

# PDE connections ; Feynman - Kac theorem

Wednesday, February 29, 2012  
5:59 PM

Sponsored by the National Grid Foundation **nationalgrid**  
The power of action.

- we have seen that under "suitable" conditions on  $\beta(t, x)$ ,  $\sigma(t, x)$  the SDE :

$$dX_t = \mu(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t$$

has a unique solution  $X_t$  !

Theorem : Let  $\{X_t\}$  be a solution of the above SDE with the initial condition  $X_0 = x_0$ . Then  $\{X_t\}$  is a Markov process, i.e. for any Borel measurable function  $h(x)$  there exists a function  $g(t, x)$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}[h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = g(t, X_t)$$

↑  
 $g(t, x) = \mathbb{E}[h(X_T) | X_t = x]$

- example : Risk-neutral pricing formula for a contingent claim  $V_T$  that depends on the final value of the stock price :  $V_T = f(S_T)$

$$V_t = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[ e^{-\int_t^T r_s ds} V_T | \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

- since  $X_t$  the replicating portfolio is build so that it matches  $V_t$  then  $V_t$  is Markovian as well so

there exist a function  $v(t, x)$  such that

$$V_t = v(t, s_t)$$

- Feynman-Kac Theorem relates the SDE with PDE
- when the PDE is solved it produces the function  $g(t, x)$
- Black-Scholes-Merton PDE is a special case of the relationship between SDE & PDE !!!

Feynman-Kac Theorem : Suppose the following SDE

$$dX_t = \beta(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t$$

has a unique solution.

Let  $h(\cdot)$  be Borel measurable,  $T > 0$  fixed. Define

$$g(t, x) = E[h(X_T) | X_t = x]$$

Then  $g(t, x)$  satisfies :

$$g_t(t, x) + \beta(t, x) g_x(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, x) g_{xx}(t, x) = 0$$

with the terminal condition  $g(T, x) = h(x)$ .

Proof:

- consider the process defined as :

$$g(t, X_t) = E[h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = E[h(X_T) | X_t]$$

$$E[g(t, X_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = E[E[h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] | \mathcal{F}_s] =$$

$$= E[h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_s] = g(s, X_s)$$

•  $\boxed{g(t, X_t) = \text{martingale}}$

• use Itô formula for  $g(t, X_t)$

$$\begin{aligned} dg(t, X_t) &= g_t(t, X_t) dt + g_x(t, X_t) dX_t + \frac{1}{2} g_{xx}(t, X_t) dX_t \cdot dX_t \\ &= g_t(t, X_t) dt + g_x(t, X_t) \beta(t, X_t) dt + g_x(t, X_t) \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} g_{xx}(t, X_t) \sigma^2(t, X_t) dt \\ &= g_x(t, X_t) \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t + \underbrace{\left[ g_t(t, X_t) + g_x(t, X_t) \beta(t, X_t) + \frac{1}{2} g_{xx}(t, X_t) \sigma^2(t, X_t) \right] dt}_{=0} \end{aligned}$$

• to ensure that  $g(t, X_t)$  is martingale then

$$g_t + \beta g_x + \frac{1}{2} g_{xx} \sigma^2 = 0 \quad (\dagger) \quad (t, x)$$


---

Theorem : (Discounted Feynman - Kac)

Consider the SDE :

$$dX_t = \beta(t, X_t) dt + \sigma(t, X_t) dW_t$$

let  $h(\cdot)$  be a Borel measurable function ,  $\tau$  be a

Fix  $T > 0$ , and let  $t \in [0, T]$  be given. Define the function :

$$f(t, x) = \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-\tau(T-t)} h(X_T) \mid X_t = x \right]$$

Then  $f(t, x)$  satisfies the PDE :

$$f_t(t, x) + \beta(t, x) f_x(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, x) f_{xx}(t, x) = \tau f(t, x)$$

with the terminal condition  $f(T, x) = h(x)$  for all  $x$ .

P-1       $\beta, \tau, \sigma$  : drift, diffusivity, vol.

Proof: strategy : { • identify the martingale  
• write the Itô formula for the above mart.  
• set the  $dt$  term equal to 0.

Question : Is  $f(t, X_t)$  a martingale?

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[f(t, X_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{E}\left[e^{-r(T-t)} h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_t\right] | \mathcal{F}_s\right] = \\ &= e^{-r(T-t)} \mathbb{E}[h(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_s] = e^{-r(T-t)} \cdot e^{r(T-s)} f(s, X_s) \\ &= e^{rt} \cdot e^{-rs} f(s, X_s) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow f(t, X_t)$  is not a martingale, however

$e^{-rt} f(t, X_t)$  is one, since

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{-rt} f(t, X_t) | \mathcal{F}_s] = \underbrace{e^{-rs} f(s, X_s)}_{= \tilde{f}(s, X_s)}$$

- So we have identified a martingale:  $\tilde{f}(t, X_t)$ , now let's write the Itô formula for it.

$$\begin{aligned} d\tilde{f}(t, X_t) &= d(e^{-rt} \cdot f(t, X_t)) \\ &= e^{-rt} df(t, X_t) + f(t, X_t) d(e^{-rt}) + \underbrace{df(t, X_t) \cdot d(e^{-rt})}_{=0} \\ &= e^{-rt} \left( f_t(t, X_t) dt + f_x(t, X_t) dX_t + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx}(t, X_t) dX_t \cdot dX_t \right) + \\ &\quad + f(t, X_t) \cdot (-r e^{-rt} dt) \\ &= e^{-rt} f_t(t, X_t) dt + e^{-rt} \rho(t, X_t) f_x(t, X_t) dt + e^{-rt} \sigma(t, X_t) f_{xx}(t, X_t) dW_t \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} r^2(t, X_t) f_{xx}(t, X_t) dt - r e^{-rt} f(t, X_t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$= e^{-rt} \left\{ f_t(t, x_t) + p(t, x_t) f_x(t, x_t) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, x_t) f_{xx}(t, x_t) - r f(t, x_t) \right\} dt \\ + e^{-rt} \sigma(t, x_t) f_x(t, x_t) dW_t$$

- since  $\tilde{f}(t, x_t)$  is a martingale  $\Rightarrow$  drift term should be 0

$$\Rightarrow f_t(t, x_t) + p(t, x_t) f_x(t, x_t) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, x_t) f_{xx}(t, x_t) - r f(t, x_t) = 0$$

for every path of  $x_t$  so if we replace  $x_t$  with a dummy variable  $x$ , we get:

$$f_t(t, x) + p(t, x) f_x(t, x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(t, x) f_{xx}(t, x) = r f(t, x)$$

for all  $x, t \in [0, T]$ .

- for the final condition recall the definition of  $f(t, x)$

$$f(T, x) = \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-r(T-t)} h(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_T \right] = h(X_T)$$

### Multidimensional Feynman-Kac Theorem

let  $W_t = (W_1(t), W_2(t))$  - 2-dim Brownian Motion

- consider two SDEs:

$$\begin{cases} dX_1(t) = p_1(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) dt + \sigma_{11}(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) dW_1(t) + \sigma_{12}(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) \cdot dW_2(t) \\ dX_2(t) = p_2(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) dt + \sigma_{21}(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) dW_1(t) + \sigma_{22}(t, X_1(t), X_2(t)) dW_2(t) \end{cases}$$

Define:

$$g(t, x_1, x_2) = \mathbb{E} \left[ h(X_1(T), X_2(T)) \mid X_1(t) = x_1, X_2(t) = x_2 \right]$$

$$f(t, x_1, x_2) = \mathbb{E} \left[ e^{-r(T-t)} h(X_1(T), X_2(T)) \mid X_1(t) = x_1, X_2(t) = x_2 \right]$$

Then

$$g_t + \beta_1 g_{x_1} + \beta_2 g_{x_2} + \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{11}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2) g_{x_1 x_1} + (\sigma_{11} \sigma_{21} + \sigma_{12} \sigma_{22}) g_{x_1 x_2} + \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{21}^2 + \sigma_{22}^2) g_{x_2 x_2} = 0$$

$$f_t + \beta_1 f_{x_1} + \beta_2 f_{x_2} + \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{11}^2 + \sigma_{12}^2) f_{x_1 x_1} + (\sigma_{11} \sigma_{21} + \sigma_{12} \sigma_{22}) f_{x_1 x_2} + \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_{21}^2 + \sigma_{22}^2) f_{x_2 x_2} = r f$$

with the terminal conditions :

$$g(T, x_1, x_2) = f(T, x_1, x_2) = h(X_1(T), X_2(T))$$