

Exercise: $(X_n), (Y_n)$ submartingales,
 τ a stopping time s.t. $X_{\tau(\omega)}(\omega) \leq Y_{\tau(\omega)}(\omega)$
 $Z_n(\omega) := \begin{cases} X_n(\omega) & \text{if } n < \tau(\omega) \\ Y_n(\omega) & \text{if } n \geq \tau(\omega) \end{cases}$

Show: (Z_n) is a sub-martingale.

Observe that the process (Z_n) can be rewritten as

$$Z_n(\omega) = X_n(\omega) \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau(\omega)\}} + Y_n(\omega) \mathbb{1}_{\{n \geq \tau(\omega)\}}$$

• Since τ is a stopping time, the sets $\{\tau \leq n\}$ and $\{\tau > n\} = \{\tau \leq n\}^c$ are in \mathcal{F}_n .

\Rightarrow Hence, $\mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau(\omega)\}}$ and $\mathbb{1}_{\{n \geq \tau(\omega)\}}$ are \mathcal{F}_n -measurable.

\Rightarrow Since X_n and Y_n are adapted as (X_n) and (Y_n) are sub-martingales, also Z_n is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable.

So (Z_n) is adapted.

• Check that Z_n is integrable:

$$\begin{aligned} E[|Z_n|] &= E[|X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}} + Y_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n \geq \tau\}}|] \leq E[|X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}}|] + E[|Y_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n \geq \tau\}}|] \\ &\leq \underbrace{E[|X_n|]}_{< \infty \text{ as } X_n \in \mathcal{L}^1} + \underbrace{E[|Y_n|]}_{< \infty \text{ as } Y_n \in \mathcal{L}^1} < \infty \end{aligned}$$

• It remains to check the conditional expectation property.

$$\begin{aligned} E[Z_{n+1} | \mathcal{F}_n] &= E[X_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 < \tau\}} + Y_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \\ &= \underbrace{E[X_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 < \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n]}_{\mathcal{F}_n\text{-meas.}} - \underbrace{E[X_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 = \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n]}_{\geq -Y_\tau} + E[Y_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \\ &= E[X_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 < \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] - E[X_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 = \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] + E[Y_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \\ &\stackrel{X \text{ submart.}}{\geq} X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}} + E[(-X_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 = \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] + E[Y_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \\ &\geq X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}} + E[\underbrace{Y_{n+1}}_{\text{mart.}} (\underbrace{\mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}}}_{\mathcal{F}_n\text{-meas.}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 = \tau\}}}_{\geq -Y_\tau}) | \mathcal{F}_n] \\ &= X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}} + E[Y_{n+1} \mathbb{1}_{\{n+1 \geq \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_n] \geq X_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n < \tau\}} + Y_n \mathbb{1}_{\{n \geq \tau\}} = Z_n \text{ p.p.s.} \end{aligned}$$