

Homework 3 - Solutions

Problem 1 (Self-financing in continuous-time).

Suppose that we have a Brownian market model with two assets M and S , and let \widehat{X}_t denote the value of a portfolio which is self-financing when denominated in the terms of the numeraire M . That is to say, there exist processes H and K such that

$$\widehat{X}_t = H_t \widehat{M}_t + K_t \widehat{S}_t, \text{ and} \quad (1)$$

$$d\widehat{X}_t = H_t d\widehat{M}_t + K_t d\widehat{S}_t. \quad (2)$$

where $\widehat{M} = M/M = 1$, and $\widehat{S} = S/M$. Using Itô's lemma, show that X is still self-financing when denominated in cash. That is, show that (1) and (2) imply

$$X_t = H_t M_t + K_t S_t, \text{ and}$$

$$dX_t = H_t dM_t + K_t dS_t.$$

Solution: We have:

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t &= d(\widehat{X}M)_t \\ &= M_t d\widehat{X}_t + \widehat{X}_t dM_t + d[\widehat{X}, M]_t \\ &= M_t (K_t d\widehat{M}_t + H_t d\widehat{S}_t) + (K_t \widehat{M}_t + H_t \widehat{S}_t) dM_t + H_t d[\widehat{M}_t, M]_t + K_t d[\widehat{S}_t, M]_t \\ &= K_t (M_t d\widehat{M}_t + \widehat{M}_t dM_t + d[\widehat{M}, M]_t) + H_t (M_t d\widehat{S}_t + \widehat{S}_t dM_t + d[\widehat{S}, M]_t) \\ &= K_t d(\widehat{M}M)_t + H_t d(\widehat{S}M)_t \\ &= K_t dM_t + H_t dS_t. \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2 (Implying the risk-neutral density for the stock). Working in a complete model, suppose that the call prices are twice differentiable as a function of strike. Let $p(t, x)$ denote the density of S_t under the pricing measure \mathbb{Q} , and notice that

$$C(T, K) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[e^{-rT}(S_T - K)^+] = e^{-rT} \int_K^{\infty} (x - K) p(T, x) dx$$

where $C(T, K)$ is the initial price for a call with maturity T and strike K . Differentiate this expression twice with respect to K and write the density of S_T under the pricing measure in terms of the call prices.

Solution: We have

$$\begin{aligned} C_K(T, K) &= -e^{-rT} \int_K^{\infty} p(T, x) dx, \text{ and} \\ C_{KK}(T, K) &= e^{-rT} p(T, K), \text{ so} \\ p(T, K) &= e^{rT} C_{KK}(T, K). \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3 (Change of numeraire). In this problem, we are working in the setting of the Black-Scholes model on a finite time interval $[0, T]$ with the assets M and S where M and S solve

$$dM_t = rM_t dt \quad (3)$$

$$dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dW_t. \quad (4)$$

In class, we showed that S/M is a martingale on the time interval $[0, T]$ under the pricing measure $d\mathbb{Q}^M$ given by

$$\frac{d\mathbb{Q}^M}{d\mathbb{P}} \triangleq \exp\{-\lambda W_T - (\lambda^2/2) T\}$$

where $\lambda = (\mu - r)/\sigma$ is the “market price of risk”. We would now like to compute the pricing measure if we choose S as the numeraire.

1. Using Itô’s lemma, compute $d(M/S)$.
2. Use Girsanov’s Theorem to find a measure \mathbb{Q}^S under which M/S is a martingale.
3. Set $Z_t^M \triangleq \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[d\mathbb{Q}^M/d\mathbb{P} \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$ for $t \in [0, T]$. In the previous homework, we showed that $(M/M)Z^M$ and $(S/M)Z^M$ are \mathbb{P} -martingales when M/M and S/M are a \mathbb{Q}^M -martingales. Notice that we can write

$$\begin{aligned} (M/M)Z^M &= (M/S)(S/M)Z^M, \text{ and} \\ (S/M)Z^M &= (S/S)(S/M)Z^M. \end{aligned}$$

This immediately gives us a candidate for $Z^S = d\mathbb{Q}^S/d\mathbb{P}$. Compute Z^S explicitly and check that this agrees with your calculation above.

Solution:

1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} d(M/S)_t &= dM_t/S_t - (M_t/S_t^2)dS_t + (M_t/S_t^3)d\langle S \rangle_t \\ &= -\sigma(M_t/S_t)(dW_t + (\sigma - \lambda)dt). \end{aligned}$$

2. We take $d\mathbb{Q}^S/d\mathbb{P} = \exp\{-(\sigma - \lambda)W_t - (\sigma - \lambda)^2/2 t\}$.
3. The candidate is

$$\begin{aligned} (S_T/M_T)Z_T^M &= \frac{\exp\{(\mu - \sigma^2/2)T + \sigma W_T\}}{\exp\{rT\}} \exp\{-\lambda W_T - (\lambda^2/2)T\} \\ &= \exp\{(\mu - r - \sigma^2/2 - \lambda^2/2)T + (\sigma - \lambda)W_T\} \\ &= \exp\{-(\sigma - \lambda)^2/2 T + (\sigma - \lambda)W_T\} \end{aligned}$$

which agrees with the calculation above.

Problem 4 (Fokker-Planck or Kolmogorov Forward Equation). Let X_t solve the SDE:

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

and suppose that X_t has a twice continuously differentiable density $p(t, x)$ for all $t > 0$. That is, $\mathbb{P}[x_0 < X_t < x_1] = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} p(t, x) dx$. Finally let $f(x)$ be a twice continuously differentiable function which is zero outside of some interval $[a, b]$.

- Using Itô's Lemma, write $f(X_t) - f(X_s)$ in the form

$$f(X_t) - f(X_s) = \int_s^t g(t, X_s) ds + \int_s^t h(t, X_s) dW_s$$

for appropriate g and h .

- Take expectations on both sides and rewrite the result as integrals against the density p . You may interchange the order of time integrals and expectations.
- Use integration by parts to move all the derivatives off of f , and differentiate both side with respect to t .

Conclude that, since the previous equation holds for all f with two derivatives and compact support, we must in fact have

$$p_t = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\mu p_x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}(\sigma^2 p_{xx}).$$

This PDE is know to physicists as the Fokker-Planck equations and to mathematicians at the Kolmogorov forward equation.

Solutions:

- We have

$$\begin{aligned} f(X_t) - f(X_s) &= \int_0^t \mu(s, X_s) f_x(s, X_s) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(s, X_s) f_{xx}(s, X_s) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \sigma(s, X_s) f_x(s, X_s) dW_s \end{aligned}$$

- We have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_a^b f(x) (p(t, x) - p(s, x)) dx \\ &= \int_a^b \int_s^t (\mu(u, x) f_x(u, x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2(u, x) f_{xx}(u, x)) p(u, x) du dx \end{aligned}$$

- We then have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f(x) p_t(t, x) dx &= - \int_a^b f(t, x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [\mu(t, x) p_x(t, x)] dx \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b f(x) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [\sigma^2(t, x) p_{xx}(t, x)] dx \end{aligned}$$