

**MONETARY UTILITY FUNCTIONS,
BSDE AND QUASI-LINEAR PDE**

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Definition of Risk Measures

Notation: $(\Omega, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}, \mathbf{P})$ a filtered probability space with the usual assumptions.

$L^\infty(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{P})$ space of bounded random variables,
 $L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbf{P})$ space of integrable RV.

Liabilities are with $-$ sign!! Wealth is with $+$ sign.
Bankruptcy means “under zero”.

Utility functions are defined on random variables, not on “lotteries”.

Definition. $u: L^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a monetary utility function if $u(\xi + a) = u(\xi) + a$ for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Definition. $u: L^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a (Fatou) monetary concave utility function if

- (1) $u(\xi) \geq 0$ if $\xi \geq 0$
- (2) u is concave
- (3) $u(\xi + a) = u(\xi) + a$ for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$
- (4) **Fatou property.** If $\sup_n \|\xi_n\|_\infty < \infty$, if $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi$ in probability, then $u(\xi) \geq \limsup u(\xi_n)$.

A utility u is characterised by the acceptance set

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\xi \mid u(\xi) \geq 0\}, u(\xi) = \max\{a \in \mathbb{R} \mid \xi - a \in \mathcal{A}\}.$$

In case u is a monetary utility function we define

$$\rho(\xi) = -u(\xi)$$

and call it a **convex risk measure**. It describes the amount of money to be added to become acceptable, i.e. to be in \mathcal{A} .

$$\rho(\xi + \rho(\xi)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(\xi - u(\xi)) = 0.$$

$\mathcal{P} = \{\mathbf{Q} \ll \mathbf{P} \mid \mathbf{Q} \text{ is a probability}\}$. The Fenchel-Legendre transform of u satisfies (Föllmer-Schied)

$c : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{+\infty\}$ is a convex function, for each $k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ the set $\{\mathbf{Q} \mid c(\mathbf{Q}) \leq k\}$ is convex and closed.

$\inf_{\mathbf{Q} \in \mathcal{P}} c(\mathbf{Q}) = 0$, we will suppose $c(\mathbf{P}) = 0$.

Characterisation of such utility functions. *For given u (Fatou) there is c as above such that*

$$u(\xi) = \inf\{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}}[\xi] + c(\mathbf{Q}) \mid \mathbf{Q} \in \mathcal{P}\}.$$

Conversely such a function c defines a Fatou utility function.

Depending on c we get different examples, some of them easy to calculate some are more difficult. Essentially it becomes a linear programme in infinite dimensions.

The proof is essentially the Hahn-Banach theorem together with the Krein-Smulian theorem (needed to get weak* closed sets in L^∞). We also need that on bounded sets of L^∞ the topology of convergence in measure is the Mackey topology, a result that goes back to Grothendieck and which is based on the characterisation of relatively weakly compact sets (in L^1) as the uniformly integrable sets, the so-called Dunford-Pettis theorem.

u is positively homogeneous (coherent) if and only if there is a closed convex set $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{P}$ such that $c(\mathbf{Q}) = 0$ on \mathcal{S} and $c(\mathbf{Q}) = +\infty$ if $\mathbf{Q} \notin \mathcal{S}$.

$$u(\xi) = \inf\{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}}[\xi] \mid \mathbf{Q} \in \mathcal{S}\}.$$

In continuous time we need to add an extra assumption: time consistency (Koopmans 1960). This means that we have the following decomposition property (for each stopping time σ):

- (1) $\mathcal{A}^\sigma = \{\xi \in \mathcal{A} \mid \text{for all } A \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma : \mathbf{1}_A \xi \in \mathcal{A}\}$
- (2) $\mathcal{A}_\sigma = \mathcal{A} \cap L^\infty(\mathcal{F}_\sigma)$
- (3) $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}^\sigma + \mathcal{A}_\sigma$

For each stopping we can define a utility function

$$u_\sigma(\xi) = \text{ess.sup}\{\eta \in L^\infty(\mathcal{F}_\sigma) \mid \xi - \eta \in \mathcal{A}^\sigma\}$$

This means that time consistency and u_0 completely define the process u_t .

This gives, in the usual way (duality theory) a penalty function $c_\sigma(\mathbf{Q})$. The process c_t can be made càdlàg as well as the process $u_t(\xi)$. (Jocelyne Bion-Nadal)

The proof uses the decomposition property.

Time consistency is usually defined as:

if $\xi, \eta \in L^\infty$, if for stopping times $\sigma \leq \tau$ we have $u_\tau(\xi) \leq u_\tau(\eta)$ then also $u_\sigma(\xi) \leq u_\sigma(\eta)$.

On finite time intervals the time consistency is equivalent to the Bellman dynamic programming principle. On infinite time intervals this is wrong!!

Duffie-Epstein

Epstein-Schneider

Frittelli, Scandolo, Biagini

Maccheroni-Marinacci-Rustichini

Berlin-school, Detlefsen

Cheridito

Kupper

...

We take the case of d -dimensional Brownian Motion B , with the usual filtration. Finite time interval $[0, T]$. Time consistent (with Fatou property) utility functions can be defined via convex optimisation.

There is a function $f(t, \omega, x)$ such that

- (1) for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, the function $f(\cdot, \cdot, x)$ is predictable
- (2) for (t, ω) the function is convex, takes values in $\mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{+\infty\}$ and is proper
- (3) $f(\cdot, \cdot, 0) = 0$
- (4) g is the Fenchel-Legendre transform of f

For $\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{P}$ and $\frac{d\mathbf{Q}}{d\mathbf{P}} = \mathcal{E}(q \cdot B)_T$ we have

$$c_t(\mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} \left[\int_t^T f(q_u) du \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \leq +\infty$$

Uses previous characterisations of Chen, Peng, El Karoui-Quenez-Peng. However we do not suppose any dominance of u by a g -expectation (some kind of hidden weak compactness)

$$u_t(\xi) = \text{ess.inf}_{\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{P}} \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} \left[\xi + \int_t^T f(q_u) du \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

We will suppose (for simplicity) that g is real valued ($< +\infty$) and that f and g do not depend on (t, ω) . In this case we have precise results

Theorem. *For all $\mathbf{Q} \ll \mathbf{P}$ we have that $u_t(\xi) + \int_0^{\tau \wedge t} f(q_u) du$ is a \mathbf{Q} -submartingale, $\tau = \inf\{t \mid L_t = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{P}} \left[\frac{d\mathbf{Q}}{d\mathbf{P}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] = 0\}$. If there is $\mathbf{Q} \ll \mathbf{P}$ with $u_0(\xi) = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} \left[\xi + \int_0^{\tau} f(q_u) du \right]$, then $u_t(\xi) + \int_0^{\tau \wedge t} f(q_u) du$ is a \mathbf{Q} -martingale.*

For the Doob-Meyer decomposition (under \mathbf{P}) we get

$$u_t(\xi) = u_0(\xi) + A_t - \int_0^t Z_u dB_t$$

It is easy to see that $Z \cdot B$ is BMO and that A_T has exponential moments.

Furthermore, duality shows that $dA_t \geq g(Z_t) dt$.

Theorem. *Suppose that for $\xi \in L^\infty$ there is $\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{P}$ with $u_0(\xi) = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} [\xi + \int_0^T f(q_u) du]$, then $dA_t = g(Z_t) dt$.*

$$u_t(\xi) = u_0(\xi) + \int_0^t g(Z_t) dt - \int_0^t Z_u dB_t$$

Theorem. *Are equivalent*

- (1) *g has at most quadratic growth*
$$g(x) \leq k(1 + |x|^2).$$
- (2) *$f(x) \geq cx^2 - c$ for some $c > 0$*
- (3) *for all $\xi \in L^\infty$ there is $\mathbf{Q} \ll \mathbf{P}$ with $u_0(\xi) = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} [\xi + \int_0^T f(q_u) du]$*
- (4) *for all $\xi \in L^\infty$ there is $\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{P}$ with $u_0(\xi) = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} [\xi + \int_0^T f(q_u) du]$*
- (5) *$\forall \xi \in L^\infty$ the BSDE $dY_t = g(Z_t) dt - Z_t dB_t$ has a (unique) bounded solution with $Y_T = \xi$*
- (6) *for all $k \geq 0$, the set $\{\mathbf{Q} \mid c_0(\mathbf{Q}) \leq k\}$ is weakly compact.*

This is a combination of James' theorem, Jouini-Schachermayer-Touzi and the “martingale” theorem. Results of Barrieu-El Karoui are also used. The new part is the equivalence of 5 and 1. There is a relation with entropy.

BSDE with subquadratic driver were considered by Kobylanski, Briand-Coquet-Hu, Imkeller, ...

One can easily see (convexity theory) that bounded solutions Y of the BSDE satisfy

$$Y_t \leq u_t(\xi)$$

Theorem. *Are equivalent*

- (1) $\limsup_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(x)}{x^2} = \infty$ or $\liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{x^2} = 0$
- (2) *there is $\xi \in L^\infty$ such that the BSDE has no bounded solution. The set of ξ for which there is a solution is not norm dense in L^∞ .*
- (3) *if the BSDE has a bounded solution Y for $\xi \in L^\infty$, then for each $y < Y_0$, there are infinitely many bounded solutions with $Y'_0 = y$.*
- (4) *for some ξ , there are infinitely many bounded solutions with $Y_0 = u_0(\xi)$*
- (5) *the utility function u_0 is NOT strictly monotone.*

Theorem. *If ξ is minimal, i.e. $\eta \leq \xi$ and $\mathbf{P}[\eta < \xi] > 0$ imply $u_0(\eta) < u_0(\xi)$, then for ξ there is a bounded solution Y .*

The converse is not true.

Remark. The fact that there is $\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{P}$ with $c(\mathbf{Q}) = 0$ is equivalent to 0 being minimal, some kind of relevance axiom. It says that for all A with $\mathbf{P}[A] > 0$, we must have $u(-\mathbf{1}_A) < 0$.

In all the “bad” examples, ξ depends on the history of B .

What happens if $\xi = \phi(B_T)$, i.e. the Markov case. In this case the process u_t is a function of B_t , say $u(t, B_t)$.

Itô calculus leads to

$$\partial_t u + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{xx} u - g(-\partial_x u) = 0, \quad u(T, x) = \phi(x),$$

The related quasi-linear PDE has a bounded solution.

$$\partial_t u + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{xx} u - g(-\partial_x u) = 0, \quad u(T, x) = \phi(x),$$

for bounded ϕ with $\phi' \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$.

The proof uses BSDE techniques. As an example look at ($\beta > 2$)

$$\partial_t u + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{xx} u - |\partial_x u|^\beta = 0, \quad u(T, x) = j(x)$$