

From \mathbb{P} to \mathbb{Q} :
Girsanov vs `NNS.rescale()`
A production-ready alternative to change of measure

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One Rule to Price Them All

The Fundamental Pricing Identity

$$\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[S_T] = S_0 e^{rT}$$

Global Parameters Used: $S_0 = 100, r = 0.05, \mu = 0.10, \sigma = 0.2, T = 1$

Target forward: $S_0 e^{rT} = 105.1271$

- **Why?** Under \mathbb{Q} , the stock is a **martingale after discounting**.
- **Implication:** No arbitrage \implies expected growth = risk-free rate.
- **Consequence:** All derivatives priced via **risk-neutral expectation**.
- **Key Insight:** You *do not need* μ to price — only r, σ, S_0 .

The Two Worlds: \mathbb{P} vs \mathbb{Q}

Real World \mathbb{P}

- Drift: $\mu = 0.1$ (investor belief)
- Volatility: $\sigma = 0.2$
- Use:
 - Risk management
 - VaR, stress testing
 - P&L simulation
 - Capital allocation

Risk-Neutral \mathbb{Q}

- Drift: $r = 0.05$ (by construction)
- Volatility: $\sigma = 0.2$ (unchanged)
- Use:
 - Derivative pricing
 - XVA (CVA, FVA)
 - Hedging
 - Model calibration

One model, two measures:

- \mathbb{P} : *What might happen*
- \mathbb{Q} : *What must be priced*

Discussion Point:

“Can you use \mathbb{P} -simulated paths to price? Yes — but only if you **reweight** or **rescale** to \mathbb{Q} .”

From Real Drift to Risk-Neutral Drift

$$\underbrace{dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dW_t^{\mathbb{P}}}_{\text{Real world } \mathbb{P}} \xrightarrow{\text{Girsanov}} \underbrace{dS_t = r S_t dt + \sigma S_t dW_t^{\mathbb{Q}}}_{\text{Risk-neutral } \mathbb{Q}}$$

Radon-Nikodym derivative (weight):

$$\boxed{\frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} = \exp\left(-\lambda W_T^{\mathbb{P}} - \frac{1}{2}\lambda^2 T\right)}, \quad \lambda = \frac{\mu - r}{\sigma}$$

- **What is λ ?** The **market price of risk** — how much extra return per unit volatility.
- **Intuition:** Paths with **too much upside** in \mathbb{P} get **downweighted** in \mathbb{Q} .
- **Volatility unchanged:** σ is the **same** — only drift is adjusted.

Girsanov: Tiny Numeric (2 paths)

```
ST_P <- c(95, 125) # Two simulated terminal prices under P
W_T <- (log(ST_P/S0) - (mu - 0.5*sigma^2)*T) / sigma # Extract Brownian motion
lambda <- (mu - r)/sigma # Market price of risk
w <- exp(-lambda * W_T - 0.5*lambda^2*T) # Radon-Nikodym weights
weighted.mean(ST_P, w) # Q-expectation of S_T

#> [1] 107.4521
```

Results:

Weights: 1.1421, 0.8104 → Weighted mean: 107.4521

S_T	Weight
95	1.1421
125	0.8104

- Path 95: **upweighted**
- Path 125: **downweighted**
- **Target:** $S_0 e^{rT} = 105.1271$

Key Takeaway: “We don’t change the paths — we change their importance.”

NNS.rescale: Direct Mean Enforcement

```
dW <- rnorm(n, 0, sqrt(T))
ST_P <- S0 * exp((mu - 0.5*sigma^2)*T + sigma*dW)
ST_Q_nns <- NNS.rescale(ST_P, a = S0, b = r,
                        method = "riskneutral", T = T, type = "Terminal")
c(target = S0*exp(r*T), mean = mean(ST_Q_nns))

#>   target      mean
#> 105.1271 105.1271
```

One line: `NNS.rescale(P, ...)`

Monte Carlo: Shared Brownian Paths

```
set.seed(1234); n <- 1e5; K <- 100  
dW <- rnorm(n, 0, sqrt(T))  
ST_Q_direct <- S0 * exp((r - 0.5*sigma^2)*T + sigma*dW)  
ST_P <- S0 * exp((mu - 0.5*sigma^2)*T + sigma*dW)
```

Same $dW \rightarrow$ fair comparison

Monte Carlo: Pricing

```
ST_Q_nns <- NNS.rescale(ST_P, a=S0, b=r, method="riskneutral",
                        T=T, type="Terminal")
W_T <- (log(ST_P/S0) - (mu - 0.5*sigma^2)*T)/sigma
lambda <- (mu-r)/sigma
w <- exp(-lambda*W_T - 0.5*lambda^2*T)
price_direct <- exp(-r*T)*mean(pmax(ST_Q_direct - K, 0))
price_nns <- exp(-r*T)*mean(pmax(ST_Q_nns - K, 0))
price_gir <- exp(-r*T)*weighted.mean(pmax(ST_P - K, 0), w)
ess_gir <- round((sum(w)^2) / sum(w^2))
c(direct = price_direct, nns = price_nns, gir = price_gir, ess = ess_gir)

#>      direct      nns      gir      ess
#> 10.48537 10.44869 10.49028 93962.00000
```


Results: Accuracy & Efficiency

	Direct \mathbb{Q}	NNS	Girsanov
Call price	10.4853712	10.4486858	10.4902804
Efficiency	100,000	100,000	93,962

Black-Scholes (analytic): 10.451

Verification

```
cat(sprintf("Target: %.6f\n", S0*exp(r*T)))  
  
#> Target: 105.127110  
  
cat(sprintf("Direct Q: %.6f\n", mean(ST_Q_direct)))  
  
#> Direct Q: 105.187609  
  
cat(sprintf("NNS: %.6f\n", mean(ST_Q_nns)))  
  
#> NNS: 105.127110  
  
cat(sprintf("Girsanov: %.6f\n", weighted.mean(ST_P, w)))  
  
#> Girsanov: 105.194594
```

All match target within MC error.

Constraint Families: From \mathbb{P} to \mathbb{Q}

Two Valid Constraints

- **Terminal:** $\mathbb{E}[S_T^{\mathbb{Q}}] = S_0 e^{rT} \rightarrow$ Vanilla pricing
- **Discounted:** $\mathbb{E}[e^{-rt} S_t^{\mathbb{Q}}] = S_0 \rightarrow$ True martingale

Terminal at Grid Points

$$\mathbb{E}[S_{t_k}^{\mathbb{Q}}] = S_0 e^{rt_k}$$

\rightarrow Valid for multi-maturity vanillas

\rightarrow Not a martingale

Discounted at Grid Points

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{-rt_k} S_{t_k}^{\mathbb{Q}}] = S_0$$

\rightarrow True discrete martingale

\rightarrow Required for path-dependent

Dynamic Rescaling Options:

- type = "Terminal" at each $t_k \rightarrow$ correct forwards
- type = "Discounted" at each $t_k \rightarrow$ correct martingale

The NNS.rescale Mechanism: Deterministic Multiplicative Transport

From \mathbb{P} to \mathbb{Q} via Deterministic Multiplicative Scaling

$$S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{\theta} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}}, \quad \theta = \log \left(\frac{S_0 e^{rT}}{\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[S_T]} \right)$$

For GBM, This is Exact:

$$S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{(r-\mu)T} S_T^{\mathbb{P}} \quad (\text{theoretical}) \quad \text{vs} \quad e^{\theta} \rightarrow e^{(r-\mu)T} \quad (\text{empirical})$$

Why This Works:

- **Exact for GBM:** Mathematically equivalent to measure change
- **Mean Enforcement:** Constructed to satisfy no-arbitrage condition
- **Minimal Distortion:** Smallest multiplicative change needed
- **Maximum Efficiency:** No ESS loss, deterministic results

GBM Exactness: Why NNS.rescale Works Perfectly

Mathematical Equivalence

For Geometric Brownian Motion, the measure change is **exactly multiplicative**:

$$S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{(r-\mu)T} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}}$$

NNS.rescale Converges to Exact Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\theta &= \log \left(\frac{S_0 e^{rT}}{\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[S_T]} \right) \rightarrow (r - \mu)T \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty \\ &\Rightarrow e^{\theta} \rightarrow e^{(r-\mu)T}\end{aligned}$$

Key Insight:

- **Not an approximation:** NNS.rescale implements the **exact measure change** for GBM
- **Different computational path:** Same mathematical destination
- **Explains perfect accuracy:** Matches Black-Scholes exactly (up to MC error)

GBM Measure Change: Exact Multiplicative Proof

Theorem: $\mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ is Exactly Multiplicative for GBM

$$S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{(r-\mu)T} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}}$$

Proof

$$\text{Under } \mathbb{P}: S_T^{\mathbb{P}} = S_0 e^{(\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma W_T^{\mathbb{P}}}$$

$$\text{Under } \mathbb{Q}: S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = S_0 e^{(r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma W_T^{\mathbb{Q}}}$$

$$\text{Girsanov: } W_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = W_T^{\mathbb{P}} + \lambda T, \quad \lambda = \frac{\mu - r}{\sigma}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} &= S_0 e^{(r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma(W_T^{\mathbb{P}} + \lambda T)} \\ &= S_0 e^{(r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma W_T^{\mathbb{P}} + (\mu - r)T} \\ &= S_0 e^{(\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma W_T^{\mathbb{P}}} \cdot e^{(r - \mu)T} \\ &= S_T^{\mathbb{P}} \cdot e^{(r - \mu)T} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

GBM Exactness: `NNS.rescale` = Exact Measure Change

Theory vs. Implementation

Theory: $S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{(r-\mu)T} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}}$

Practice: $S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{\theta} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}}, \quad \theta \rightarrow (r - \mu)T$

The Mathematical Truth

- **Finite** n : Exact mean enforcement (no-arbitrage)
- **Infinite** n : Exact measure change recovery
- **Always**: More efficient than alternatives

Discrete-Grid Martingale via Dynamic Rescaling

Construction: At each t_k :

$$S_{t_k}^{\mathbb{Q}} \leftarrow \text{NNS.rescale}(\text{discounted } S, \text{type}=\text{"Discounted"})$$

Enforces discounted ensemble mean $= S_0$.

```
n_steps <- 100; dt <- T/n_steps; n_paths <- 10000
paths <- matrix(NA, n_steps+1, n_paths); paths[1,] <- S0
drift <- (r - 0.5*sigma^2)*dt; vol <- sigma*sqrt(dt)
for(i in 1:n_steps){
  inc <- rnorm(n_paths, drift, vol)
  next_p <- paths[i,] * exp(inc)
  t_i <- i*dt
  disc <- next_p * exp(-r*t_i)
  disc_rescaled <- NNS.rescale(disc, a=S0, b=r, method="riskneutral",
                              T=t_i, type="Discounted")
  paths[i+1,] <- disc_rescaled * exp(r*t_i)
}
disc_means <- rowMeans(exp(-r*seq(0,T,by=dt)) * paths)
c(head=disc_means[1], mid=disc_means[51], tail=disc_means[101])

#> head mid tail
#> 100 100 100
```


Dynamic Rescaling: Ensemble Means

Time	Theoretical	Standard	Rescaled
0	100	100	100
0.25	101.2578	101.131	101.2578
0.5	102.5315	102.4051	102.5315
0.75	103.8212	103.8043	103.8212
1	105.1271	105.0349	105.1271

Dynamic Rescaling: Statistics

Metric	Value
Mean Volatility (Normal)	0.199539
Mean Volatility (Rescaled)	0.199529
Terminal Mean (Normal)	105.034938
Terminal Mean (Rescaled)	105.12711
Terminal Variance (Normal)	450.182022
Terminal Variance (Rescaled)	450.972466

Three Roads from \mathbb{P} to \mathbb{Q}

- **Direct \mathbb{Q} :** Simulate with drift $r \rightarrow$ *simplest, accept MC noise*
- **Girsanov:** Reweight \mathbb{P} paths \rightarrow *elegant, high variance, low ESS*
- **NNS.rescale:** Transform paths to enforce mean \rightarrow *exact for GBM, full MC efficiency*

Mathematical Elegance: Two Routes, Same Destination

Theory route: Change measure \rightarrow simulate with new drift

NNS.rescale: Simulate with real drift \rightarrow apply exact multiplier

Same mathematical destination for GBM

$$S_T^{\mathbb{Q}} = e^{(r-\mu)T} \cdot S_T^{\mathbb{P}} \quad (\text{exact measure change})$$

When to Use Which Method

- **Vanilla pricing (GBM)?** → `NNS.rescale` (*exact, efficient, stable*)
- **Exotics or path-dependent?** → Dynamic rescaling with `type = "Discounted"`
- **Proofs or theoretical work?** → Girsanov or Direct \mathbb{Q}
- **Complex models beyond GBM?** → Rescale for mean enforcement + validate distribution

Key Advantages of `NNS.rescale`

- **Exact mean enforcement:** No-arbitrage condition satisfied by construction
- **Full MC efficiency:** No ESS loss, 100% path utilization
- **Production stability:** Deterministic, fast, numerically robust
- **Mathematical foundation:** Exact for GBM, principled for other models

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