

4.4. (Exponential martingales)

Suppose $\theta(t, \omega) = (\theta_1(t, \omega), \dots, \theta_n(t, \omega)) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ with $\theta_k(t, \omega) \in \mathcal{V}[0, T]$ for $k = 1, \dots, n$, where $T \leq \infty$. Define

$$Z_t = \exp \left\{ \underbrace{\int_0^t \theta(s, \omega) dB(s) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \theta^2(s, \omega) ds}_0 \right\}; \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

where $B(s) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ and $\theta^2 = \theta \cdot \theta$ (dot product). $\swarrow Y_t$

a) Use Itô's formula to prove that

$$dZ_t = Z_t \theta(t, \omega) dB(t).$$

b) Deduce that Z_t is a martingale for $t \leq T$, provided that

$$Z_t \theta_k(t, \omega) \in \mathcal{V}[0, T] \quad \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

a) Let $g(t, x) = e^x$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} dZ_t &= \frac{\partial g(t, Y_t)}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial g(t, Y_t)}{\partial x} dY_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 g(t, Y_t)}{\partial x^2} (dY_t)^2 \\ &= 0 + e^{Y_t} dY_t + \frac{1}{2} e^{Y_t} (dY_t)^2 \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Where

$$Y_t = \int_0^t \theta(s, \omega) dB(s) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \theta^2(s, \omega) ds$$

$$\text{Define } h(t, x) = \int_0^t \theta(s, \omega) dx(s) - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \theta^2(s, \omega) ds$$

then

$$\frac{\partial h(t, x)}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \theta^2(t, \omega)$$

$$\frac{\partial h(t, x)}{\partial x} = \theta(t, \omega), \quad \frac{\partial^2 h(t, \omega)}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Hence, since $Y_t = h(t, B_t)$

$$dY_t = -\frac{1}{2} \theta^2(t, \omega) dt + \theta(t, \omega) dB_t \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2):

$$dZ_t = e^{Y_t} dY_t + \frac{1}{2} e^{Y_t} (dY_t)^2$$

And noticing that

$$(dY_t)^2 = \theta^2(t, \omega) dt$$

We obtain

$$dZ_t = Z_t \left(-\frac{1}{2} \theta^2(t, \omega) dt + \theta(t, \omega) dB_t \right) + \frac{1}{2} Z_t \theta^2(t, \omega) dt$$

i.e.

$$dZ_t = Z_t \theta(t, \omega) dB_t \quad (3)$$

b) Given that $\theta_k \in V[0, T]$, we know that the Itô integral (2) is a martingale.

And given that $Z_t \theta_k \in V[0, T]$, (3) is a martingale.