



Integral representation of martingales motivated by the problem of endogenous completeness in financial economics

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Received 19 November 2012; received in revised form 15 April 2013; accepted 17 June 2013

Available online 13 July 2013

Abstract

Let \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{P} be equivalent probability measures and let ψ be a J -dimensional vector of random variables such that $\frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}}$ and ψ are defined in terms of a weak solution X to a d -dimensional stochastic differential equation. Motivated by the problem of *endogenous completeness* in financial economics we present conditions which guarantee that every local martingale under \mathbb{Q} is a stochastic integral with respect to the J -dimensional martingale $S_t \triangleq \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[\psi | \mathcal{F}_t]$. While the drift $b = b(t, x)$ and the volatility $\sigma = \sigma(t, x)$ coefficients for X need to have only minimal regularity properties with respect to x , they are assumed to be analytic functions with respect to t . We provide a counter-example showing that this t -analyticity assumption for σ cannot be removed.

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MSC: primary 60G44; 91B51; 91G99; secondary 35K15; 35K90

Keywords: Integral representation; Martingales; Diffusion; Parabolic equations; Analytic semigroups; Real analytic functions; Krylov–Itô formula; Dynamic completeness; Equilibrium

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1. Introduction

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_1, \mathbf{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \in [0,1]}, \mathbb{P})$ be a complete filtered probability space, \mathbb{Q} be an equivalent probability measure, and $S = (S_t^j)$ be a J -dimensional martingale under \mathbb{Q} . It is often important to know whether every local martingale $M = (M_t)$ under \mathbb{Q} admits an integral representation with respect to S , that is,

$$M_t = M_0 + \int_0^t H_u dS_u, \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad (1.1)$$

for some predictable S -integrable process $H = (H_t^j)$. For instance, in mathematical finance, which is the topic of a particular interest to us, the existence of such a martingale representation corresponds to the *completeness* of the market model driven by stock prices S , see Harrison and Pliska [7].

A general answer is given in Jacod [9, Section XI.1(a)]. Jacod's theorem states that the integral representation property holds if and only if \mathbb{Q} is the unique equivalent martingale measure for S . In mathematical finance this result is sometimes referred to as the 2nd fundamental theorem of asset pricing.

In many applications, the process S is defined in a *forward form*, in terms of its predictable characteristics under \mathbb{P} . The density process Z of a martingale measure \mathbb{Q} for S is then constructed through the use of the Girsanov theorem and its generalizations, see Jacod and Shiryaev [10]. The verification of the existence of integral representations for all \mathbb{Q} -martingales under S is often straightforward. For example, if S is a diffusion process under \mathbb{P} with the drift vector-process $b = (b_t)$ and the volatility matrix-process $\sigma = (\sigma_t)$, then such a representation exists if and only if σ has full rank $d\mathbb{P} \times dt$ almost surely.

In this paper we assume that both S and Z are described in a *backward form*, through their terminal values. Given random variables $\xi > 0$ and $\psi = (\psi^j)_{j=1, \dots, J}$ they are defined as

$$Z_1 \triangleq \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \triangleq \frac{\xi}{\mathbb{E}[\xi]},$$

$$S_t \triangleq \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[\psi | \mathcal{F}_t], \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

We are looking for (easily verifiable) conditions on ξ and ψ guaranteeing the integral representation of all \mathbb{Q} -martingales with respect to S .

Our work is motivated by the problem of *endogenous completeness* in continuous-time financial economics which naturally arises in the construction of Radner equilibrium, see Anderson and Raimondo [1], Hugonnier, Malamud, and Trubowitz [8], and Riedel and Herzberg [18], and in the study of the equilibrium-based price impact models, see Bank and Kramkov [2] and German [6]. Here ξ is an equilibrium state price density, usually defined implicitly by a fixed point argument, and $\psi = (\psi^j)$ is the random vector of the cumulative discounted dividends for traded stocks. The term “endogenous” is used because the stock prices S are *computed* as an output of equilibrium. A similar problem also arises in the verification of the completeness of markets where, in addition to stocks, one can also trade options, see Davis and Oblój [5].

We focus on the case when ξ and ψ are defined in terms of a weak solution X to a d -dimensional stochastic differential equation. With respect to x the coefficients of this equation satisfy the classical conditions guaranteeing weak existence and uniqueness: the drift vector $b(t, \cdot)$ is measurable and bounded and the volatility matrix $\sigma(t, \cdot)$ is uniformly continuous and

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