

# A universal model for Borel semiflows

David McClendon  
Northwestern University

dmm@math.northwestern.edu  
<http://www.math.northwestern.edu/~dmm>

## Prototype semiflow: Brownian motion

Let  $X$  be the space of continuous functions from  $\mathbb{R}^+$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  with the usual topology. Define for each  $t \geq 0$  the *shift map*  $\Sigma_t : X \rightarrow X$  by

$$\Sigma_t(f)(s) = f(t + s) - f(t).$$

$(X, \Sigma_t)$  is a Borel semiflow which preserves Wiener measure (and other measures).

## IDIs

Given a Borel semiflow  $(X, T_t)$ , we say two distinct points  $x$  and  $x'$  are *instantaneously and discontinuously identified (IDI)* by the semiflow if  $T_t(x) = T_t(x') \forall t > 0$ .

Define  $IDI(T_t) = \{x : \exists y \neq x \text{ such that } x \text{ and } y \text{ are IDI}\}$

Define  $IDI(x) = \{t \geq 0 : T_t(x) \in IDI(T_t)\}$ .

**Theorem (M)** *For any  $x$ ,  $IDI(x)$  is countable.*

Brownian motion has no IDIs. To build a model which accounts for possible IDIs in a semiflow, we use the action of Brownian motion on a different space of functions.

## A universal model

**Theorem (M)** *There exists a Polish space  $Y$  of left-continuous, increasing functions from  $\mathbb{R}^+$  to  $\mathbb{R}^+$  passing through the origin such that any Borel semiflow  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu, T_t)$  is isomorphic to  $(Y, \mathcal{B}(Y), \nu, \Sigma_t)$  for some  $\Sigma_t$ -invariant Borel probability measure  $\nu$ .*