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SCHOOL OF COMPUTATION, INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY — INFORMATICS

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

Bachelor's Thesis in Informatics

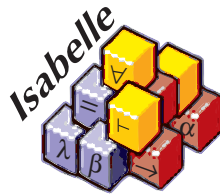# On the Formalization of Martingales

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On the Formalization of Martingales

Eine Formalisierung von Martingalen

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I confirm that this bachelor's thesis is my own work and I have documented all sources and material used.

Munich, 15 September 2023   Ata Keskin

Acknowledgments

MY BEBIS WAS VERY GOOD TO ME. I WANT TO THANK MY BEBIS FOR EVERY-
THING THEY HAVE DONE FOR ME. ALL PRAISE THE BEBIS ALARA ÖZDENLER!!!

Abstract

This thesis presents a formalization of martingales in arbitrary Banach spaces using Isabelle/HOL. The primary focus lies in the formal construction of conditional expectation in Banach spaces, which extends the existing formulation for real-valued functions. Additionally, we introduce novel induction schemes for simple, integrable, and Borel measurable functions on Banach spaces, while generalizing existing lemmas and theorems on Bochner integration. These improvements accommodate scenarios with or without a real vector ordering.

Our formalization aims to replicate existing lemmas about martingales, submartingales, and supermartingales from the mathematical proof repository mathlib, which is primarily developed in Lean, based on homotopy type theory (HoTT). While mathlib explores formalization in Lean, we choose Isabelle/HOL as the theorem prover due to its powerful locale system that provides a structured and modular framework for representing these dynamic systems.

The formalization of martingales and stochastic processes is achieved through Isabelle's locale system. We define the locale `stochastic_process` to formalize stochastic processes over arbitrary Banach spaces. Similarly, we define adapted, progressively measurable and predictable processes via the locales `adapted_process`, `progressive_process` and `predictable_process`. We also show sublocale relations and simple lemmas concerning vector space operations. Filtered measure spaces and σ-finite variants are introduced with the locales `filtered_measure` and `filtered_sigma_finite_measure`. This locale-based approach enhances readability and maintainability, allowing us to systematically express the key properties of stochastic processes and filtered measure spaces.

Similarly, the locales `martingale`, `submartingale` and `supermartingale` are introduced to formalize martingales and related constructs in Banach spaces. Our formalization provides a robust mathematical framework for analyzing random processes.

Contents

1 Introduction

Martingales hold a central position in the theory of stochastic processes, making them a fundamental concept for the working mathematician. They provide a powerful way to study and analyze random phenomena, offering a formal framework for understanding the behavior of random variables over time. In various real-world scenarios, we encounter systems that evolve randomly over time. Representing such systems as martingales, we are able to investigate whether these systems remain bounded or converge to certain values in the long run.

In finance and economics, martingales are an invaluable tool for modeling asset prices and option pricing. They provide insights into risk assessment, portfolio management, and the efficient market hypothesis, which postulates that asset prices fully reflect all available information. Moreover, martingales play a crucial role in the analysis of fair gambling games and betting strategies.

Martingales are also closely related to several important probability limit theorems. These theorems, such as the strong law of large numbers and the central limit theorem, formalize the asymptotic behavior of sample means and sums of random variables. They have profound implications in statistics, allowing us to draw conclusions about large datasets and make predictions based on limited information.

In addition to their relevance in mathematics, martingales find applications in various interdisciplinary fields. Their ability to model randomness and analyze dynamic systems makes them useful in physics, biology, and computer science, among others.

In the scope of this thesis, we present a formalization of martingales in arbitrary Banach spaces using Isabelle/HOL. The background and related work section examines existing formalizations in two prominent formal proof repositories, mathlib (which uses the Lean theorem prover) and the Archive of Formal Proofs (AFP) (which uses Isabelle). Additionally, we conduct a short review of literature on conditional expectation and martingales in Banach spaces, laying a solid foundation for our research.

The current formalization of conditional expectation in the Isabelle library is limited to real-valued functions. To overcome this limitation, we extend the construction of conditional expectation to general Banach spaces, employing an approach similar to the one in [Hyt+16]. We justify our approach, by comparing it to two alternative constructions of the conditional expectation.

Subsequently, we define stochastic processes and introduce the concepts of adapted,

progressively measurable and predictable processes using suitable locale definitions. Most importantly, we provide a generalization for the already present locale `filtration` by introducing the locales `filtered_measure` and `filtered_sigma_finite_measure`. These locales serve to formalize the concept of a filtered measure space. The latter also serves to generalize the locale `sigma_finite_subalgebra` which is necessary for the development of the theory of martingales.

Moving forward, we rigorously define martingales, submartingales, and supermartingales, presenting their first consequences and corollaries. Discrete and continuous time martingales are also covered in the formalization, benefiting from the complex and powerful locale system of Isabelle.

Our formalization fully encompasses the introductory mathlib theory on martingales and offers more generalization.

The thesis further contributes by generalizing concepts in Bochner integration, extending their application to general Banach spaces. Induction schemes for simple, integrable, and Borel measurable functions on Banach spaces are introduced, accommodating scenarios with or without a real vector ordering. These amendments expand the applicability of Bochner integration techniques.

The thesis concludes with reflections on the formalization approach, encountered challenges, and suggests future research directions.

2 Background and Related Work

2.1 Existing Formalizations

2.1.1 Lean Mathematical Library

Our main motivation for formalizing a theory of martingales in Isabelle/HOL comes from the existing in-depth formalization of the same subject in mathlib. As stated on their online platform, "The Lean mathematical library, mathlib, is a community-driven effort to build a unified library of mathematics formalized in the Lean proof assistant." The Lean-formalization of martingales consists of six documents. In the introductory Lean document `basic.lean`, fundamentals of the theory of martingales are formalized. The aim of this bachelor's thesis is to reproduce the results contained within this file in Isabelle/HOL. As will become clear in a moment, this is not a straightforward task, since there are a lot of dependencies missing in the Isabelle/HOL libraries.

The file `basic.lean` contains definitions for martingales, submartingales and supermartingales. Also stated on the official documentation on mathlib, the main results of this document are:

$\rightarrow$ `measure_theory.martingale` f $\mathcal{F}$ μ:

f is a martingale with respect to filtration $\mathcal{F}$ and measure μ.

$\rightarrow$ `measure_theory.supermartingale` f $\mathcal{F}$ μ:

f is a supermartingale with respect to filtration $\mathcal{F}$ and measure μ.

$\rightarrow$ `measure_theory.submartingale` f $\mathcal{F}$ μ:

f is a submartingale with respect to filtration $\mathcal{F}$ and measure μ.

$\rightarrow$ `measure_theory.martingale_condexp` f $\mathcal{F}$ μ:

the sequence $(\mu[f|\mathcal{F}_i])_{i\in\mathcal{T}}$ is a martingale with respect to $\mathcal{F}$ and μ, where $\mu[f|\mathcal{F}_i]$ denotes the conditional expectation of f with respect to the subalgebra $\mathcal{F}_i$.

On a first note, we see that this theory relies heavily on the development of a conditional expectation operator. Prior to our development, the only formalization of conditional expectation in Isabelle/HOL was done in the real setting and resides in the theory document `HOL-Probability.Conditional_Expectation`. This formalization was accomplished by Sèbastien Gouëzel, presumably in anticipation of his latter entries [Gou15] and [Gou16]. We will delve further into the existing formalization and how our contribution improves upon it in the upcoming chapter.

Within the mathlib formalization, the majority of lemmata on martingales require the measures in question to be finite. In our formalization of martingales, we will demonstrate that σ-finiteness suffices alone. This approach is also consistent with our generalized formalization of conditional expectation, as it inherits the σ-finiteness requirement from the preexisting formalization in the real setting.

Another short-coming of the mathlib formalization is its treatment of predictable processes. The mathlib formalization contains the definition of adapted processes and progressively measurable processes. No explicit definition of a predictable process is given. Instead predictability is defined only in the discrete case, as a stochastic process which is adapted to the filtration $\lambda i.\ \mathcal{F}_{i+1}$. In contrast, our formalization defines predictable processes more generally using the concept of a predictable σ-algebra. Similarly, we define adapted and progressively measurable process. One of the major advantages of our formalization is the use of locales and sublocale relations. Concretely, we will show the relationship "`stochastic` $\supseteq$ `adapted` $\supseteq$ `progressive` $\supseteq$ `predictable`".

Another important point to consider is the restrictions placed on the types in question. In the mathlib formalization, martingales are defined as a family of integrable functions $f : \iota \to \Omega \to E$. The mathlib formalization further requires that

- ι is a preordered set,

- Ω is a measurable space (i.e. a set together with a σ-algebra Σ),

- E is a normed, complete space with an addition operation.

These restrictions are easily replicated in our formalization using type classes and the type $'a$ `measure`. We simply restrict ourselves to functions $f : {'t} \to {'a}$ `measure` $\to {'b}$, where the type $'t$ is an instance of the class `linorder_topology` and the type $'b$ is an instance of the class `banach`. Furthermore, we fix an element t_0 of type $'t$ which represents the smallest element for which the function should be integrable. With this approach we can restrict ourselves to the index set $\{i :: {'t} \mid t_0 \leq i\}$. The fact that we only need to consider this index set, which is bounded from below, will prove to be cruicial in certain steps in our development. It will also provide us with the ability to use the reals as an index set. With this specification, our approach mirrors the mathlib formalization, since σ-algebras are encoded as measures in Isabelle/HOL. The

additional requirement that $'t$ (equivalently ι in the mathlib case) be linearly ordered is easily justified as well, since in most contexts the index set represents a temporal dimension, which can obviously be linearly ordered. Apart from this, the topology induced must also come from the ordering on $'t$, since otherwise we can't have a useful definition of predictability in the general sense.

The main purpose of the mathlib formalization on martingales is to prove Doob's martingale convergence theorems, which concern discrete time and continuous time martingales (i.e. the naturals or the reals as indices). This justifies their focus on discrete time processes and the formulation of predictability only in the discrete case. More information on the specifics and the development of Doob's martingale convergence theorems is available in [YD22].

This concludes our review of the mathlib formalization on martingales.

2.1.2 Archive of Formal Proofs

The Archive of Formal Proofs or AFP is a digital repository of formalized proofs and theories developed using the Isabelle theorem prover and proof assistant. The AFP hosts a variety of formalizations and proofs, primarily in the fields of logic, mathematics, and computer science. The repository allows researchers, mathematicians, and computer scientists to share their formal proofs, theories, and related materials with the broader community. This sharing of formalized knowledge helps ensure correctness, encourages collaboration, and facilitates the advancement of various fields through rigorous and machine-verifiable proofs.

The repository also offers a search function, which allows us to find if any formalization on martingales has been done previously. A quick search yields the theory file `DiscretePricing.Martingale`. This entry `DiscretePricing`, which is attributed to Mnacho Echenim, focuses on the formalization of the Binomial Options Pricing Model in finance. A development of discrete time real-valued martingales is given in order to introduce the concept of risk-neutral measures. Similar to the development on mathlib, the goal of this entry is not to formalize martingales. A partial formalization of martingales is only given as a byproduct. The actual conference paper detailing the formalization can be found here [EP17].

Apart from this entry, no other development on the theory of martingales is present on AFP.

2.2 Existing Reference Material on the Topic

The main focus of our project is to formalize martingales in as general of a setting as possible. In this vein, we will study martingales defined on arbitrary Banach spaces, as opposed to the reals only. The main obstacle we will face is the development of conditional expectation in arbitrary Banach spaces. A great resource on this subject is the book *Analysis in Banach Spaces* [Hyt+16] by Hytönen et al. As a primer for the upcoming chapter, we will quickly cover the basics of integration on Banach spaces. The following information can also be found in the aforementioned book.

Integration on Banach spaces is usually done using the Bochner integral, which is defined similarly to the Lebesgue integral. For (Ω, Σ, μ) a measure space and E a Banach space, we define the Bochner integral as follows:

First, we consider simple functions $s : \Omega \to E$. These are functions which can be expressed as finite sums of the form

$$s(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_{A_i} \cdot_{\mathbb{R}} c_i$$

where χ_A is the indicator function of a set $A \in \Sigma$ and $c_i \in E$. Here $\cdot_{\mathbb{R}}$ denotes the scalar multiplication. We call such a function s Bochner integrable if $\mu(A_i) < \infty$ for all $i \in 1, \ldots, n$. In this case, we define the Bochner integral simply as the sum

$$\int s \, \mathrm{d}\mu = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mu(A_i) \cdot_{\mathbb{R}} c_i$$

If we replace E with $\mathbb{R}$, we can easily see that Bochner integrable simple functions are exactly those functions, which are Lebesgue integrable and simple.

We call a function $f : \Omega \to E$ strongly μ-measurable, if there exists a sequence $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of simple functions converging to f μ-almost everywhere.

A strongly measurable function $f : \Omega \to E$ is called Bochner integrable with respect to μ, if there exists a sequence of Bochner integrable simple functions $f_n : \Omega \to E$ such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{\Omega} \|f - f_n\| \, \mathrm{d}\mu = 0$$

The integral used in this definition is the ordinary Lebesgue integral. This definition makes sense, since $w \mapsto \|f(w) - f_n(w)\|$ is μ-measurable and non-negative.

It can be shown via the triangle inequality that the integrals $\int f_n \, d\mu$ form a Cauchy sequence. By completeness, this sequence converges to some element $\lim_{n \to \infty} \int f_n \, d\mu \in E$. This limit is called the Bochner integral of f with respect to μ:

$$\int f \, d\mu = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int f_n \, d\mu$$

A formalization of the Bochner integral is available in Isabelle/HOL in the theory file `HOL-Analysis.Bochner_Integration`. This formalization, which is due to Johannes Hölzl, has the additional assumption that the space E be second countable. One can show that a function f is strongly measurable if and only if it is essentially separably valued and for all $A \in \mathcal{B}(E)$ we have $f^{-1}(A) \in \Sigma$. Here $\mathcal{B}(E)$ denotes the Borel σ-algebra on E. A function is called essentially separably valued if there exists a μ-null set $N \subseteq \Omega$, such that $f(\Omega \setminus N)$ is separable as a subspace of E. Therefore, if E is already a separable Banach space, a function $f : \Omega \to E$ is strongly measurable if and only if it is Σ-measurable.

The book also contains an in depth section on the construction of the conditional expectation operator on Banach spaces. For our purposes, we only need to focus on the case where $f : \Omega \to E$ is a Bochner integrable function. In this case, the conditional expectation can be thought of as a linear operator $\mathbb{E}(\cdot | \mathcal{F} : L^1(\Omega; E) \to L^1(\Omega; E)$ with respect to a sub-σ-algebra. The book contains theorems for the existence and uniqueness of conditional expectations (up to μ-null sets) for functions not only in $L^1(\Omega; E)$, but also $L^2(\Omega; E)$ and $L^0(\Omega; E)$, which is the space of strongly measurable functions. Unsuprisingly, the definition of conditional expectation in the last case is a bit more complicated, since it has to take into account the case where f is not integrable.

Another extensive reference regarding martingales in Banach spaces is the book *Martingales in Banach Spaces* [Pis16] by Gilles Pisier. This resource provides an in-depth exploration of the theory of martingales in Banach spaces at a graduate level. Given the limited scope of this thesis, the book serves as a supplementary resource, as only a select few of its results are applicable to our elementary objectives.

3 Conditional Expectation in Banach Spaces

3.1 Preliminaries

3.1.1 Averaging Theorem

3.2 Constructing the Conditional Expectation

3.3 Linearly Ordered Banach Spaces

4 Stochastic Processes

4.1 Preliminaries

4.1.1 Filtered Measure Spaces

4.2 Adapted Processes

4.3 Progressively Measurable Processes

4.4 Predictable Processes

4.5 Discrete Time Processes

5 Martingales

5.1 Definitions and First Consequences

5.2 Martingale Introduction Lemmata

5.3 Discrete-Time Martingales

6 Discussion

6.1 Formalization Approach

6.2 Comparison with Existing Formalizations

The following tables provide a list of the entries in the mathlib formalization of martingales, all of which have counterparts in our formalization.

Lean	Isabelle
`martingale`	`martingale (locale)`
`martingale.adapted`	`adapted_process.adapted`
`martingale.add`	`martingale.add`
`martingale.condexp_ae_eq`	`martingale.martingale_property`
`martingale.eq_zero_of_predictable`	`martingale.predictable_eq_zero`
`martingale.integrable`	`martingale.integrable`
`martingale.neg`	`martingale.uminus`
`martingale.set_integral_eq`	`martingale.set_integral_eq`
`martingale.smul`	`martingale.scaleR`
`martingale.strongly_measurable`	`stochastic_process.random_variable`
`martingale.sub`	`martingale.diff`
`martingale.submartingale`	via sublocale relation
`martingale.supermartingale`	via sublocale relation
`martingale_condexp`	`filtered_sigma_finite_measure.martingale_cond_exp`
`martingale_const`	`filtered_sigma_finite_measure.martingale_const`
`martingale_const_fun`	`filtered_sigma_finite_measure.martingale_const`
`martingale_iff`	`martingale_iff`
`martingale_nat`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.martingale_nat`
`martingale_of_condexp_sub_eq_zero_nat`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.martingale_of_cond_exp_diff_Suc_eq_zero`
`martingale_of_set_integral_eq_succ`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.martingale_of_set_integral_eq_Suc`
`martingale_zero`	`filtered_sigma_finite_measure.martingale_zero`

Table 6.1: Lookup table for martingale lemmas and definitions

Lean	Isabelle
submartingale	submartingale (locale)
submartingale.adapted	adapted_process.adapted
submartingale.add	submartingale.add
submartingale.add_martingale	submartingale.add
submartingale.ae_le_condexp	submartingale_property
submartingale.condexp_sub_nonneg	submartingale.cond_exp_diff_nonneg
submartingale.integrable	submartingale.integrable
submartingale.neg	submartingale.uminus
submartingale.pos	submartingale.max_0
submartingale.set_integral_le	submartingale.set_integral_le
submartingale.smul_nonneg	submartingale.scaleR_nonneg
submartingale.smul_nonpos	submartingale.scaleR_nonpos
submartingale.strongly_measurable	stochastic_process.random_variable
submartingale.sub_martingale	submartingale.diff
submartingale.sub_supermartingale	submartingale.diff
submartingale.sum_mul_sub	nat_submartingale.partial_sum_scaleR
submartingale.sum_mul_sub’	nat_submartingale.partial_sum_scaleR’
submartingale.sup	submartingale.max
submartingale.zero_le_of_predictable	nat_submartingale.predictable_ge_bot
submartingale_nat	nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.submartingale_nat
submartingale_of_condexp_sub_nonneg	sigma_finite_adapted_process.submartingale_of _cond_exp_diff_nonneg
submartingale_of_condexp_sub_nonneg_nat	nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.submartingale_of _cond_exp_diff_Suc_nonneg
submartingale_of_set_integral_le	sigma_finite_adapted_process.submartingale_of _set_integral_le
submartingale_of_set_integral_le_succ	nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.submartingale_of _set_integral_le_Suc

Table 6.2: Lookup table for submartingale lemmas and definitions

Lean	Isabelle
supermartingale	supermartingale (locale)
supermartingale.adapted	adapted_process.adapted
supermartingale.add	supermartingale.add
supermartingale.add_martingale	supermartingale.add
supermartingale.condexp_ae_le	supermartingale_property
supermartingale.integrable	supermartingale.integrable
supermartingale.le_zero_of_predictable	supermartingale.predictable_le_zero
supermartingale.neg	supermartingale.uminus
supermartingale.set_integral_le	supermartingale.set_integral_ge

`supermartingale.smul_nonneg`	`supermartingale.scaleR_nonneg`
`supermartingale.smul_nonpos`	`supermartingale.scaleR_nonpos`
`supermartingale.strongly_measurable`	`stochastic_process.random_variable`
`supermartingale.sub_martingale`	`supermartingale.diff`
`supermartingale.sub_submartingale`	`supermartingale.diff`
`supermartingale_nat`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.supermartingale_nat`
`supermartingale_of_condexp_sub_nonneg_nat`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.supermartingale_of` `_cond_exp_diff_Suc_nonneg`
`supermartingale_of_set_integral_succ_le`	`nat_sigma_finite_adapted_process.supermartingale_of` `_set_integral_le_Suc`

Table 6.3: Lookup table for supermartingale lemmas and definitions

6.3 Challenges and Limitations

6.3.1

6.4 Future Research

6.4.1 Semimartingales

6.4.2 Doob's Martingale Convergence

6.4.3 Fundamental Theorem of Arbitrage

The fundamental theorem of asset pricing relates the concept of a fair market price for a financial asset to the notion of a risk-neutral measure. It provides the necessary and sufficient conditions for a market to be arbitrage-free. Concretely, the theorem states that the following holds in a discrete-time setting:

> A market on a discrete probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$ is arbitrage-free if and only if there exists at least one risk-neutral measure that is equivalent to the original measure $\mathcal{P}$.

The connection between the fundamental theorem of arbitrage and martingales comes from the idea that under certain assumptions, financial markets can be modeled using martingales, particularly under a risk-neutral measure. The risk-neutral measure is a probability measure that allows us to value financial instruments as if there were no risk premium associated with them. In this framework, the prices of financial assets can be treated as martingales, ensuring that there is no arbitrage opportunity.

The framework we have developed can be used to show this connection in full formality.

7 Conclusion

Concluded.

7.0.1 Subsection

Abbreviations

AFP Archive of Formal Proofs

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