

Stochastic target game problems

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Joint work with L. Moreau (Paris-Dauphine) and M. Nutz (Columbia)

Problem formulation and Motivations

Problem formulation

Determine the *viability* sets

$$\Lambda(t) := \{(z, p) : \exists \nu \in \mathcal{U} \text{ s. t. } \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(T)) \right] \geq p \forall \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}$$

In which :

- \mathcal{V} is a set of admissible adverse controls
- \mathcal{U} is a set of admissible strategies
- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}$ is an adapted \mathbb{R}^d -valued process s.t. $Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(t) = z$
- ℓ is a given loss/utility function
- p a threshold.

Examples

- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta],\vartheta} = (X_{t,x}^{\vartheta}, Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu[\vartheta],\vartheta})$ where
 - $X_{t,x}^{\nu[\vartheta],\vartheta}$ models financial assets or factors with dynamics depending on ϑ
 - $Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu[\vartheta],\vartheta}$ models a wealth process
 - ϑ is the control of the market : parameter uncertainty (e.g. volatility), adverse players, etc...
 - $\nu[\vartheta]$ is the financial strategy given the past observations of ϑ .
- Flexible enough to embed constraints, transaction costs, market impact, etc...

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□ Almost sure constraint :

$$\Lambda(t) := \{z : \exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U} \text{ s.t. } Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(T) \in \mathcal{O} \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s. } \forall \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}$$

for $\ell(z) = 1_{z \in \mathcal{O}}$, $p = 1$.

\Rightarrow Super-hedging in finance for $\mathcal{O} := \{y \geq g(x)\}$.

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for $\ell(z) = 1_{z \in \mathcal{O}}$, $p = 1$.

\Rightarrow Super-hedging in finance for $\mathcal{O} := \{y \geq g(x)\}$.

□ Compare with Peng (G-expectations) and Soner, Touzi and Zhang (2BSDE).

Examples

□ Constraint in probability :

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for $\ell(z) = 1_{z \in \mathcal{O}}$, $p \in (0, 1)$.

\Rightarrow Quantile-hedging in finance for $\mathcal{O} := \{y \geq g(x)\}$.

Examples

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- Expected loss control for $\ell(z) = -[y - g(x)]^-$

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- Expected loss control for $\ell(z) = -[y - g(x)]^-$
- Can impose several constraint : B. and Thanh Nam (discrete P&L constraints).
- Give sense to problems that would be degenerate under \mathbb{P} – a.s. constraints : B. and Dang (guaranteed VWAP pricing).

Aim

Provide a **direct** PDE characterization Λ

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Provide a **direct** PDE characterization Λ :
this requires a Dynamic Programming Principle.

Geometric Dynamic Programming Principle I

The case without adverse control

The GDPP for \mathbb{P} – a.s. criteria

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- Extended by B. and Thanh Nam to constraints on the whole path (obstacle version).
- Relies on a measurable selection argument : not very flexible, requires topological properties.
- Is enough to provide a PDE characterization for $(t, z) \mapsto 1_{z \in \Lambda(t)}$.

The GDPP for criteria in expectation

□ Controlled loss :

$$\Lambda(t) := \{(z, p) : \exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U} \text{ s.t. } \mathbb{E} [\ell(Z_{t,z}^\nu(T))] \geq p\}$$

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since

$$(Z_{t,z}^\nu(\tau), p) \in \Lambda(\tau) \Rightarrow M^\nu(\tau) := \mathbb{E} [\ell(Z_{t,z}^\nu(T)) | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \geq p.$$

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$$\Lambda(t) = \{(z, p) : \exists (\nu, M) \in \mathfrak{U} \times \mathcal{M}_{t,p} \text{ s.t. } (Z_{t,z}^\nu(\tau), M(\tau)) \in \Lambda(\tau)\}$$

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$$\Lambda(t) := \{(z, p) : \exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U} \text{ s.t. } \mathbb{E} [\ell(Z_{t,z}^\nu(T))] \geq p\}$$

□ Alternative formulation in terms of the set $\mathcal{M}_{t,p}$ of martingales starting from p at t :

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- In Brownian diffusion settings :

$$\Lambda(t) := \{(z, p) : \exists (\nu, \alpha) \in \mathfrak{U} \times \mathcal{A} \text{ s.t. } \ell(Z_{t,z}^\nu(T)) \geq M_{t,p}^\alpha(T)\}$$

where

$$M_{t,p}^\alpha := p + \int_t^\cdot \alpha_s dW_s.$$

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- Back to \mathbb{P} – a.s. criteria up to an increase of the controls and the system : B., Elie and Touzi.

Geometric Dynamic Programming Principle II

The game formulation

The GDPP for games

- Back to the original problem :

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- Submartingale property : for ν fixed

$$S_s^{\nu, \vartheta} := \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\tilde{\vartheta} \in \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta \oplus_s \tilde{\vartheta}], \vartheta \oplus_s \tilde{\vartheta}}(T)) \mid \mathcal{F}_s \right]$$

defines a family of submartingales parameterized by ϑ .

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- Doob-Meyer decomposition : \exists a family of martingales $\{M^{\nu, \vartheta}, \vartheta\}$ such that $S^{\nu, \vartheta} \geq M^{\nu, \vartheta}$ with $M^{\nu, \vartheta}(t) = p$.

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- $(z, p) \in \Lambda(t)$ if and only if there exists $\nu \in \mathfrak{U}$ and a family of martingales $\{M^{\vartheta}, \vartheta\}$ with $M^{\vartheta}(t) = p$ such that

$$\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(T)) \geq M^{\vartheta}(T) \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s. } \forall \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}.$$

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□ $(z, p) \in \Lambda(t)$ if and only if there exists $\nu \in \mathfrak{U}$ and a family of martingales $\{M^\vartheta, \vartheta\}$ with $M^\vartheta(t) = p$ such that

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- Main difficulty : how to rely on a measurable selection argument as in the previous cases ?

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- Main difficulty : how to rely on a measurable selection argument as in the previous cases ?
- Solution : provide a weak formulation, under a suitable continuity assumption.

A Weak version of the Geometric Dynamic Programming Principle for game formulations

Abstract setting

□ To $(\nu, \vartheta) \in \mathfrak{U} \times \mathfrak{V}$ associate a \mathbb{R}^d -valued càdlàg process $Z^{\nu, \vartheta}(\cdot) = Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(\cdot)$ with values in \mathbb{R}^d such that $Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(t) = z$.

Abstract setting

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□ Set

$I(t, z, \nu, \vartheta) := \mathbb{E} \left[\ell \left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(T) \right) \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$ and $J(t, z, \nu) := \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\vartheta \in \mathfrak{V}} I(t, z, \nu, \vartheta)$.

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□ We consider

$$\Lambda(t) := \{ (z, \rho) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} : \exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U} \text{ s.t. } J(t, z, \nu) \geq \rho \text{ } \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.} \}.$$

Concatenation possibilities

□ **Adverse controls** : $\vartheta := \vartheta_0 \oplus_t (\vartheta_1 \mathbf{1}_A + \vartheta_2 \mathbf{1}_{A^c}) \in \mathcal{V}$,
for $\vartheta_0, \vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$, and $A \in \mathcal{F}_t$

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□ **Non-anticipating strategies** :

$\nu : \vartheta \in \mathcal{V} \mapsto \nu[\vartheta] := \nu_0[\vartheta] \oplus_t \sum_{j \geq 1} \nu_j[\vartheta] \mathbf{1}_{A_j^\vartheta} \in \mathcal{U}$,

for $\{A_j^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}_{j \geq 1} \subset \mathfrak{F}_t$ such that $\{A_j^\vartheta, j \geq 1\}$ forms a partition of Ω for each $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$.

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□ **Non-anticipating event sets** : $\{A^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \in \mathfrak{F}_t$ if

$\{A^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \subset \mathcal{F}_t$ is such that

$A^{\vartheta_1} \cap \{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,t]} \vartheta_2\} = A^{\vartheta_2} \cap \{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,t]} \vartheta_2\}$ for $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$.

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□ **Non-anticipating stopping times** : $\{\tau^\vartheta \in (s_1, s_2]\}, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}$ and $\{\{\tau^\vartheta \notin (s_1, s_2]\}, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}$ belong to \mathfrak{F}_{s_2} for $\{\tau^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \subset \mathfrak{F}_t$.

Path dependency

□ $Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta_1}(s)(\omega) = Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta_2}(s)(\omega)$ for \mathbb{P} -a.e. $\omega \in \{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,s]} \vartheta_2\}$, for all $\nu \in \mathcal{U}$ and $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$.

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- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu_1, \vartheta}(s)(\omega) = Z_{t,z}^{\nu_2, \vartheta}(s)(\omega)$ for \mathbb{P} -a.e. $\omega \in \{\nu_1[\vartheta] =_{(t,s]} \nu_2[\vartheta]\}$, for all $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\nu_1, \nu_2 \in \mathcal{L}$.

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- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta_1}(s)(\omega) = Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta_2}(s)(\omega)$ for \mathbb{P} -a.e. $\omega \in \{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,s]} \vartheta_2\}$, for all $\nu \in \mathcal{U}$ and $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$.
- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu_1, \vartheta}(s)(\omega) = Z_{t,z}^{\nu_2, \vartheta}(s)(\omega)$ for \mathbb{P} -a.e. $\omega \in \{\nu_1[\vartheta] =_{(t,s]} \nu_2[\vartheta]\}$, for all $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\nu_1, \nu_2 \in \mathcal{U}$.
- There exists a constant $K(t, z) \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\operatorname{esssup}_{\nu \in \mathcal{U}} \operatorname{essinf}_{\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_t \right] = K(t, z) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

Path regularity and growth conditions

□ There exists $C > 0$, $q \geq 0$, $\varepsilon > 0$ and a continuous map ϱ such that

$$|\ell(z)| \leq C(1 + |z|^q) \quad , \quad \text{ess sup}_{(\bar{\nu}, \bar{\vartheta}) \in \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[|Z_{t,z}^{\bar{\nu}, \bar{\vartheta}}(T)|^{(q \vee 1) + \varepsilon} | \mathcal{F}_t \right] \leq \varrho(z)$$

and

$$\text{ess sup}_{(\bar{\nu}, \bar{\vartheta}) \in \mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[|Z_{t,z}^{\nu \oplus_s \bar{\nu}, \vartheta \oplus_s \bar{\vartheta}}(T) - Z_{s,z'}^{\bar{\nu}, \bar{\vartheta} \oplus_s \bar{\vartheta}}(T)| | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \leq C |Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(s) - z'|.$$

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□ As $\delta \rightarrow 0$

$$\sup_{\bar{\vartheta} \in \mathcal{V}, \tau \in \mathcal{T}_t} \mathbb{P} \left[\sup_{0 \leq h \leq \delta} |Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \bar{\vartheta}}(\tau + h) - Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \bar{\vartheta}}(\tau)| \geq \iota \right] \rightarrow 0.$$

Non-anticipating admissible martingale strategies

□ $M^{\vartheta_1}(s)(\omega) = M^{\vartheta_2}(s)(\omega)$ for \mathbb{P} -a.e. $\omega \in \{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,s]} \vartheta_2\}$, for all $\{M^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \in \mathfrak{M}_{t,p}$ and $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$.

Weak formulation

□ We consider relaxed versions of Λ

$$\bar{\Lambda}(t) := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (z, p) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} : \text{there exist } (t_n, z_n, p_n) \rightarrow (t, z, p) \\ \text{such that } (z_n, p_n) \in \Lambda(t_n) \text{ and } t_n \geq t \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

and

$$\dot{\Lambda}_\iota(t) := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (z, p) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} : (t', z', p') \in B_\iota(t, z, p) \\ \text{implies } (z', p') \in \Lambda(t') \end{array} \right\}$$

Weak formulation

Theorem

(GDP1) : If $(z, p + \varepsilon) \in \Lambda(t)$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$, then $\exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U}$ and $\{M^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \subset \mathcal{M}_{t,p}$ s.t.

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(\tau), M^\vartheta(\tau) \right) \in \bar{\Lambda}(\tau) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s. } \forall \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}, \tau \in \mathcal{T}_t.$$

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(GDP2) : Let $\iota > 0$, $\nu \in \mathfrak{U}$, $\{M^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \in \mathfrak{M}_{t,p}$ and $\{\tau^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \in \mathfrak{T}_t$ be s.t.

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau^\vartheta), M^\vartheta(\tau^\vartheta) \right) \in \mathring{\Lambda}_\iota(\tau^\vartheta) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s. for all } \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Assume further that $\{Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau^\vartheta), \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\}$ is uniformly bounded in L^∞ . Then $(z, p - \varepsilon) \in \Lambda(t)$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

More abstract setting

- \mathbb{R}^d replaced by a metric space $(\mathcal{Z}, d_{\mathcal{Z}})$

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- Lipschitz continuity, and growth estimates on Z and ℓ replaced by :

For all $s \in [t, T]$, $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a partition $(B_j)_j$ of \mathcal{Z} into Borel sets and a sequence $(z_j)_{j \geq 1} \subset \mathcal{Z}$ such that, for all $\nu \in \mathcal{U}$, $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$ and $j \geq 1$:

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- $\mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \geq l(s, z_j, \nu, \vartheta) - \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta} := \{Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(s) \in B_j\}$.

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- $\mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \geq I(s, z_j, \nu, \vartheta) - \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta} := \{Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(s) \in B_j\}$.
- $\text{ess inf}_{\bar{\vartheta} \in \mathfrak{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta \oplus_s \bar{\vartheta}}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \leq J(s, z_j, \nu(\vartheta \oplus_s \cdot)) + \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta}$.

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- $\text{ess inf}_{\bar{\vartheta} \in \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta \oplus_s \bar{\vartheta}}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \leq J(s, z_j, \nu(\vartheta \oplus_s \cdot)) + \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta}$.
- $|K(s, z_j) - K(s, Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(s))| \leq \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta}$.

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 - $\text{ess inf}_{\bar{\vartheta} \in \mathcal{V}} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta \oplus_s \bar{\vartheta}}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right] \leq J(s, z_j, \nu(\vartheta \oplus_s \cdot)) + \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta}$.
 - $|K(s, z_j) - K(s, Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(s))| \leq \varepsilon$ on $C_j^{\nu, \vartheta}$.
- Plus some additional control on the negative part of I .

Sketch of proof for GDP1

□ Assume

$$S_s^{\nu, \vartheta} := \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\tilde{\vartheta} \in \mathcal{V}_s} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu[\vartheta \oplus_s \tilde{\vartheta}], \vartheta \oplus_s \tilde{\vartheta}}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_s \right]$$

is such that $S_t^{\nu, \vartheta} \geq p$.

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□ It admits a càlàg decomposition (up to a modification), +
Doob-Meyer-type decomposition : $S^{\nu, \vartheta} \geq M^{\nu, \vartheta}$ a càdlàg martingale.

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which leads to

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(\tau), M^{\nu, \vartheta}(\tau) - \varepsilon \right) \in \Lambda(\tau) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

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is such that $S_t^{\nu, \vartheta} \geq p$.

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which leads to

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu, \vartheta}(\tau), M^{\nu, \vartheta}(\tau) - \varepsilon \right) \in \Lambda(\tau) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

□ Ok for stopping times τ with values in a countable set. Pass to the limit.

Sketch of proof for GDP2

- τ_n^ϑ an approximation of τ^ϑ on a sequence of finite grids π_n .

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□ If

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta} \left(\tau^\vartheta \right), M^\vartheta \left(\tau^\vartheta \right) \right) \in \mathring{\Lambda}_\nu \left(\tau^\vartheta \right) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

then

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta} \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right), M^\vartheta \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right) \right) \in \Lambda \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right) \text{ on } E_n^\vartheta \text{ for all } \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$$

with $\mathbb{P} \left[E_n^\vartheta \right] \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (uniformly in ϑ).

Sketch of proof for GDP2

□ τ_n^ϑ an approximation of τ^ϑ on a sequence of finite grids π_n .

□ If

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta} \left(\tau^\vartheta \right), M^\vartheta \left(\tau^\vartheta \right) \right) \in \mathring{\Lambda}_\ell \left(\tau^\vartheta \right) \quad \mathbb{P} - \text{a.s.}$$

then

$$\left(Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta} \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right), M^\vartheta \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right) \right) \in \Lambda \left(\tau_n^\vartheta \right) \text{ on } E_n^\vartheta \text{ for all } \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$$

with $\mathbb{P} [E_n^\vartheta] \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (uniformly in ϑ).

□ Hence,

$$K(\tau_n^\vartheta, Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau_n^\vartheta)) \geq M^\vartheta(\tau_n^\vartheta).$$

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□ τ_n^ϑ an approximation of τ^ϑ on a sequence of finite grids π_n .

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then

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with $\mathbb{P}[E_n^\vartheta] \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (uniformly in ϑ).

□ Hence,

$$K(\tau_n^\vartheta, Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau_n^\vartheta)) \geq M^\vartheta(\tau_n^\vartheta).$$

□ Regularity + covering : there exists $\nu_\varepsilon \in \mathcal{U}$ such that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu_\varepsilon,\vartheta}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_{\tau_n^\vartheta} \right] \geq M^\vartheta(\tau_n^\vartheta) - \varepsilon.$$

which implies

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\ell(Z_{t,z}^{\nu_\varepsilon,\vartheta}(T)) | \mathcal{F}_t \right] \geq p - \varepsilon.$$

Application to Brownian controlled SDEs

Framework

- \mathfrak{A} is the set of maps $\nu : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ such that $\{\vartheta_1 \stackrel{(0,\tau)}{=} \vartheta_2\} \subset \{\nu[\vartheta_1] \stackrel{(0,\tau)}{=} \nu[\vartheta_2]\}$ for all $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\tau \in \mathcal{T}$.

Framework

- \mathfrak{U} is the set of maps $\nu : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ such that $\{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,\tau]} \vartheta_2\} \subset \{\nu[\vartheta_1] =_{(0,\tau]} \nu[\vartheta_2]\}$ for all $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\tau \in \mathcal{T}$.
- $Z_{t,z}^{\nu,\vartheta} = (X_{t,x}^{\nu,\vartheta}, Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu,\vartheta})$ is the strong solution of

$$Z(s) = z + \int_t^s \mu(Z(r), \nu[\vartheta]_r, \vartheta_r) dr + \int_t^s \sigma(Z(r), \nu[\vartheta]_r, \vartheta_r) dW_r.$$

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- $\mathcal{M}_{t,p}$ is identified to $\{M_{t,p}^\alpha, \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$ with

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□ \mathfrak{X} the set of maps $\alpha[\cdot] : \mathcal{V} \mapsto \mathcal{A}$ such that $\{\vartheta_1 =_{(0,\tau)} \vartheta_2\} \subset \{\alpha[\vartheta_1] =_{(0,\tau)} \alpha[\vartheta_2]\}$ for $\vartheta_1, \vartheta_2 \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\tau \in \mathcal{T}$.

Framework

- Assume $\ell : (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{R} \mapsto \ell(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}$ is non-decreasing in its y -variable.

Framework

- Assume $\ell : (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1} \times \mathbb{R} \mapsto \ell(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}$ is non-decreasing in its y -variable.
- This allows to associate to Λ the real valued function :

$$\mathbf{y}(t, \mathbf{x}) := \inf\{y : (\mathbf{x}, y) \in \Lambda(t)\}.$$

GDP

Corollary

(GDP1)_y If $y > \mathbf{y}(t, x, p + \varepsilon)$ with $\varepsilon > 0$, then $\exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U}$ and $\{\alpha^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \subset \mathcal{A}$ s.t.

$$Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau) \geq \mathbf{y}_* \left(\tau, X_{t,x}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau), M_{t,p}^{\alpha^\vartheta}(\tau) \right) \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$

for all $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$, $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_t$.

GDP

Corollary

(GDP1)_y If $y > \mathbf{y}(t, x, p + \varepsilon)$ with $\varepsilon > 0$, then $\exists \nu \in \mathfrak{U}$ and $\{\alpha^\vartheta, \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}\} \subset \mathcal{A}$ s.t.

$$Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau) \geq \mathbf{y}_* \left(\tau, X_{t,x}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau), M_{t,p}^{\alpha^\vartheta}(\tau) \right) \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$

for all $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$, $\tau \in \mathcal{T}_t$.

(GDP2)_y Fix a bounded open set $O \ni (t, x, y, p)$, $(\nu, \alpha) \in \mathfrak{U} \times \mathfrak{X}$ and let τ^ϑ denote the first exit time of $(\cdot, X_{t,x}^{\nu,\vartheta}, Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu,\vartheta}, M_{t,p}^{\alpha[\vartheta]})$, $\vartheta \in \mathcal{V}$. Assume that there exists $\eta > 0$ and a continuous function $\varphi \geq \mathbf{y}$ such that

$$Y_{t,x,y}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau^\vartheta) \geq \varphi \left(\tau, X_{t,x}^{\nu,\vartheta}(\tau^\vartheta), M_{t,p}^{\alpha[\vartheta]}(\tau^\vartheta) \right) + \eta \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s. for all } \vartheta \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Then, $y \geq \mathbf{y}(t, x, p - \varepsilon)$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

PDE characterization - “waving hands” version

- Assuming smoothness, existence of optimal strategies...
- $y = \mathbf{y}(t, x, p)$ implies
 $Y^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(t+) \geq \mathbf{y}(t+, X^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(t+), M^{\alpha[\vartheta]}(t+))$ for all ϑ .

PDE characterization - “waving hands” version

- Assuming smoothness, existence of optimal strategies...
- $y = \mathbf{y}(t, x, p)$ implies $Y^{\nu^{[\vartheta]}, \vartheta}(t+) \geq \mathbf{y}(t+, X^{\nu^{[\vartheta]}, \vartheta}(t+), M^{\alpha^{[\vartheta]}}(t+))$ for all ϑ .
- This implies $dY^{\nu^{[\vartheta]}, \vartheta}(t) \geq d\mathbf{y}(t, X^{\nu^{[\vartheta]}, \vartheta}(t), M^{\alpha^{[\vartheta]}}(t))$ for all ϑ

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- This implies $dY^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(t) \geq d\mathbf{y}(t, X^{\nu[\vartheta], \vartheta}(t), M^{\alpha[\vartheta]}(t))$ for all ϑ
- Hence, for all ϑ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_Y(x, y, \nu[\vartheta]_t, \vartheta_t) &\geq \mathcal{L}_{X, M}^{\nu[\vartheta]_t, \vartheta_t, \alpha[\vartheta]_t} \mathbf{y}(t, x, p) \\ \sigma_Y(x, y, \nu[\vartheta]_t, \vartheta_t) &= \sigma_X(x, \nu[\vartheta]_t, \vartheta_t) D_x \mathbf{y}(t, x, p) + \alpha[\vartheta]_t D_p \mathbf{y}(t, x, p)\end{aligned}$$

with $y = \mathbf{y}(t, x, p)$

PDE characterization - “waving hands” version

- PDE characterization

$$\inf_{v \in V} \sup_{(u, a) \in \mathcal{N}^v \mathbf{y}} \left(\mu_Y(\cdot, \mathbf{y}, u, v) - \mathcal{L}_{X, M}^{u, v, a} \mathbf{y} \right) = 0$$

where

$$\mathcal{N}^v \mathbf{y} := \{(u, a) \in U \times \mathbb{R}^d : \sigma_Y(\cdot, \mathbf{y}, u, v) = \sigma_X(\cdot, u, v) D_x \mathbf{y} + a D_p \mathbf{y}\}.$$

PDE characterization - “waving hands” version

- PDE characterization

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- Need to be relaxed...

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