[0,b_i)},$$

231  $\xi_i \ge 0, \ b_i \in [0, \infty], \ i = 1, \dots, n.$ 

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