

**[nex39] Regression theorem for autocorrelation functions.**

The regression theorem for autocorrelation functions of a Markov process reads

$$\langle X(t)X(t_0) \rangle = \int dx \int dx' x x_0 P(x, t; x_0, t_0) = \int dx_0 \langle X(t) | [x_0, t_0] \rangle x_0 P(x_0, t),$$

where  $\langle X(t) | [x_0, t_0] \rangle \equiv \int dx x P(x, t | x_0, t_0)$  is the definition of a conditional average.

(a) Show that if  $\lim_{t_0 \rightarrow -\infty} P(x, t | x_0, t_0) = P_S(x)$  independent of  $t, x_0$ , then the autocorrelation function in a stationary process is

$$\langle X(t)X(t') \rangle_S = \lim_{t_0 \rightarrow -\infty} \langle X(t)X(t') | [x_0, t_0] \rangle = \int dx \int dx' x x' P(x, t | x', t') P_S(x').$$

(b) Apply the regression theorem to calculate  $\langle X(t)X(t') \rangle_S$  for the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process at stationarity.

**Solution:**