

A stochastic maximum principle for processes driven by fractional Brownian motion

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Abstract

We prove a stochastic maximum principle for controlled processes $X(t) = X^{(u)}(t)$ of the form

$$dX(t) = b(t, X(t), u(t))dt + \sigma(t, X(t), u(t))dB^{(H)}(t)$$

where $B^{(H)}(t)$ is m -dimensional fractional Brownian motion with Hurst parameter $H = (H_1, \dots, H_m) \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)^m$. As an application we solve a problem about minimal variance hedging in an incomplete market driven by fractional Brownian motion.

1 Introduction

Let $H = (H_1, \dots, H_m)$ with $\frac{1}{2} < H_j < 1$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$, and let $B^{(H)}(t) = (B_1^{(H)}(t), \dots, B_m^{(H)}(t))$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be m -dimensional fractional Brownian motion, *i.e.* $B^{(H)}(t) = B^{(H)}(t, \omega)$, $(t, \omega) \in \mathbb{R} \times \Omega$ is a Gaussian process in \mathbb{R}^m such that

$$(1.1) \quad \mathbb{E} [B^{(H)}(t)] = B^{(H)}(0) = 0$$

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and

$$(1.2) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[B_j^{(H)}(s) B_k^{(H)}(t) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \{ |s|^{2H_j} + |t|^{2H_j} - |t-s|^{2H_j} \} \delta_{jk}; 1 \leq j, k \leq n, \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R},$$

where

$$\delta_{jk} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } j \neq k \\ 1 & \text{when } j = k \end{cases}$$

Here $\mathbb{E} = \mathbb{E}_\mu$ denotes the expectation with respect to the probability law $\mu = \mu_H$ for $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$. This means that the components $B_1^{(H)}(\cdot), \dots, B_m^{(H)}(\cdot)$ of $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$ are m independent 1-dimensional fractional Brownian motions with Hurst parameters H_1, H_2, \dots, H_m , respectively. We refer to [MvN], [NVV] and [S] for more information about fractional Brownian motion. Because of its interesting properties (e.g. long range dependence and self-similarity of the components) $B^{(H)}(t)$ has been suggested as a replacement of *standard Brownian motion* $B(t)$ (corresponding to $H_j = \frac{1}{2}$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$) in several stochastic models, including finance.

Unfortunately, $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$ is neither a semimartingale nor a Markov process, so the powerful tools from the theories of such processes are not applicable when studying $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$. Nevertheless, an efficient stochastic calculus of $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$ can be developed. This calculus uses an Itô type of integration with respect to $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$ and white noise theory. See [DHP] and [HØ2] for details. For applications to finance see [HØ2], [HØS1] [HØS2]. In [Hu1], [Hu2], [HØZ] and [ØZ] the theory is extended to multi-parameter fractional Brownian fields $B^{(H)}(x); x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and applied to stochastic partial differential equations driven by such fractional white noise.

The purpose of this paper is to establish a stochastic maximum principle for stochastic control of processes driven by $B^{(H)}(\cdot)$. We illustrate the result by applying it to a problem about minimal variance hedging in finance.

2 Preliminaries

For the convenience of the reader we recall here some of the basic results of fractional Brownian motion calculus. Let $B^{(H)}(t)$ be 1-dimensional in the following.

Define, for given $H \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$,

$$(2.1) \quad \phi(s, t) = \phi_H(s, t) = H(2H - 1)|s - t|^{2H-2}; \quad s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

As in [HØ2] we will assume that Ω is the space $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ of tempered distributions on \mathbb{R} , which is the dual of the Schwartz space $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$ of rapidly decreasing functions on \mathbb{R} . If $\omega \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ and $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$ we let $\langle \omega, f \rangle = \omega(f)$ denote the action of ω applied to f . It can be extended to all $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\|f\|_\phi^2 := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(s)f(t)\phi(s, t)ds dt < \infty.$$

The space of all such (deterministic) functions f is denoted by $L_\phi^2(\mathbb{R})$.

If $F : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a given function we let

$$(2.2) \quad D_t^\phi F = \int_{\mathbb{R}} D_r F \cdot \phi(r, t)dr$$

denote the Malliavin ϕ -derivative of F at t (if it exists) (see [DHP, Definition 3.4]). Define $\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$ to be the set of (measurable) processes $g(t, \omega) : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $D_s^\phi g(s)$ exists for a.a. $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and

$$(2.3) \quad \|g\|_{\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}}^2 := \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(s)g(t)\phi(s, t)ds dt + \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_s^\phi g(s)ds \right)^2 \right] < \infty$$

We let $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t)$ denote the *fractional Itô-integral* of the process $\sigma(t, \omega)$ with respect to $B^{(H)}(t)$, as defined in [DHP]. In particular, this means that if σ belongs to the family \mathbb{S} of step functions of the form

$$\sigma(t, \omega) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i(\omega) \chi_{[t_i, t_{i+1})}(t), \quad (t, \omega) \in \mathbb{R} \times \Omega,$$

where $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{N+1}$, then

$$(2.4) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i(\omega) \diamond (B^{(H)}(t_{i+1}) - B^{(H)}(t_i)),$$

where \diamond denotes the Wick product. For $\sigma(t) = \sigma(t, \omega) \in \mathbb{S} \cap \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$ we have the isometry

$$(2.5) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t) \right]^2 = \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \sigma(s)\sigma(t)\phi(s, t)ds dt + \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_s^\phi \sigma(s)ds \right)^2 \right] = \|\sigma\|_{\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}}^2,$$

where $\mathbb{E} = \mathbb{E}_{\mu_H}$. Using this we can extend the integral $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t)$ to $\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$. Note that if $\sigma, \theta \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$, we have, by polarization,

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t) \int_{\mathbb{R}} \theta(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \sigma(s)\theta(t)\phi(s, t)ds dt + \int_{\mathbb{R}} D_s^\phi \sigma(s)ds \int_{\mathbb{R}} D_t^\phi \theta(t)dt \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Also note that we need not assume that the integrand $\sigma \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$ is adapted to the filtration $\mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}$ generated by $B^{(H)}(s, \cdot); s \leq t$.

An important property of this fractional Itô-integral is that

$$(2.7) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t) \right] = 0 \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}.$$

(see [DHP, Theorem 3.9]).

We give three versions of the fractional Itô formula, in increasing order of complexity.

Theorem 2.1 ([DHP], Theorem 4.1) *Let $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R})$ with bounded second order derivatives. Then for $t \geq 0$*

$$(2.8) \quad f(B^{(H)}(t)) = f(B^{(H)}(0)) + \int_0^t f'(B^{(H)}(s))dB^{(H)}(s) + H \int_0^t s^{2H-1} f''(B^{(H)}(s))ds.$$

Theorem 2.2 ([DHP], Theorem 4.3) *Let $X(t) = \int_0^t \sigma(s, \omega) dB^{(H)}(s)$, where $\sigma \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}$ and assume $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R})$ with bounded second order derivatives. Then for $t \geq 0$*

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} f(t, X(t)) &= f(0, 0) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(s, X(s)) ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(s, X(s)) \sigma(s) dB^{(H)}(s) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(s, X(s)) \sigma(s) D_s^\phi X(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Finally we give an m -dimensional version:

Let $B^{(H)}(t) = (B_1^{(H)}(t), \dots, B_m^{(H)}(t))$ be an m -dimensional fractional Brownian motion with Hurst parameter $H = (H_1, \dots, H_m) \in (1/2, 1)^m$, as in Section 1. Since we are here dealing with m independent fractional Brownian motions we may regard Ω as the product of m independent copies of $\bar{\Omega}$ and write $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_m)$ for $\omega \in \Omega$. Then in the following the notation $D_{k,s}^\phi Y$ means the Malliavin ϕ -derivative with respect to ω_k and could also be written

$$(2.10) \quad D_{k,s}^\phi Y = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi_{H_k}(s, t) D_{k,t} Y dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi_{H_k}(s, t) \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \omega_k}(t, \omega) dt.$$

Similar to the 1-dimensional case discussed in Section 1, we can define the multi-dimensional fractional (Wick-Itô) integral

$$(2.11) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t, \omega) dB^{(H)}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_j(t, \omega) dB_j^{(H)}(t) \in L^2(\mu)$$

for all processes $f(t, \omega) = (f_1(t, \omega), \dots, f_m(t, \omega)) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that, for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$,

$$(2.12) \quad \|f_j\|_{\mathcal{L}_{\phi_j}^{1,2}}^2 := \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_j(s) f_j(t) \phi_j(s, t) ds dt + \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{j,t}^{\phi_j} f_j(t) dt \right)^2 \right] < \infty$$

where $\phi_j = \phi_{H_j}$; $1 \leq j \leq m$.

Denote the set of all such m -dimensional processes f by $\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)$, where $\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m)$.

It can be proved (see [BØ]) that for $f, g \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)$ we have the following *fractional multi-dimensional Itô isometry*

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f dB^{(H)} \right) \cdot \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g dB^{(H)} \right) \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_i(s) g_i(t) \phi_i(s, t) ds dt \right. \\ &+ \left. \sum_{i,j=1}^m \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{j,t}^{\phi_j} f_i(t) dt \right) \cdot \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{i,t}^{\phi_i} g_j(t) dt \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

We put

$$(2.14) \quad \begin{aligned} (f, g)_{\mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)} &= \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_i(s) g_i(t) \phi_i(s, t) ds dt \right. \\ &+ \left. \sum_{i,j=1}^m \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{j,t}^{\phi_j} f_i(t) dt \right) \cdot \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{i,t}^{\phi_i} g_j(t) dt \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

and define

$$\mathbb{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m) = \{f \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m); \|f\|_{\mathbb{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)}^2 := (f, f)_{\mathbb{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)} < \infty\}.$$

Now suppose $\sigma_i \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. Then we can define $X(t) = (X_1(t), \dots, X_n(t))$ where

$$(2.15) \quad X_i(t, \omega) = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t \sigma_{ij}(s, \omega) dB_j^{(H)}(s); 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

We have the following multi-dimensional fractional Itô formula:

Theorem 2.3 *Let $f \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ with bounded second order derivatives. Then, for $t \geq 0$,*

$$(2.16) \quad \begin{aligned} f(t, X(t)) &= f(0, 0) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(s, X(s)) ds + \int_0^t \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(s, X(s)) dX_i(s) \\ &+ \int_0^t \left\{ \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(s, X(s)) \sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_{ik}(s) D_{k,s}^\phi(X_j(s)) \right\} ds \\ &= f(0, 0) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial f}{\partial s}(s, X(s)) ds + \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(s, X(s)) \sigma_{ij}(s, \omega) \right] dB_j^{(H)}(s) \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.17) \quad + \int_0^t \text{Tr} [\Lambda^T(s) f_{xx}(s, X(s))] ds.$$

Here $\Lambda = [\Lambda_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ with

$$(2.18) \quad \Lambda_{ij}(s) = \sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_{ik} D_{k,s}^\phi(X_j(s)); \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m,$$

$$(2.19) \quad f_{xx} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right]_{1 \leq i, j \leq n},$$

and $(\cdot)^T$ denotes matrix transposed and $\text{Tr}[\cdot]$ denotes matrix trace.

The following useful result is a multidimensional version of Theorem 4.2 in [DHP]:

Theorem 2.4 *Let*

$$(2.20) \quad X(t) = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t \sigma_j(r, \omega) dB_j^{(H)}(r); \quad \sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m) \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m).$$

Then

$$(2.21) \quad D_{k,s}^\phi X(t) = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t D_{k,s}^\phi \sigma_j(r) dB_j^{(H)}(r) + \int_0^t \sigma_k(r) \phi_{H_k}(s, r) dr, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m.$$

In particular, if $\sigma_j(r)$ is deterministic for all $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ then

$$(2.22) \quad D_{k,s}^\phi X(t) = \int_0^t \sigma_k(r) \phi_{H_k}(s, r) dr.$$

Now we have the following integration by parts formula.

Corollary 2.5 *Let $X(t)$ and $Y(t)$ be two processes of the form*

$$dX(t) = \mu(t, \omega)dt + \sigma(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t), \quad X(0) = x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

and

$$dY(t) = \nu(t, \omega)dt + \theta(t, \omega)dB^{(H)}(t), \quad Y(0) = y \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where $\mu : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $\nu : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ and $\theta : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ are given processes with rows σ_i , $\theta_i \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2}(m)$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $B^H(\cdot)$ is an m -dimensional fractional Brownian motion.

a) Then, for $T > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X(T) \cdot Y(T)] &= x \cdot y + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T X(s) dY(s) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T Y(s) dX(s) \right] \\ &+ \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_{ik}(s) \theta_{ik}(t) \phi_{H_k}(s, t) ds dt \right] \\ (2.23) \quad &+ \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j,k=1}^m \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{j,t}^\phi \sigma_{ik}(t) dt \right) \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} D_{k,t}^\phi \theta_{ij}(t) dt \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

provided that the first two integrals exist.

b) In particular, if $\sigma(\cdot)$ or $\theta(\cdot)$ is deterministic then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X(T) \cdot Y(T)] &= x \cdot y + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T X(s) dY(s) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T Y(s) dX(s) \right] \\ (2.24) \quad &+ \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_{ik}(s) \theta_{ik}(t) \phi_{H_k}(s, t) ds dt \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof This follows from Theorem 2.3 applied to the function $f(t, x, y) = xy$, combined with (2.13). \square

3 Stochastic differential equations

For given functions $b : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ consider the stochastic differential equation

$$(3.1) \quad dX(t) = b(t, X(t))dt + \sigma(t, X(t))dB^{(H)}(t), \quad t \in [0, T],$$

where the initial value $X(0) \in L^2(\mu_\phi)$ or the terminal value $X(T) \in L^2(\mu_\phi)$ is given. The Itô isometry for the stochastic integral becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left(\int_0^T \sigma(t, X(t)) dB^{(H)}(t) \right)^2 &= \mathbb{E} \left(\int_0^T \int_0^T \sigma(t, X(t)) \sigma(s, X(s)) \phi(s, t) ds dt \right) \\ (3.2) \quad &+ \mathbb{E} \left\{ \left(\int_0^T \sigma'_x(s, X(s)) D_s^\phi X(s) ds \right)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Because of the appearance of the term $D_s^\phi X(s)$ on the right-hand-side of the above identity, we may not directly apply the Picard iteration to solve (3.1).

In this section, we will solve the following quasi-linear stochastic differential equations using the theory developed in [HØ1], [HØ2]:

$$(3.3) \quad dX(t) = b(t, X(t))dt + (\sigma_t X(t) + a_t) dB^{(H)}(t),$$

where σ_t and a_t are given deterministic functions, $b(t, x) = b(t, x, \omega)$ is (almost surely) continuous with respect to t and x and globally Lipschitz continuous on x , the initial condition $X(0)$ or the terminal condition $X(T)$ is given. For simplicity we will discuss the case when $a_t = 0$ for all $t \in [0, T]$. Namely, we shall consider

$$(3.4) \quad dX(t) = b(t, X(t))dt + \sigma_t X(t)dB^{(H)}(t).$$

We need the following result, which is a fractional version of Gjessing's lemma (see e.g. Theorem 2.10.7 in [HØUZ]).

Lemma 3.1 *Let $G \in L^2(\mu_H)$ and*

$$F = \exp^\diamond \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t)dB^{(H)}(t) \right) = \exp \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t)dB^{(H)}(t) - \frac{1}{2}\|f\|_\phi^2 \right),$$

where f is deterministic and such that

$$\|f\|_\phi^2 := \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f(s)f(t)\phi(s,t)dsdt < \infty.$$

Then

$$(3.5) \quad F \diamond G = F\tau_{\hat{f}}G,$$

where \diamond is the Wick product defined in [HØ2], \hat{f} is given by

$$(3.6) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f(s)g(t)\phi(s,t)dsdt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{f}(s)g(s)ds \quad \forall g \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$$

and

$$\tau_{\hat{f}}G(\omega) = G(\omega - \int_0^\cdot \hat{f}(s)ds).$$

Proof By [DHP, Theorem 3.1] it suffices to show the result in the case when

$$G(\omega) = \exp^\diamond \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g(t)dB^{(H)}(t) \right) = \exp^\diamond \langle \omega, g \rangle,$$

where g is deterministic and $\|g\|_\phi < \infty$. In this case we have

$$\begin{aligned} F \diamond G &= \exp^\diamond \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} [f(t) + g(t)] dB^{(H)}(t) \right) \\ &= \exp \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} [f(t) + g(t)] dB^{(H)}(t) - \frac{1}{2}\|f\|_\phi^2 - \frac{1}{2}\|g\|_\phi^2 - (f, g)_\phi \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(f, g)_\phi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f(s)g(t)\phi(s, t)dsdt.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\hat{f}}G &= \exp^\diamond \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g(t)dB^{(H)}(t) - \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{f}(t)g(t)dt \right) \\ &= \exp^\diamond \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g(t)dB^{(H)}(t) - (f, g)_\phi \right).\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$F\tau_{\hat{f}}G = \exp \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t)dB^{(H)}(t) - \frac{1}{2}\|f\|_\phi^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(t)dB^{(H)}(t) - \frac{1}{2}\|g\|_\phi^2 - (f, g)_\phi \right) = F \diamond G.$$

□

We now return to Equation (3.3). First let us solve the equation when $b = 0$ and with initial value $X(0)$ given. Namely, let us consider

$$(3.7) \quad dX(t) = -\sigma_t X(t)dB^{(H)}(t), \quad X(0) \text{ given.}$$

With the notion of Wick product, this equation can be written (see [HØ2, Def 3.11])

$$(3.8) \quad \dot{X}(t) = -\sigma_t X(t) \diamond W^{(H)}(t),$$

where $W^{(H)} = \dot{B}^{(H)}$ is the fractional white noise. Using the Wick calculus, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}(3.9) \quad X(t) &= X(0) \diamond J_\sigma(t) \\ &:= X(0) \diamond \exp^\diamond \left(- \int_0^t \sigma_s W^{(H)}(s) ds \right) \\ &= X(0) \diamond \exp \left(- \int_0^t \sigma_s dB^{(H)}(s) - \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|_{\phi, t}^2 \right),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(3.10) \quad \|\sigma\|_{\phi, t}^2 := \int_0^t \int_0^t \sigma_u \sigma_v \phi(u, v) dudv.$$

To solve Equation (3.4) we let

$$(3.11) \quad Y_t := X(t) \diamond J_\sigma(t).$$

This means

$$(3.12) \quad X(t) = Y_t \diamond \hat{J}_\sigma(t),$$

where

$$(3.13) \quad \hat{J}_\sigma(t) = J_{-\sigma}(t) = \exp \left(\int_0^t \sigma_s dB^{(H)}(s) - \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|_{\phi, t}^2 \right).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dY_t}{dt} &= \frac{dX(t)}{dt} \diamond J_\sigma(t) + X(t) \diamond \frac{dJ_\sigma(t)}{dt} \\
&= \frac{dX(t)}{dt} \diamond J_\sigma(t) - \sigma_t J_\sigma(t) \diamond X(t) \diamond W^{(H)}(t) \\
&= J_\sigma(t) \diamond b(t, X(t), \omega) \\
&= J_\sigma(t) b(t, \tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} X(t), \omega + \int_0^\cdot \hat{\sigma}(s) ds),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(3.14) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \sigma_s g(t) \phi(s, t) ds dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\sigma}_s g(s) ds \quad \forall g \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}).$$

We are going to relate $\tau_{\hat{\sigma}} X(t)$ to Y_t .

$$\begin{aligned}
\tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} X_t(t, \omega) &= \tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} [J_{-\sigma}(t) \sigma \diamond Y_t(t, \omega)] \\
&= \tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} [J_{-\sigma}(t) \tau_{\hat{\sigma}} Y_t] \\
&= \tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} J_{-\sigma}(t) Y_t.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\tau_{-\hat{\sigma}} J_{-\sigma}(t) = [J_{-\hat{\sigma}}(t)]^{-1}$, we obtain an equation equivalent to (3.4) for Y_t :

$$(3.15) \quad \frac{dY_t}{dt} = J_{-\sigma}(t) b(t, [J_{-\sigma}(t)]^{-1} Y_t, \omega + \int_0^\cdot \hat{\sigma}(s) ds).$$

This is a deterministic equation. The initial value $X(0)$ is equivalent to initial value $Y_0 = X(0) \diamond J_{-\sigma}(0) = X(0)$. Thus we can solve the quasilinear equation with given initial value.

The terminal value $X(T)$ can also be transformed into the terminal value on $Y(T) = X(T) \diamond J_{-\sigma}(T)$. Thus the equation with given terminal value can be solved in a similar way. Note, however, that in this case the solution need not be $\mathcal{F}^{(H)}$ -adapted (see the next section).

Example 3.2 In the equation (3.4) let us consider the case $b(t, x) = b_t x$ for some deterministic locally bounded function b_t of t . This means that we are considering the linear stochastic differential equation:

$$(3.16) \quad dX(t) = b_t X(t) dt + \sigma_t X(t) dB^{(H)}(t).$$

In this case it is easy to see that the equation (3.15) satisfied by Y is

$$\dot{Y}_t = b(t) Y_t.$$

When the initial value is $Y(0) = x$ (constant), $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$Y_t = x e^{\int_0^t b(s) ds}.$$

Thus the solution of (3.16) with $X(0) = x$ can be expressed as

$$(3.17) \quad \begin{aligned} X(t) &= Y(t) \diamond J_{-\sigma}(t) \\ &= x \exp \left\{ \int_0^t b(s) ds + \int_0^t \sigma_s dB^{(H)}(s) - \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|_{\phi, t}^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

If we assume the terminal value $X(T)$ given, then

$$\begin{aligned} Y(t) &= Y(T)e^{\int_t^T b(s)ds} \\ &= X(T) \diamond J_\sigma(T)e^{\int_t^T b(s)ds} . \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(3.18) \quad \begin{aligned} X(t) = Y(t) \diamond J_{-\sigma}(t) &= X(T) \diamond \exp \left\{ \int_t^T b(s)ds \right. \\ &\left. - \int_t^T \sigma_s dB^{(H)}(s) - \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T \int_t^T \sigma(u)\sigma(v)\phi(u,v)dudv \right\} . \end{aligned}$$

4 Fractional backward stochastic differential equations

Let $b : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a given function and let $F : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a given $\mathcal{F}_T^{(H)}$ -measurable random variable, where $T > 0$ is a constant. Consider the problem of finding $\mathcal{F}^{(H)}$ -adapted processes $p(t)$, $q(t)$ such that

$$(4.1) \quad dp(t) = b(t, p(t), q(t))dt + q(t)dB^{(H)}(t); \quad t \in [0, T] ,$$

$$(4.2) \quad P(T) = F \quad \text{a.s.}$$

This is a *fractional backward stochastic differential equation* (FBSDE) in the two unknown processes $p(t)$ and $q(t)$. We will not discuss general theory for such equations here, but settle with a solution in a linear variant of (4.1)-(4.2), namely

$$(4.3) \quad dp(t) = [\alpha(t) + b_t p(t) + c_t q(t)] dt + q(t)dB^{(H)}(t); \quad t \in [0, T] ,$$

$$(4.4) \quad P(T) = F \quad \text{a.s.} ,$$

where b_t and c_t are given continuous deterministic functions and $\alpha(t) = \alpha(t, \omega)$ is a given $\mathcal{F}^{(H)}$ -adapted process s.t. $\int_0^T |\alpha(t, \omega)|dt < \infty$ a.s.

To solve (4.3)-(4.4) we proceed as follows: By the fractional Girsanov theorem (see e.g. [HØ2, Theorem 3.18]) we can rewrite (4.3) as

$$(4.5) \quad dp(t) = [\alpha(t) + b_t p(t)] dt + q(t)d\hat{B}^{(H)}(t); \quad t \in [0, T] ,$$

where

$$(4.6) \quad \hat{B}^{(H)}(t) = B^{(H)}(t) + \int_0^t c_s ds$$

is a fractional Brownian motion (with Hurst parameter H) under the new probability measure $\hat{\mu}$ on $\mathcal{F}_T^{(H)}$ defined by

$$(4.7) \quad \frac{d\hat{\mu}(\omega)}{d\mu(\omega)} = \exp^\diamond \{ -\langle \omega, \hat{c} \rangle \} = \exp \left\{ - \int_0^T \hat{c}(s)dB^{(H)}(s) - \frac{1}{2} \|\hat{c}\|_\phi^2 \right\} ,$$

where $\hat{c} = \hat{c}_t$ is the continuous function with $\text{supp}(\hat{c}) \subset [0, T]$ satisfying

$$(4.8) \quad \int_0^T \hat{c}_s \phi(s, t) ds = c_t; \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

and

$$\|\hat{c}\|_\phi^2 = \int_0^T \int_0^T \hat{c}(s) \hat{c}(t) \phi(s, t) ds dt.$$

If we multiply (4.5) with the integrating factor

$$\beta_t := \exp\left(-\int_0^t b_s ds\right),$$

we get

$$(4.9) \quad d(\beta_s p(s)) = \beta_s \alpha(s) ds + \beta_s q(s) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s),$$

or, by integrating (4.9) from $s = t$ to $s = T$,

$$(4.10) \quad \beta_T F = \beta_t p(t) + \int_t^T \beta_s \alpha(s) ds + \int_t^T \beta_s q(s) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s).$$

Assume from now on that

$$(4.11) \quad \|\alpha\|_{\hat{\mathcal{L}}_\phi^{1,2}[0,T]}^2 := \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\int_{[0,T] \times [0,T]} \alpha(s) \alpha(t) \phi(s, t) ds dt + \left(\int_0^T \hat{D}_s^\phi \alpha(s) ds \right)^2 \right] < \infty.$$

By the fractional Itô isometry (see [DHP, Theorem 3.7] or [HØS2, (1.10)]) applied to \hat{B} , $\hat{\mu}$ we then have

$$(4.12) \quad \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\left(\int_0^T \alpha(s) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s) \right)^2 \right] = \|\alpha\|_{\hat{\mathcal{L}}_\phi^{1,2}[0,T]}^2.$$

From now on let us also assume that

$$(4.13) \quad \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}} [F^2] < \infty.$$

We now apply the quasi-conditional expectation operator (see [HØ2, Definition 4.9a)])

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\cdot | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)} \right]$$

to both sides of (4.10) and get

$$(4.14) \quad \beta_T \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} [F | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}] = \beta_t p(t) + \int_t^T \beta_s \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} [\alpha(s) | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}] ds.$$

Here we have used that $p(t)$ is $\mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}$ -measurable, that the filtration $\hat{\mathcal{F}}_t^{(H)}$ generated by $\hat{B}^{(H)}(s); s \leq t$ is the same as $\mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}$, and that

$$(4.15) \quad \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\int_t^T f(s, \omega) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s) | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_t^{(H)} \right] = 0, \quad \text{for all } t \leq T$$

for all $f \in \hat{\mathcal{L}}_\phi^{1,2}[0, T]$. See [HØ2, Def 4.9] and [HØS2, Lemma 1.1].

From (4.14) we get the solution

$$(4.16) \quad \begin{aligned} p(t) &= \exp\left(-\int_t^T b_s ds\right) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[F | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)} \right] \\ &\quad + \int_t^T \exp\left(-\int_t^s b_r dr\right) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\alpha(s) | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)} \right] ds; \quad t \leq T. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, choosing $t = 0$ we get

$$(4.17) \quad p(0) = \exp\left(-\int_0^T b_s ds\right) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} [F] + \int_0^T \exp\left(-\int_0^s b_r dr\right) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} [\alpha(s)] ds.$$

Note that $p(0)$ is $\mathcal{F}_0^{(H)}$ -measurable and hence a constant. Choosing $t = 0$ in (4.10) we get

$$(4.18) \quad G = \int_0^T \beta_s q(s) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s),$$

where

$$(4.19) \quad G = G(\omega) = \beta_T F(\omega) - \int_0^T \beta_s \alpha(s, \omega) ds - p(0),$$

with $p(0)$ given by (4.17).

By the fractional Clark-Ocone theorem [HØ1, Theorem 4.15 b)] applied to $(\hat{B}^{(H)}, \hat{\mu})$ we have

$$(4.20) \quad G = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}}[G] + \int_0^T \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_s G | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_s^{(H)} \right] d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s),$$

where \hat{D} denotes the Malliavin derivative at s with respect to $\hat{B}^{(H)}(\cdot)$. Comparing (4.18) and (4.20) we see that we can choose

$$(4.21) \quad q(t) = \exp\left(\int_0^t b_r dr\right) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_t G | \mathcal{F}_t^{(H)} \right].$$

We have proved the first part of the following result:

Theorem 4.1 *Assume that (4.11) and (4.13) hold. Then a solution $(p(t), q(t))$ of (4.3)–(4.4) is given by (4.16) and (4.21). The solution is unique among all $\mathcal{F}^{(H)}$ -adapted processes $p(\cdot), q(\cdot) \in \hat{\mathcal{L}}_\phi^{1,2}[0, T]$.*

Proof It remains to prove uniqueness. The uniqueness of $p(\cdot)$ follows from the way we deduced formula (4.16) from (4.3)–(4.4). The uniqueness of q is deduced from (4.18) and (4.20) by the following argument: Substituting (4.20) from (4.18) and using that $\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}}(G) = 0$ we get

$$0 = \int_0^T \left(\beta_s q(s) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_s G | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_s^{(H)} \right] \right) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s).$$

Hence by the fractional Itô isometry (4.12)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\left\{ \int_0^T \left(\beta_s q(s) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_s G | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_s^{(H)} \right] \right) d\hat{B}^{(H)}(s) \right\}^2 \right] \\ &= \|\beta_s q(s) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_s G | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_s^{(H)} \right]\|_{\mathcal{L}_{\phi}^{1,2}[0,T]}^2, \end{aligned}$$

from which it follows that

$$\beta_s q(s) - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\hat{\mu}} \left[\hat{D}_s G | \hat{\mathcal{F}}_s^{(H)} \right] = 0 \quad \text{for } a.a.(s, \omega) \in [0, T] \times \Omega.$$

□

5 A stochastic maximum principle

We now apply the theory in the previous section to prove a maximum principle for systems driven by fractional Brownian motion. See e.g. [H], [P] and [YZ] and the references therein for more information about the maximum principle in the classical Brownian motion case.

Suppose $X(t) = X^{(u)}(t)$ is a controlled system of the form

$$(5.1) \quad dX(t) = b(t, X(t), u(t))dt + \sigma(t, X(t), u(t))dB^{(H)}(t); \quad X(0) = x \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where $b : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\sigma : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ are given C^1 functions. The control process $u(\cdot) : [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow U \subset \mathbb{R}^k$ is assumed to be $\mathcal{F}^{(H)}$ -adapted. U is a given closed convex set in \mathbb{R}^k .

Let $f : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $G : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ be given C^1 functions and consider a *performance functional* $J(u)$ of the form

$$(5.2) \quad J(u) = \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T f(t, X(t), u(t))dt + g(X(T)) \right]$$

and a *terminal condition* given by

$$(5.3) \quad \mathbb{E}[G(X(T))] = 0.$$

Let \mathcal{A} denote the set of all $\mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}$ -adapted processes $u : [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow U$ such that $X^{(u)}(t)$ exists and does not explode in $[0, T]$ and

$$(5.4) \quad E \left[\int_0^T |f(t, X(t), u(t))|dt + g^-(X(T)) + G^-(X(T)) \right] < \infty$$

where $y^- = \max(0, y)$ for $y \in \mathbb{R}$, and such that (5.3) holds. If $u \in \mathcal{A}$ and $X^{(u)}(t)$ is the corresponding state process we call $(u, X^{(u)})$ an *admissible pair*. Consider the problem to find J^* and $u^* \in \mathcal{A}$ such that

$$(5.5) \quad J^* = \sup \{J(u); u \in \mathcal{A}\} = J(u^*).$$

If such $u^* \in \mathcal{A}$ exists, then u^* is called an *optimal control* and (u^*, X^*) , where $X^* = X^{u^*}$, is called an *optimal pair*.

Let $\mathcal{R}^{n \times m}$ be the set of continuous function from $[0, T]$ into $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$. Define the *Hamiltonian* $H : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \times U \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathcal{R}^{n \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$(5.6) \quad H(t, x, u, p, q(\cdot)) = f(t, x, u) + b(t, x, u)^T p + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_{ik}(t, x, u) \int_0^T q_{ik}(s) \phi_{H_k}(s, t) ds.$$

Consider the following *fractional stochastic backward differential equation* in the pair of unknown $\mathcal{F}_t^{(H)}$ -adapted processes $p(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $q(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$, called the *adjoint processes*:

$$(5.7) \quad \begin{cases} dp(t) = -H_x(t, X(t), u(t), p(t), q(\cdot)) dt + q(t) dB^{(H)}(t); & t \in [0, T] \\ p(T) = g_x(X(T)) + \lambda^T G_x(X(T)). \end{cases}$$

where $H_x = \nabla_x H = \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_n} \right)^T$ is the gradient of H with respect to x and similarly with g_x and G_x . $X(t) = X^{(u)}(t)$ is the process obtained by using the control $u \in \mathcal{A}$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ is a constant. The equation (5.6) is called the adjoint equation and $p(t)$ is sometimes interpreted as the *shadow price* (of a resource).

Theorem 5.1 (The fractional stochastic maximum principle) *Suppose $\hat{u} \in \mathcal{A}$ and put $\hat{X} = X^{(\hat{u})}$. Suppose there exists a solution $\hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(t)$ of the corresponding adjoint equation (5.7) for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ and such that the following, (5.8)–(5.11), hold:*

$$(5.8) \quad X^{(u)}(t) \hat{q}(t) \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{p}^T(t) \sigma(t, X^{(u)}(t), u(t)) \in \mathcal{L}_\phi^{1,2} \quad \text{for all } u \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$(5.9) \quad H(t, \cdot, \cdot, \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(t)), \quad g(\cdot) \quad \text{and} \quad G(\cdot) \quad \text{are concave, for all } t \in [0, T],$$

$$(5.10) \quad H(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t), \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)) = \max_{v \in U} H(t, \hat{X}(t), v, \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)),$$

$$(5.11) \quad \Delta_4 := \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j,k=1}^m \left(\int_0^T D_{j,t}^{\phi_j} \{ \sigma_{ik}(t, X(t), u(t)) - \sigma_{ik}(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) \} dt \right) \left(\int_0^T D_{k,t}^{\phi_k} \hat{q}_{ij}(t) dt \right) \right] \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } u \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Then if $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ is such that (\hat{u}, \hat{X}) is admissible (in particular, (5.3) holds), the pair (\hat{u}, \hat{X}) is an optimal pair for problem (5.5).

Proof We first give a proof in the case when $G(x) = 0$, i.e. when there is no terminal condition.

With (\hat{u}, \hat{X}) as above consider

$$(5.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta &:= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T f(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) dt - \int_0^T f(t, X(t), u(t)) dt \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T H(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t), \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)) dt - \int_0^T H(t, X(t), u(t), \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)) dt \right] \\ &\quad - \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \left\{ b(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) \right\}^T \hat{p}(t) dt - \int_0^T b(t, X(t), u(t))^T \hat{p}(t) dt \right] \\ &\quad - \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ \sigma_{ik}(s, \hat{X}(s), \hat{u}(s)) - \sigma_{ik}(s, X(s), u(s)) \right\} \hat{q}_{ik}(t) \phi_{H_k}(s, t) ds dt \right] \\ &=: \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \Delta_3. \end{aligned}$$

Since $(x, u) \rightarrow H(x, u) = H(t, x, u, p, q(\cdot))$ is concave we have

$$H(x, u) - H(\hat{x}, \hat{u}) \leq H_x(\hat{x}, \hat{u}) \cdot (x - \hat{x}) + H_u(\hat{x}, \hat{u}) \cdot (u - \hat{u})$$

for all $(x, u), (\hat{x}, \hat{u})$. Since $v \rightarrow H(\hat{X}(t), v)$ is maximal at $v = \hat{u}(t)$ we have

$$H_u(\hat{x}, \hat{u}) \cdot (u(t) - \hat{u}(t)) \leq 0 \quad \forall t.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &\geq \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T -H_x(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t), \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)) \cdot (X(t) - \hat{X}(t)) dt \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T (X(t) - \hat{X}(t))^T d\hat{p}(t) - \int_0^T (X(t) - \hat{X}(t))^T \hat{q}(t) dB^{(H)}(t) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T (X(t) - \hat{X}(t))^T \hat{q}(t) dB^{(H)}(t) \right] = 0$ by (2.7), this gives

$$(5.13) \quad \Delta_1 \geq \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T (X(t) - \hat{X}(t))^T d\hat{p}(t) \right].$$

By (5.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2 &= -\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \left\{ b(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) - b(t, X(t), u(t)) \right\} \cdot \hat{p}(t) dt \right] \\ &= -\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \hat{p}(t) \left(d\hat{X}(t) - dX(t) \right) \right] \\ &\quad - \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \hat{p}(t)^T \left\{ \sigma(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) - \sigma(t, X(t), u(t)) \right\} dB^{(H)}(t) \right] \\ (5.14) \quad &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \hat{p}(t) \left(dX(t) - d\hat{X}(t) \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, since g is concave we have

$$(5.15) \quad g(X(T)) - g(\hat{X}(T)) \leq g_x(\hat{X}(T)) \cdot (X(T) - \hat{X}(T))$$

Combining (5.12)–(5.15) with Corollary 2.5 we get, using (5.2), (5.7) and (5.11),

$$\begin{aligned} J(\hat{u}) - J(u) &= \Delta + \mathbb{E} \left[g(\hat{X}(T)) - g(X(T)) \right] \\ &\geq \Delta + \mathbb{E} \left[g_x(\hat{X}(T)) \cdot (\hat{X}(T) - X(T)) \right] \\ &\geq \Delta - \mathbb{E} \left[\hat{p}(T) \cdot (X(T) - \hat{X}(T)) \right] \\ &= \Delta - \left\{ \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T (X(t) - \hat{X}(t)) \cdot d\hat{p}(t) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \hat{p}(t) \cdot (dX(t) - d\hat{X}(t)) \right] \right\} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \int_0^T \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ \sigma_{ik}(s, X(s), u(s)) - \sigma_{ik}(s, \hat{X}(s), \hat{u}(s)) \right\} \hat{q}_{ik}(t) \phi_{H_k}(s, t) ds dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j,k=1}^m \left(\int_0^T D_{j,t}^{\phi_j} \{ \sigma_{ik}(t, X(t), u(t)) - \sigma_{ik}(t, \hat{X}(t), \hat{u}(t)) \} dt \right) \left(\int_0^T D_{k,t}^{\phi_k} \hat{q}_{ij}(t) \right) \right] \right\} \\ &\geq \Delta - (\Delta_1 + \Delta_2 + \Delta_3 + \Delta_4) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $J(\hat{u})$ is maximal among all admissible pairs $(u(\cdot), X(\cdot))$.

This completes the proof in the case with no terminal conditions ($G = 0$). Finally consider the general case with $G \neq 0$. Suppose that for some $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ there exists \hat{u}_{λ_0} satisfying (5.8)–(5.11). Then by the above argument we know that if we put

$$J_{\lambda_0}(u) = \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T f(t, X(t), u(t)) dt + g(X(T)) + \lambda_0^T G(X(T)) \right]$$

then $J_{\lambda_0}(\hat{u}_0) \geq J_{\lambda_0}(u)$ for all controls u (without terminal condition). If λ_0 is such that \hat{u}_{λ_0} satisfies the terminal condition (*i.e.* $\hat{u}_{\lambda_0} \in \mathcal{A}$) and u is another control in \mathcal{A} then

$$J(\hat{u}_{\lambda_0}) = J_{\lambda_0}(\hat{u}_{\lambda_0}) \geq J_{\lambda_0}(u) = J(u)$$

and hence $\hat{u}_{\lambda_0} \in \mathcal{A}$ maximizes $J(u)$ over all $u \in \mathcal{A}$. □

Corollary 5.2 *Let $\hat{u} \in \mathcal{A}$, $\hat{X} = X(\hat{u})$ and $(\hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(t))$ be as in Theorem 5.1. Assume that (5.8), (5.9) and (5.10) hold, and that condition (5.11) is replaced by the condition*

$$(5.16) \quad \hat{q}(\cdot) \text{ or } \sigma(\cdot, \hat{X}(\cdot), \hat{u}(\cdot)) \text{ is deterministic.}$$

Then if $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ is such that (\hat{u}, \hat{X}) is admissible, the pair (\hat{u}, \hat{X}) is an optimal pair for problem (5.5).

6 A minimal variance hedging problem

To illustrate our main result, we use it to solve the following problem from mathematical finance:

Consider a financial market driven by two independent fractional Brownian motions $B_1(t) = B_1^{(H_1)}(t)$ and $B_2(t) = B^{(H_2)}(t)$, with $\frac{1}{2} < H_i < 1$, $i = 1, 2$, as follows:

$$(6.1) \quad (\text{Bond price}) \quad dS_0(t) = 0; \quad S_0(0) = 1$$

$$(6.2) \quad (\text{Price of stock 1}) \quad dS_1(t) = dB_1(t); \quad S_1(0) = s_1$$

$$(6.3) \quad (\text{Price of stock 2}) \quad dS_2(t) = dB_1(t) + dB_2(t); \quad S_2(0) = s_2.$$

If $\theta(t) = (\theta_0(t), \theta_1(t), \theta_2(t)) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is a *portfolio* (giving the number of units of the bond, stock 1 and stock 2, respectively, held at time t) then the corresponding *value process* is

$$(6.4) \quad V^\theta(t) = \theta(t) \cdot S(t) = \sum_{i=0}^2 \theta_i(t) S_i(t).$$

The portfolio is called *self-financing* if

$$(6.5) \quad dV^\theta(t) = \theta(t) \cdot dS(t) = \theta_1(t) dB_1(t) + \theta_2(t) (dB_1(t) + dB_2(t)).$$

This market is called *complete* if any bounded $\mathcal{F}_T^{(H)}$ -measurable random variable F can be *hedged* (or *replicated*), in the sense that there exists a (self-financing) portfolio $\theta(t)$ and an initial value $z \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$(6.6) \quad F(\omega) = z + \int_0^T \theta(t) dS(t) \quad \text{for a.a. } \omega.$$

(See [HØ2] and [W] for a general discussion about this.)

Let us now assume that we are not allowed to trade in stock 1, i.e. we must have $\theta_1(t) \equiv 0$. How close to, say, $F(\omega) = B_1(T, \omega)$ can we get if we must hedge under this constraint?

If we put $\theta_2(t) = u(t)$ and interpret “close” as having a small $L^2(\mu)$ distance to F , then the problem can be stated as follows:

Find $z \in \mathbb{R}$ and admissible $u(t, \omega)$ such that

$$(6.7) \quad \begin{aligned} J(z, u) &:= \mathbb{E} \left[\left\{ B_1(T) - \left(z + \int_0^T u(t)(dB_1(t) + dB_2(t)) \right) \right\}^2 \right] \\ &= z^2 + \mathbb{E} \left[\left\{ \int_0^T (u(t) - 1)dB_1(t) + \int_0^T u(t)dB_2(t) \right\}^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

is minimal. We see immediately that it is optimal to choose $z = 0$, so it remains to minimize over $u(t) = u(t, \omega)$ the functional

$$(6.8) \quad J(u) := \mathbb{E} \left[\left\{ \int_0^T (u(t) - 1)dB_1(t) + \int_0^T u(t)dB_2(t) \right\}^2 \right].$$

If we apply the fractional Itô isometry (2.13) we get, after some simplifications,

$$(6.9) \quad \begin{aligned} J(u) &= \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^T \int_0^T \{ (u(s) - 1)(u(t) - 1)\phi_1(s, t) + u(s)u(t)\phi_2(s, t) \} ds dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left(\int_0^T \{ D_{1,t}^\phi u(t) - D_{2,t}^\phi u(t) \} dt \right)^2 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

However, it is difficult to see from this what the minimizing $u(t)$ is.

To approach this problem by using the fractional maximum principle, we define the state process $X(t)$ by

$$(6.10) \quad dX(t) = (u(t) - 1)dB_1(t) + u(t)dB_2(t) .$$

Then the problem is equivalent to maximizing

$$(6.11) \quad J_1(u) := \mathbb{E} \left[-\frac{1}{2}X^2(T) \right] .$$

The Hamiltonian for this problem is

$$(6.12) \quad \begin{aligned} H(t, x, u, p, q(\cdot)) &= (u - 1) \int_0^T q_1(s)\phi_1(s, t)ds + u \int_0^T q_2(s)\phi_2(s, t)ds \\ &= (u - 1) \int_0^T q_1(s)\phi_1(s, t)ds + u \int_0^T q_2(s)\phi_2(s, t)ds \\ &= u \left[\int_0^T q_1(s)\phi_1(s, t)ds + \int_0^T q_2(s)\phi_2(s, t)ds \right] - \int_0^T q_1(s)\phi_1(s, t)ds . \end{aligned}$$

The adjoint equation is

$$(6.13) \quad dp(t) = q_1(t)dB_1(t) + q_2(t)dB_2(t) ; \quad t < T$$

$$(6.14) \quad p(T) = -X(T) .$$

Comparing with (6.10) we see that this equation has the solution

$$(6.15) \quad q_1(t) = 1 - u(t), \quad q_2 = -u_2(t), \quad p(t) = -X(t); \quad t \leq T.$$

Let $\hat{u}(t)$ be an optimal control candidate. Then by (6.12)

$$(6.16) \quad \begin{aligned} H(t, \hat{X}(t), v, \hat{p}(t), \hat{q}(\cdot)) &= v \left[\int_0^T \hat{q}_1(s) \phi_1(s, t) ds + \int_0^T \hat{q}_2(s) \phi_2(s, t) ds \right] - \int_0^T \hat{q}_1(s) \phi_1(s, t) ds \\ &= v \left[\int_0^T (1 - \hat{u}(t)) \phi_1(s, t) ds - \int_0^T \hat{u}(s) \phi_2(s, t) ds \right] - \int_0^T \hat{q}_1(s) \phi_1(s, t) ds. \end{aligned}$$

The maximum principle requires that the maximum of this expression is attained at $v = \hat{u}(t)$. However, this is an affine function of v , so it is natural to guess that the coefficient of v must be 0, i.e.

$$\int_0^T (1 - \hat{u}(s)) \phi_1(s, t) ds - \int_0^T \hat{u}(s) \phi_2(s, t) ds = 0,$$

which gives

$$(6.17) \quad \int_0^T \hat{u}(s) (\phi_1(s, t) + \phi_2(s, t)) ds = \int_0^T \phi_1(s, t) ds.$$

This is a symmetric Fredholm integral equation of the first kind and it is known that it has a unique solution $\hat{u}(t) \in L^2[0, T]$. See e.g. [T, Section 3.15].

This choice of $\hat{u}(t)$ satisfies all the requirements of Theorem 5.1 (in fact, even those of Corollary 5.2) and we can conclude that this $\hat{u}(t)$ is optimal. Thus we have proved:

Theorem 6.1 (Solution of the minimal variance hedging problem)

The minimal value of

$$J(z, u) = \mathbb{E} \left[\left\{ B_1(T) - \left(z + \int_0^T u(t) (dB_1(t) + dB_2(t)) \right) \right\}^2 \right]$$

is attained when $z = 0$ and $u = \hat{u}(t)$ satisfies (6.17). The corresponding minimal value is

$$\inf_{z, u} J(z, u) = \int_0^T \int_0^T \{ (\hat{u}(s) - 1)(\hat{u}(t) - 1) \phi_1(s, t) + \hat{u}(s) \hat{u}(t) \phi_2(s, t) \} ds dt.$$

Remark Note that if $\phi_1 = \phi_2$ then $\hat{u}(t) \equiv \frac{1}{2}$, which is the same as the optimal value in the classical Brownian motion case ($H_1 = H_2 = \frac{1}{2}$).

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