

Additional questions for chapter 3

1. Let ξ_1, ξ_2, \dots be independent and identically distributed with $\phi(\theta) = \mathbb{E}(\exp\{\theta\xi_1\}) < \infty$. Let $S_n = S_0 + \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n$. Show that

$$M_n = \frac{\exp\{\theta S_n\}}{\phi(\theta)^n}$$

is a martingale with respect to $\sigma(S_0, \dots, S_n)$. Apply the result to the special case

$$\mathbb{P}(\xi_1 = 1) = p, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}(\xi_1 = -1) = 1 - p.$$

Solution:

Use subsequently measurability and independence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(M_{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n) &= \mathbb{E} [\exp\{\theta(\xi_{n+1} + S_n)\}/\phi(\theta)^{n+1}|\mathcal{F}_n] \\ &= \frac{\exp\{\theta S_n\}}{\phi(\theta)^{n+1}} \mathbb{E} [\exp\{\theta\xi_{n+1}\}|\mathcal{F}_n] \\ &= \frac{\exp\{\theta S_n\}}{\phi(\theta)^{n+1}} \mathbb{E} [\exp\{\theta\xi_{n+1}\}] = \frac{\exp\{\theta S_n\}}{\phi(\theta)^n} = M_n. \end{aligned}$$

The second part is a straightforward application.

2. (i) Let ξ_1, ξ_2, \dots be independent with $\mathbb{E}(\xi_i) = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}(\xi_i^2) = \sigma_i^2$. Let $S_n = S_0 + \xi_1 + \dots + \xi_n$, where S_0 is a constant, and let $v_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2$ be the variance of S_n . Show that

$$M_n = S_n^2 - v_n$$

is a martingale.

- (ii) Suppose we are testing the hypothesis that observations ξ_1, ξ_2, \dots are independent and have density function f but the truth is that ξ_1, ξ_2, \dots are independent and have density function g where $\{x : f(x) > 0\} = \{x : g(x) > 0\}$. Let

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} f(x)/g(x) & \text{when } g(x) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{when } g(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Show that $M_n = h(\xi_1) \cdots h(\xi_n)$ is a martingale.

Solution:

- (i) Using the definition of M_n , the independence of (ξ_i) and the property taking out what is known of conditional expectation we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(M_n - M_{n-1} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) &= \mathbb{E}((S_{n-1} + \xi_n)^2 - S_{n-1}^2 - \sigma_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(2S_{n-1}\xi_n + \xi_n^2 - \sigma_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) \\ &= 2(S_{n-1})\mathbb{E}(\xi_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) + \mathbb{E}(\xi_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) - \mathbb{E}(\sigma_n^2 | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\mathbb{E}(M_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) = M_{n-1}$ showing that (M_n) is a martingale.

- (ii) This is a special case of a 'product martingale'. Set $\zeta_i = h(\xi_i) = f(\xi_i)/g(\xi_i)$. Then

$$\mathbb{E}(\zeta_i) = \int \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} g(x) dx = \int f(x) dx = 1$$

and the claim follows from the second example in §3.3 in the book.

3. Let $X = \{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ be an integrable stochastic process which is adapted to the filtration $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$. Show that X has a decomposition

$$X_n = X_0 + M_n + A_n$$

where $\{M_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is a martingale with $M_0 = 0$ and $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is a predictable process with $A_0 = 0$. Show that the decomposition is unique. Also show that $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is monotonously increasing iff X is a submartingale.
(Hint: $\mathbb{E}[X_n - X_{n-1} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] = A_n - A_{n-1}$)

Solution:

First we define $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ recursively by $A_0 = 0$ and the hint

$$A_n = A_{n-1} + \mathbb{E}[X_n - X_{n-1} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}]$$

Then A_n is \mathcal{F}_{n-1} measurable by induction and the measurability of conditional expectation. Thus, $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is predictable.

Now define $M_n = X_n - X_0 - A_n$. Then we see that $\{M_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is clearly integrable and adapted. We only have to show that it is a martingale.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[M_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] &= \mathbb{E}[X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] - X_0 - A_n = \\ \mathbb{E}[X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] - X_0 - A_{n-1} - \mathbb{E}[X_n - X_{n-1} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] &= X_{n-1} - X_0 - A_{n-1} = M_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show uniqueness.

Assume that X has a second decomposition $X_n = X_0 + M'_n + A'_n$. Then we get $M'_n - M_n = A'_n - A_n$. We see that $M'_n - M_n$ is predictable. Thus

$$M'_n - M_n = \mathbb{E}[M'_n - M_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}] = M'_{n-1} - M_{n-1}$$

Therefore $M'_1 - M_1 = M'_0 - M_0 = 0$ and then $M'_1 = M_1$. By induction we see that $M'_n = M_n$. Then we immediately have $A'_n = A_n$ and the uniqueness has been shown.

It remains to show that $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ is monotonously increasing iff X is a submartingale. This follows immediately by the definition of A_n .

4. Assume that $(\xi_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence of independent random variables with $\mathbb{E}[\xi_n] = 0 \forall n$ and $\mathbb{E}[\exp(\xi_n)] < \infty \forall n$. Furthermore

$$\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$$

and

$$S_0 = 0 \quad S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k.$$

- (a) Show that S_n is a martingale with respect to $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$.
(b) Show that $P_n = \exp(S_n)$ is a submartingale with respect to $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$.
(c) Now assume $\xi_n \sim N(0, \sigma_n^2)$. Determine the Doob-decomposition of P_n .

Solution:

- (a) We have $\mathbb{E}[|S_n|] \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}[|\xi_k|] < \infty$ and S_n is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable by definition of \mathcal{F}_n .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[S_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \xi_k \middle| \mathcal{F}_n \right] = \sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k + \mathbb{E}[\xi_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k + \mathbb{E}[\xi_{n+1}] = \sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k = S_n \end{aligned}$$

- (b) We define $f(x) = \exp(x)$. As f is convex, by applying the conditional Jensen formula we get

$$\mathbb{E}[f(S_{n+1}) | \mathcal{F}_n] \geq f(\mathbb{E}[S_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n]) = f(S_n)$$

In addition to this, P_n is adapted, as S_n is adapted and $f(x) = \exp(x)$ is Borel-measurable. Apart from this, $\mathbb{E}[|P_n|] = \prod_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}[\exp(\xi_k)] < \infty$. Thus, $P_n = \exp(S_n)$ is a submartingale with respect to $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$.

- (c) The Doob-decomposition is

$$A_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}[P_k - P_{k-1} | \mathcal{F}_{k-1}] = \sum_{k=1}^n P_{k-1} (e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma_k^2} - 1).$$

The martingale part M_n of the decomposition is

$$M_n = P_n - A_n - P_0 = P_n - \sum_{k=1}^n P_{k-1} (e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma_k^2} - 1) - 1$$

Then $P_n = M_n + A_n + P_0$, where A_n is predictable, M_n is a martingale and P_0 a constant.

5. We assume that $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is a standard filtered probability space with $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ a filtration. Let $U = (U_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ be an adapted sequence and consider the discrete stochastic exponential

$$\mathcal{E}_n(U) = \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + \Delta U_k), \quad \mathcal{E}_0(U) = 1,$$

where $\Delta U_n = U_n - U_{n-1}$. Consider the difference equation

$$\Delta X_n = X_{n-1} \Delta U_n, \quad X_0 = 1. \quad (DE)$$

- (i) Verify that $\mathcal{E}_n(U)$ is a solution of (DE).
(ii) Assume $\mathcal{E}_n(U) \neq 0$. Show that $\mathcal{E}_n(U)$ is a martingale if (U_n) is a martingale.
(iii) Let $(\alpha_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ be a deterministic series of positive numbers and $V = (V_n)_{n=0}^\infty$ be an adapted sequence. Set

$$A_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left(e^{\alpha_k \Delta V_k} - 1 \mid \mathcal{F}_{k-1} \right).$$

Prove that

$$Z_n = \exp \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k \Delta V_k \right\} \mathcal{E}_n^{-1}(A), \quad Z_0 = 1$$

is a martingale. (Hint: You may use $\mathcal{E}_n(U)^{-1} = \mathcal{E}_n(-Y)$, where $\Delta Y_n = \Delta U_n - \frac{(\Delta U_n)^2}{(1 + \Delta U_n)}$).

Solution:

- (i) Define $X_n := \mathcal{E}_n(U)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta X_n &= \mathcal{E}_n(U) - \mathcal{E}_{n-1}(U) \\ &= (1 + \Delta U_n - 1) \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 + \Delta U_k) \\ &= \Delta U_n \cdot X_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Let (U_n) be a martingale. Adaptedness of $(\mathcal{E}_n(U))$ can be seen. Integrability of $(\mathcal{E}_n(U))$ is provided by assumption. Define $X_n := \mathcal{E}_n(U)$. Then, according to (i), (X_n) solves (DE). Thus, by (DE) and the martingale-property of (U_n)

$$\begin{aligned} E(\Delta X_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) &= E(X_{n-1} \cdot \Delta U_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) \\ &= X_{n-1} \cdot E(\Delta U_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) \\ &= X_{n-1} \cdot 0 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that (X_n) is a martingale.

- (iii) Adaptedness of (Z_n) follows from adaptedness of (A_n) , integrability of (Z_n) is provided by assumption. Applying the hint to (A_n) and simplifying yields

$$\mathcal{E}_n(A)^{-1} = \prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 - \frac{\Delta A_k}{1 + \Delta A_k} \right).$$

With this result, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
Z_n &= \exp \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k \cdot \Delta V_k \right\} \cdot \mathcal{E}_n(A)^{-1} \\
&= e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\Delta A_n}{1 + \Delta A_n} \right) \cdot \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} e^{\alpha_k \cdot \Delta V_k} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\Delta A_k}{1 + \Delta A_k} \right) \\
&= e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\Delta A_n}{1 + \Delta A_n} \right) \cdot Z_{n-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, with the definition of A_n , we find

$$1 - \frac{\Delta A_n}{1 + \Delta A_n} = \frac{1}{E(\exp\{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n\} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1})}.$$

Applying this gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta Z_n &= Z_{n-1} \cdot \left(e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\Delta A_n}{1 + \Delta A_n} \right) - 1 \right) \\
&= Z_{n-1} \cdot \left(\frac{e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n}}{E(\exp\{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n\} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1})} - 1 \right),
\end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned}
E(\Delta Z_n | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) &= Z_{n-1} \cdot E \left(\frac{e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n}}{E(\exp\{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n\} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1})} \middle| \mathcal{F}_{n-1} \right) - Z_{n-1} \\
&= \frac{Z_{n-1}}{E(\exp\{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n\} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1})} \cdot E(e^{\alpha_n \cdot \Delta V_n} | \mathcal{F}_{n-1}) - Z_{n-1} \\
&= 0,
\end{aligned}$$

completing the proof that (Z_n) is a martingale.

6. Let σ and τ be two stopping times with respect to the filtration $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n=0}^\infty$. Show that $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau} = \mathcal{F}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{F}_\tau$. Also show that the events

$$\{\tau < \sigma\}, \{\sigma < \tau\}, \{\tau \leq \sigma\}, \{\sigma \leq \tau\}, \{\sigma = \tau\}$$

belong to $\mathcal{F}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{F}_\tau$.

Solution:

From Proposition 3.5.2 in the book we know that as $\sigma \wedge \tau \leq \sigma$ and also $\sigma \wedge \tau \leq \tau$ we have $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau} \subset \mathcal{F}_\sigma$ and $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau} \subset \mathcal{F}_\tau$. Thus $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau} \subset \mathcal{F}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{F}_\tau$.

For the other direction assume $A \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma \cap \mathcal{F}_\tau$. Therefore

$$A \cap \{\sigma \leq n\} \in \mathcal{F}_n \quad \forall n$$

and

$$A \cap \{\tau \leq n\} \in \mathcal{F}_n \quad \forall n.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} A \cap \{\sigma \wedge \tau \leq n\} &= A \cap (\{\sigma \leq n\} \cup \{\tau \leq n\}) \\ &= (A \cap \{\sigma \leq n\}) \cup (A \cap \{\tau \leq n\}) \in \mathcal{F}_n \quad \forall n. \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows that $A \in \mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau}$.

We now have to verify that the mentioned sets are in $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau}$. First show $\{\tau \leq \sigma\} \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$:

$$\{\tau \leq \sigma\} \cap \{\sigma \leq n\} = \bigcup_{k=0}^n \{\sigma = k\} \cap \{\tau \leq k\} \in \mathcal{F}_n.$$

Analogously we get $\{\tau \leq \sigma\} \in \mathcal{F}_\tau$ by:

$$\{\tau \leq \sigma\} \cap \{\tau \leq n\} = \bigcup_{k=0}^n \{\tau = k\} \cap \{\sigma > k\} \in \mathcal{F}_n.$$

The result for $\{\sigma \leq \tau\}$ follows by reversing the roles of σ and τ .

We also have:

$$\{\tau = \sigma\} \cap \{\sigma \leq n\} = \bigcup_{k=0}^n \{\sigma = k\} \cap \{\tau = k\} \in \mathcal{F}_n.$$

Thus, we have $\{\sigma = \tau\} \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$. By reversing the role of σ and τ , we get the result.

The result for the last two sets follows by taking complements.



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