

Exercise 10.1 Let H be an adapted process in $\mathcal{L}^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, Q)$, and define for $\tau \in \mathcal{T}$

$$\mathcal{T}_\tau := \{\sigma \in \mathcal{T} \mid \sigma \geq \tau\}.$$

Show that the Snell envelope U^Q of H satisfies Q -a.s.

$$U_\tau^Q = \text{ess sup}_{\sigma \in \mathcal{T}_\tau} E_Q[H_\sigma \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau],$$

and that the essential supremum is attained for

$$\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)} := \min\{t \geq \tau \mid H_t = U_t^Q\}.$$

$$= \sum_{t=0}^T \text{ess-sup}_{\tau \leq t \leq T} (E_Q(H_t \mid \mathcal{F}_t)) \mathbb{1}_{[t=\tau]} = \text{ess-sup}_{\tau \leq t \leq T} E_Q(H_t \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \underbrace{\sum_{t=0}^T \mathbb{1}_{[t=\tau]}}_{=1} \quad Q\text{-a.s. } \square \text{ (Claim 1)}$$

Claim 1: for $Y \in \mathcal{L}^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, Q)$: $E_Q(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = E_Q(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]}$

Proof 1: $\rightarrow [\tau=t] \in \mathcal{F}_t$ since τ is a stopping time and $[\tau=t] \in \mathcal{F}_\tau = \{A \in \mathcal{F} \mid \forall t: A \cap \{\tau \leq t\} \in \mathcal{F}_t\}$

$$\Rightarrow E_Q(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = E_Q(Y \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mid \mathcal{F}_t) = Z_1 \text{ \& } E_Q(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = E_Q(Y \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \quad (1)$$

$$\rightarrow Z_1 \text{ is } \mathcal{F}_t\text{-mbl (by def.) and } Z_1 = Z_1 \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \Rightarrow \forall B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}): Z_1^{-1}(B) = (Z_1 \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]})^{-1}(B) = \underbrace{Z_1^{-1}(B) \cap [\tau=t]}_{\in \mathcal{F}_\tau \cap \mathcal{F}_t} \cup \underbrace{[\tau=t] \cap [0 \in B]}_{\in \mathcal{F}_\tau} \in \mathcal{F}_\tau \Rightarrow Z_1 \text{ is } \mathcal{F}_\tau\text{-mbl} \quad (2)$$

$$\rightarrow \forall A \in \mathcal{F}_\tau: E_Q(Z_1 \cdot \mathbb{1}_A) \stackrel{(1)}{=} E_Q(E_Q(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mathbb{1}_A) = E_Q(E_Q(Y \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_t)) = E_Q(Y \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mathbb{1}_A) \quad (3)$$

$$\stackrel{(2),(3)}{\Rightarrow} \text{(by def. of the cond. expectation): } E_Q(Y \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \stackrel{!}{=} Z_1 \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} E_Q(Y \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \quad \square \text{ (Claim 1.1)}$$

Claim 2: $\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)}$ fulfils $E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) = \text{ess-sup}_{\sigma \in \mathcal{T}_\tau} E_Q(H_\sigma \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau)$

Proof 2: \rightarrow we have $\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)} \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = \sigma_{\min}^{(t)} \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]}$ and by Thm 6.18: $\text{ess-sup}_{t \leq \sigma \leq T} E_Q(H_\sigma \mid \mathcal{F}_t) = E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(t)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t)$ (4)

$$\Rightarrow \text{ess-sup}_{\tau \leq \sigma \leq T} E_Q(H_\sigma \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \stackrel{\text{ess sup in Claim 1}}{=} \sum_{t=0}^T \text{ess-sup}_{t \leq \sigma \leq T} (E_Q(H_\sigma \mid \mathcal{F}_t)) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \stackrel{(4)}{=} \sum_{t=0}^T E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(t)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = \sum_{t=0}^T E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(t)}} \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \mid \mathcal{F}_t) = \sum_{t=0}^T E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(t)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} \stackrel{\text{Claim 1.1}}{=} \sum_{t=0}^T E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]} = E_Q(H_{\sigma_{\min}^{(\tau)}} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \underbrace{\sum_{t=0}^T \mathbb{1}_{[\tau=t]}}_{=1} \stackrel{\text{Claim 2}}{=} \square$$

Exercise 10.2

(a) Show that for $Q_1 \approx Q_2$, their pasting in $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}$ is equivalent to Q_1 and satisfies

$$\frac{d\tilde{Q}}{dQ_1} = \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma}$$

where Z is the density process of Q_2 with respect to Q_1 .

(b) Try to find an independent proof of the statement: For $Q_1 \approx Q_2$, let \tilde{Q} be their pasting in $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}$. Then for all stopping times τ and \mathcal{F}_τ measurable $Y \geq 0$,

$$E_{\tilde{Q}}[Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau] = E_{Q_1}[E_{Q_2}[Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\sigma \vee \tau}] \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau].$$

a) Proof: $\rightarrow \tilde{Q}$ is given by: (see Def 6.38) $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}_T$:

$$\tilde{Q}(A) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma))$$

$$\rightarrow \text{if } Q_1(A) = 0 \Rightarrow Q_2(A) = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{Q}(A) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\rightarrow \text{if } Q_1(A) > 0 \Rightarrow Q_2(A) > 0 \Rightarrow E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma) \geq 0 \text{ and } \exists \Omega_1 \subset \Omega \text{ s.t. } Q_2(\Omega_1) > 0 \text{ with } E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma) \mathbb{1}_{\Omega_1} > 0 \text{ (Proof: if not then } 0 = E_{Q_2}(E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) = E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A) = Q_2(A) > 0 \text{)}$$

$$\stackrel{Q_1 \sim Q_2}{\Rightarrow} Q_1(\Omega_1) > 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{Q}(A) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) > 0 \quad (2) \quad \rightarrow (1) \& (2) \Rightarrow \tilde{Q} \sim Q_1 \sim Q_2$$

$\rightarrow \frac{d\tilde{Q}}{dQ_1}$ is by def. the Q_1 -a.s. unique RV. $S > 0$ s.t. $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}: \tilde{Q}(A) = \int_A S dQ_1$, (3) \Rightarrow enough to show that $\frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma}$ fulfils (3)

\rightarrow since $Z = \frac{dQ_2}{dQ_1}$ with $Q_1 \sim Q_2$ we have $Z > 0$ Q_1 -a.s. \Rightarrow also $Z_\sigma = E_{Q_1}(\frac{dQ_2}{dQ_1} \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma) > 0$ Q_1 -a.s.

$$\rightarrow \text{let } A \in \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \int_A \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma} dQ_1 = E_{Q_1}(\mathbb{1}_A \cdot \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma}) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_1}(\mathbb{1}_A \cdot \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma} \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) \stackrel{\text{Bayes Formula}}{=} E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) = \tilde{Q}(A)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma} \text{ fulfils (3)} \Rightarrow \frac{d\tilde{Q}}{dQ_1} = \frac{Z_T}{Z_\sigma} \quad Q_1\text{-a.s. } \square$$

b) Proof: \rightarrow RHS is by def \mathcal{F}_τ -mbl \Rightarrow (by def. of cond. expectation) enough to show: $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}_T: E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \cdot \mathbb{1}_A) = E_{\tilde{Q}}(\text{RHS} \cdot \mathbb{1}_A)$ (6)

$$\rightarrow \text{on } [\tau \leq \sigma]: \text{ let } A \in \mathcal{F}_\tau \rightarrow E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \cdot \mathbb{1}_A \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]}) \stackrel{\text{def of } \tilde{Q}}{=} E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_A) =$$

$$= E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau)) \stackrel{\mathcal{F}_\tau \cap \mathcal{F}_\sigma\text{-mbl, by Lem 6.36}}{=} E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\sigma \vee \tau}) \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_A) = E_{\tilde{Q}}(E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\sigma \vee \tau}) \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_A) \quad (4)$$

$$= E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\sigma \vee \tau}) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq \sigma]}, \text{ using Claim 1.1 of Ex 10.1 (twice)} \quad \mathcal{F}_\tau\text{-mbl} \Rightarrow E_{Q_1}(\cdot) = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(\cdot \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) = E_{\tilde{Q}}(\cdot) = \text{RHS}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{on } [\tau > \sigma]: \text{ let } A \in \mathcal{F}_\tau \text{ as above } \rightarrow E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \cdot \mathbb{1}_A \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]}) \stackrel{\text{def of } \tilde{Q}}{=} E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) =$$

$$= E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)) \stackrel{\text{def of } \tilde{Q}}{=} E_{\tilde{Q}}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]})$$

$$= E_{\tilde{Q}}(E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_A \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau)) = E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\tau \vee \sigma}) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]}, \text{ using Claim 1.1 of Ex 10.1}$$

$$= E_{\tilde{Q}}(E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mid \mathcal{F}_{\tau \vee \sigma}) \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]}) \quad (5)$$

= RHS

$= E_{Q_2}(E_{Q_2}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mid \mathcal{F}_\tau) \mid \mathcal{F}_\sigma)$, since this is \mathcal{F}_σ -mbl & $\forall B \in \mathcal{F}_\sigma$:
 $E_{Q_2}(\mathbb{1}_B) \int_B E_{Q_2}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_B) \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]} \mathbb{1}_B \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > \sigma]}$ are $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \vee \tau}$ -mbl by Lem 6.36 \Rightarrow can be pulled in and out of the cond. expectations.

→ with (4) & (5) ⇒ $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}_T : E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \mathbb{1}_A) = E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq t_0]}) + E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > t_0]}) \stackrel{(4) \& (5)}{=}$

$= E_{\tilde{Q}}(RHS \cdot \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau \leq t_0]}) + E_{\tilde{Q}}(RHS \cdot \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{[\tau > t_0]}) = E_{\tilde{Q}}(RHS \cdot \mathbb{1}_A)$

⇒ (6) holds true ⇒ $E_{\tilde{Q}}(Y | \mathcal{F}_T) = RHS = E_{Q_1}(E_{Q_2}(Y | \mathcal{F}_{T \vee t_0}) | \mathcal{F}_T)$ □

Exercise 10.3 For a twice differential utility function $U : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the so-called *relative risk aversion* is given by

$$-\frac{x U''(x)}{U'(x)}$$

(a) Characterize all utility functions $U = U^\gamma$ with constant relative risk aversion equal to γ . Normalize the functions so that $U^\gamma(1) = 0$ and $(U^\gamma)'(1) = 1$.

(b) Verify that $\lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 1} U^\gamma(x) = U^1(x)$ for all x .

(c) For a differentiable function $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, the *elasticity* of f is defined as

$$\frac{x f'(x)}{f(x)}$$

Show that with $U^\gamma(0) = 0$ instead of the normalization above, utility functions with constant relative risk aversion $\gamma \neq 1$ also have constant elasticity.

o) sol: ~ let $U = U^\gamma$ with $-\frac{x U''(x)}{U'(x)} = \gamma \quad \forall x \geq 0$

~ let $g(x) := U'(x) \quad \forall x \geq 0 \Rightarrow -x g'(x) = \gamma g(x)$

⇔ $\frac{g'(x)}{g(x)} = -\frac{\gamma}{x} \quad \rightsquigarrow \int \frac{g'(x)}{g(x)} dx = -\int \frac{\gamma}{x} dx \Leftrightarrow$ $\frac{d}{dx} \ln(g(x)) = \frac{1}{g(x)} g'(x)$

⇔ $\ln(g(x)) = -\gamma \ln(x) = \ln(x^{-\gamma})$

⇔ $g(x) = x^{-\gamma} \Rightarrow$ general solution of the ODE: $g(x) = c_1 x^{-\gamma}, c_1 \in \mathbb{R}$

⇒ $U'(x) = c_1 x^{-\gamma} \Rightarrow U(x) = c_0 + \int c_1 x^{-\gamma} dx, c_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

~ for $\gamma = 1$: $U(x) = c_0 + \int c_1 x^{-1} dx = c_0 + c_1 \ln(x)$

~ for $\gamma = 0$: $U(x) = c_0 + \int c_1 dx = c_0 + c_1 x$

~ for $\gamma \notin \{0, 1\}$: $U(x) = c_0 + \int c_1 x^{-\gamma} dx = c_0 + c_1 \frac{1}{-\gamma+1} x^{-\gamma+1}$

⇒ $U^\gamma(x) = \begin{cases} c_0 + c_1 \frac{x^{-\gamma+1}}{-\gamma+1} & , \gamma \neq 1 \\ c_0 + c_1 \ln(x) & , \gamma = 1 \end{cases}$

~ normalizing yields: $1 = (U^\gamma)'(1) = c_1 1^{-\gamma} = c_1 \Leftrightarrow c_1 = 1$ and $0 = U^\gamma(1) = c_0 + \begin{cases} \frac{1}{-\gamma+1} 1^{-\gamma+1} \\ \ln(1) \end{cases} = c_0 + \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \\ 0 \end{cases}$

⇔ $c_0 = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{1-\gamma} & , \gamma \neq 1 \\ 0 & , \gamma = 1 \end{cases}$

→ the normalized utility functions U^γ are given by $U^\gamma(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\gamma-1} + \frac{x^{-\gamma+1}}{1-\gamma} & , \gamma \neq 1 \\ \ln(x) & , \gamma = 1 \end{cases}$

b) Proof: $\lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 1} U^\gamma(x) = \lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^{-\gamma+1} - 1}{1-\gamma} \stackrel{\gamma=1=a}{=} \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^a - 1}{a} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\exp(\ln(x^a)) - 1}{a} = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\exp(a \ln(x)) - 1}{a} \stackrel{\text{L'Hospital}}{=} \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(x) \exp(a \ln(x))}{1} =$

$= \ln(x) = U^1(x)$ □

c) Proof: ~ $\gamma \neq 1 \Rightarrow U^\gamma(x) = c_0 + \frac{x^{-\gamma+1}}{1-\gamma}$ ~ new normalization: $0 = U^\gamma(1) = c_0 \Rightarrow$ normalized utility functions U^γ for $\gamma \neq 1$ are given by: $U^\gamma(x) = \frac{x^{-\gamma+1}}{1-\gamma}$

⇒ $\frac{x \cdot (U^\gamma)'(x)}{U^\gamma(x)} = \frac{x \cdot x^{-\gamma}}{\frac{x^{-\gamma+1}}{1-\gamma}} = 1-\gamma = \text{const}$ □