

**Processes of Class (Σ),
Last Passage Times
and Drawdowns**

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joint work with Ashkan Nikeghbali
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Processes of class (Σ) were introduced in

M. Yor (1979).

Les inégalités de sous-martingales comme conséquence de la relation de domination. *Stochastics* **3**(1).

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}, \mathbb{P})$ be a filtered probability space

Definition

We say (X_t) is a process of class (Σ) if $X_t = N_t + A_t$, where

- (1) (N_t) is a cadlag local martingale
- (2) A_t is a continuous adapted finite variation process starting at 0
- (3) $\int_0^t 1_{\{X_u \neq 0\}} dA_u = 0$ for all $t \geq 0$

We say (X_t) is of class (ΣD) if it is of class (Σ) and of class (D) .

$L := \sup \{t : X_t = 0\}$ with the convention $\sup \emptyset = 0$.

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(2) If (M_t) is a continuous local martingale, then

$$|M_t| = |M_0| + \int_0^t \text{sign}(M_u) dM_u + l_t,$$

$$M_t^+ = M_0^+ + \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{M_u > 0\}} dM_u + \frac{1}{2}l_t \text{ and}$$

$$M_t^- = M_0^- + \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{M_u \leq 0\}} dM_u + \frac{1}{2}l_t$$

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(3) If (M_t) is a local martingale such that

$$\overline{M}_t := \sup_{u \leq t} M_u \text{ is continuous, then}$$

$$\overline{M}_t - M_t = (M_0 - M_t) + (\overline{M}_t - M_0)$$

is of class (Σ) .

Lemma

Let (X_t) be of class (ΣD) . Then (N_t) is a uniformly integrable martingale and (A_t) of totally integrable variation. In particular,

$$N_t \rightarrow N_\infty, \quad A_t \rightarrow A_\infty, \quad X_t \rightarrow X_\infty$$

almost surely and in L^1 .

Proof

X_t^+ and X_t^- are submartingales of class (D), and the lemma follows from the Doob-Meyer Theorem. \square

Lemma

Let (X_t) be of class (Σ) and $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ differentiable. Then

$f(A_t)X_t$ is of class (Σ) with decomposition

$$f(A_t)X_t = f(0)X_0 + \int_0^t f(A_u)dN_u + F(A_t),$$

where

$$F(x) = \int_0^x f(y)dy.$$

In particular, if $f(A_t)X_t$ is of class (D), then

$$\begin{aligned} f(A_t)X_t - F(A_t) &= f(0)X_0 + \int_0^t f(A_u)dN_u \\ &= \mathbb{E}[f(A_\infty)X_\infty - F(A_\infty) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] \end{aligned}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(A_t)X_t) &= f'(A_t)X_t dA_t + f(A_t)dN_t + f(A_t)dA_t \\ &= f(A_t)dN_t + f(A_t)dA_t. \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{f(A_u)X_u \neq 0\}} dF(A_u) = \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{f(A_u)X_u \neq 0\}} f(A_u) dA_u = 0.$$

□

The transformation

$$X_t \rightarrow f(A_t)X_t$$

is inspired by the [Azéma–Yor](#) solution of the Skorokhod embedding problem.

See also [Carraro–El Karoui–Obloj \(2009\)](#)

Theorem

Let (X_t) be of class (ΣD) . Then

$$X_t = \mathbb{E} \left[X_\infty \mathbf{1}_{\{L \leq t\}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right], \quad t \geq 0.$$

Proof

$$X_t \mathbf{1}_{\{L \leq t\}} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} X_\infty & \text{if } L \leq t \\ 0 & \text{if } L > t \end{array} \right\} = X_{d_t},$$

where

$$d_t = \inf \{u > t : X_u = 0\}, \quad \inf \emptyset = \infty.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[X_\infty \mathbf{1}_{\{L \leq t\}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[X_{d_t} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[N_{d_t} + A_{d_t} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] = N_d + A_t = X_t \end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary (Madan–Roynette–Yor, 2008)

Let (M_t) be a non-negative local martingale with no negative jumps. Let $K \in \mathbb{R}_+$ and

$$g^K = \sup \{t : M_t \geq K\}$$

Then

$$(K - M_t)^+ = \mathbb{E} \left[(K - M_\infty)^+ \mathbf{1}_{\{g^K \leq t\}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right].$$

In particular, if $M_t \rightarrow 0$ a.s., then

$$\mathbb{E} \left[(K - M_t)^+ \right] = K \mathbb{P}[g^K \leq t].$$

Corollary

Let (M_t) be a non-negative local martingale with no positive jumps such that $M_t \rightarrow 0$ a.s. Define

$$T_{\max} = \sup \{t \geq 0 : M_t = \overline{M}_\infty\}.$$

Then

$$\mathbb{P}[T_{\max} \leq t] = \mathbb{E} \left[1 - \frac{M_t}{\overline{M}_t} \right] = \mathbb{E} [\log(\overline{M}_t)] - \mathbb{E} [M_0].$$

Proof

$$X_t = 1 - \frac{M_t}{\overline{M}_t} = \frac{\overline{M}_t - M_t}{\overline{M}_t} \quad \text{is of class } (\Sigma)$$

with $L = T_{\max}$. □

Theorem

Let (X_t) be a non-negative process of class (Σ) and $f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ differentiable such that $f(A_t)X_t$ is of class (D) and $f(A_t)X_t \rightarrow 1$ a.s. Denote

$$F(x) = \int_0^x f(y)dy$$

Then for all bounded Borel functions $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and every stopping time T ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}[h(A_\infty) \mid \mathcal{F}_T] \\ &= h(0)f(0)X_0 + h^F(0)(1 - f(0)X_0) \\ & \quad + \int_0^T (h - h^F)(A_u)f(A_u)dN_u \\ &= h(A_T)f(A_T)X_T + h^F(A_T)(1 - f(A_T)X_T), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h^F(x) = e^{F(x)} \int_x^\infty h(y)e^{-F(y)}dF(y), \quad x \geq 0.$$

In particular, the conditional law of A_∞ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}[A_\infty > x \mid \mathcal{F}_T] \\ &= \mathbf{1}_{\{A_T > x\}} + \mathbf{1}_{\{A_T \leq x\}}(1 - f(A_T)X_T)e^{F(A_T) - F(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

Let (Y_t) be a diffusion of the form

$$dY_t = \mu(Y_t)dt + \sigma(Y_t)dB_t, \quad Y_0 = y_0.$$

Consider a function $\lambda : [y_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and define

$$T_\lambda = \inf \{t \geq 0 : Y_t = \lambda(\bar{Y}_t)\}$$

Set

$$\gamma(x) = 2 \int_{y_0}^x \frac{\mu(y)}{\sigma^2(y)} dy \quad \text{and} \quad s(x) = \int_{y_0}^x e^{-\gamma(y)} dy.$$

Then $M_t = s(Y_t)$ is a local martingale

Corollary (Lehocky, 1977)

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{Y}_{T_\lambda} > x] = \exp \left(- \int_{y_0}^x \frac{e^{-\gamma(y)} dy}{\int_{\lambda(y)}^y e^{-\gamma(z)} dz} \right) \quad \text{for } x \geq y_0,$$

Let (M_t) be a continuous local martingale starting at $m \in \mathbb{R}_+$. Let $\lambda : [m, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\lambda(x) < x$.

Define

$$T_\lambda = \inf \left\{ t : M_t = \lambda(\bar{M}_t) \right\} = \inf \left\{ t : \frac{\bar{M}_t - M_t}{\bar{M}_t - \lambda(\bar{M}_t)} = 1 \right\}$$

and

$$\Lambda(x) = \int_0^x \frac{1}{y - \lambda(y)} dy.$$

Theorem

For each Borel function $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and stopping time $T \leq T_\lambda$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[h(\bar{M}_{T_\lambda}) \mid \mathcal{F}_T \right] \\ &= h^\Lambda(m) + \int_0^T \frac{h^\Lambda(\bar{M}_u) - h(\bar{M}_u)}{\bar{M}_u - \lambda(\bar{M}_u)} dM_u \\ &= \frac{h(\bar{M}_T)(\bar{M}_T - M_T) + h^\Lambda(\bar{M}_T)(M_T - \lambda(\bar{M}_T))}{\bar{M}_T - \lambda(\bar{M}_T)}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h^\Lambda(x) = e^{\Lambda(x)} \int_x^\infty h(y) e^{-\Lambda(y)} d\Lambda(y), \quad x \geq m.$$

Special Cases

Drawdown: $DD_t = \overline{M}_t - M_t$

Relative Drawdown: $rDD_t = \frac{\overline{M}_t - M_t}{\overline{M}_t}$

Consider triggers of the form:

1. Stop-loss trigger $T_c = \inf \{t : M_t = c\}$, $c < M_0$
2. Drawdown trigger $T_c = \inf \{t : DD_t = c\}$, $c > 0$
3. Relative drawdown trigger $T_c = \inf \{t : rDD_t = c\}$,
 $c > 0$

Stop-loss trigger

$T_c = \inf \{t : M_t = c\}$ for some $c < M_0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[h(\bar{M}_{T_c}) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t \wedge T_c} \right] \\ &= h^\wedge(m) + \int_0^{t \wedge T_c} \frac{h^\wedge(\bar{M}_u) - h(\bar{M}_u)}{\bar{M}_u - c} dM_u \\ &= \frac{h(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c}) D D_{t \wedge T_c} + h^\wedge(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c})(M_{t \wedge T_c} - c)}{\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c} - c}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h^\wedge(x) = (x - c) \int_x^\infty \frac{h(y)}{(y - c)^2} dy.$$

Drawdown trigger

$T_c = \inf \{t : DD_t = c\}$ for some $c > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[h(\bar{M}_{T_c}) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t \wedge T_c} \right] \\ &= h^\wedge(m) + \frac{1}{c} \int_0^{t \wedge T_c} (h^\wedge(\bar{M}_u) - h(\bar{M}_u)) dM_u \\ &= h(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c}) \frac{DD_{t \wedge T_c}}{c} + h^\wedge(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c}) \left(1 - \frac{DD_{t \wedge T_c}}{c} \right). \end{aligned}$$

for

$$h^\wedge(x) = \frac{1}{c} e^{x/c} \int_x^\infty h(y) e^{-y/c} dy.$$

Relative drawdown trigger

$T_c = \inf \{t : rDD_t = c\}$ for some $c < M_0$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[h(\bar{M}_{T_c}) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t \wedge T_c} \right] \\ &= h^\wedge(m) + \int_0^{t \wedge T_c} \frac{h^\wedge(\bar{M}_u) - h(\bar{M}_u)}{c \bar{M}_u} dM_u \\ &= h(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c}) \frac{rDD_{t \wedge T_c}}{c} + h^\wedge(\bar{M}_{t \wedge T_c}) \left(1 - \frac{rDD_{t \wedge T_c}}{c} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h^\wedge(x) = \frac{1}{c} x^{1/c} \int_x^\infty h(y) y^{-(1+c)/c} dy.$$

compare to the ...

Russian options of Shepp and Shiryaev (1993)

crash options of Vecer (2007)

drawdown–drawup options

of Carr–Hadjiladis–Zhang (2010)