

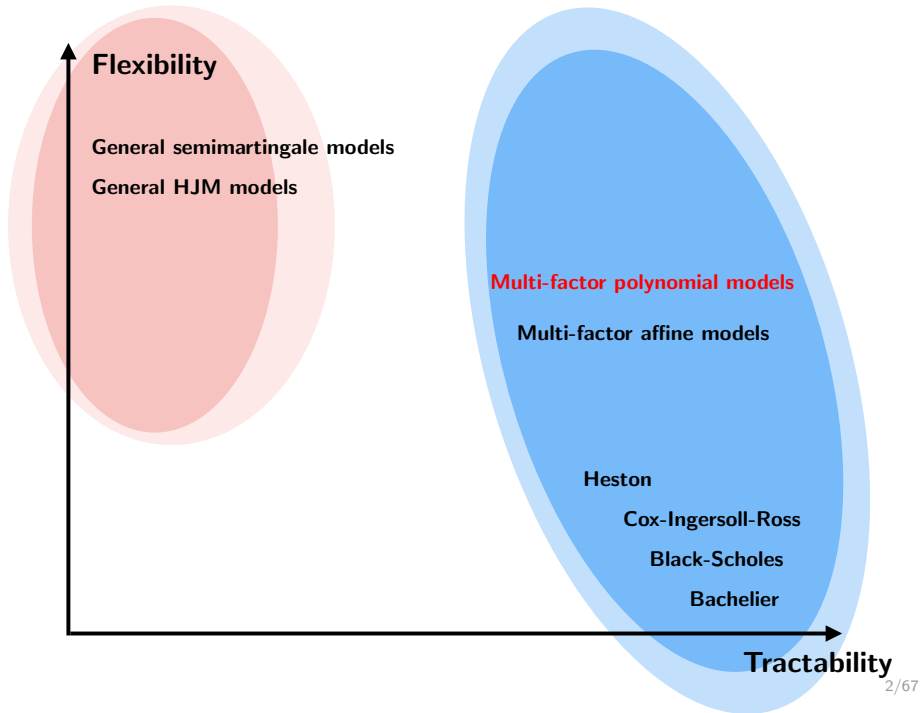
# Polynomial Models in Finance

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Winter School: Frontiers in Stochastic Modelling for Finance

Padova, 8 February 2016



- ▶ We want **tractable** stochastic models that are **flexible** enough to describe reality up to a satisfactory degree of accuracy.
- ▶ Polynomial preserving processes is one such class of models
- ▶ The analysis comes in two main parts:
  - (1) **Theoretical study of polynomial preserving processes:**  
This leads to a rich set of mathematical questions involving probability as well as geometry and algebra (semi-algebraic geometry, sums of squares, the Nullstellensatz, etc.)
  - (2) **Financial modeling:** Construct models that exploit the tractable structure of polynomial preserving processes.
- ▶ The two main references for this mini-course are:
  - ▶ **[FL16]: Polynomial preserving diffusions and applications in finance** (with D. Filipović), forthcoming in Fin. Stochastics.
  - ▶ **[FLT16]: Linear-rational term structure models** (with D. Filipović and A. Trolle), forthcoming in Journal of Finance.
- ▶ ... but some material is drawn from other places or is not yet available in the literature.

## Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ Definition and general characterization
- ▶ Basic properties
- ▶ Existence and uniqueness
- ▶ Examples

## Applications in finance

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ State price density models
- ▶ Polynomial term structure models

## Conclusions and outlook

# Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ **Definition and general characterization**
- ▶ Basic properties
- ▶ Existence and uniqueness
- ▶ Examples

# Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ State space  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
- ▶  $X = (X_t)_{t \geq 0}$  an  $E$ -valued semimartingale with extended generator

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}f(x) &= b(x)^\top \nabla f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (a(x) \nabla^2 f(x)) \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( f(x + \xi) - f(x) - \xi^\top \nabla f(x) \right) \nu(x, d\xi) \end{aligned}$$

Meaning:  $f(X_t) - f(X_0) - \int_0^t \mathcal{G}f(X_s) ds = \text{local martingale}$  (\*)

- ▶ Domain:  $\text{dom}(\mathcal{G}) = \{f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^d) : (*) \text{ holds}\}$

**Example.** If  $X$  satisfies an SDE of the form

$$dX_t = \mu(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t$$

then  $b \equiv \mu$ ,  $a \equiv \sigma\sigma^\top$ ,  $\nu \equiv 0$ , and (\*) is just Itô's formula.

## Polynomial preserving processes

**Remark.** Existence of  $\mathcal{G}$  implies that  $X$  has absolutely continuous characteristics whose densities are deterministic functions of the current state.

$\implies X$  should “morally” be a Markov process.

**Warning:**  $X$  is not always a Markov process!

**Assumption (A):** For all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\|X_0\|^{2n}] < \infty$  and there exists  $K_n < \infty$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|\xi\|^{2n} \nu(x, d\xi) \leq K_n(1 + \|x\|^{2n}), \quad x \in E.$$

Moreover,  $\mathcal{G}$  is **well-defined on  $E$** :  $f|_E = 0$  implies  $\mathcal{G}f|_E = 0$ .

## Definition of polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ Multi-indices, monomials and their degree:

$$\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_d) \in \mathbb{N}_0^d, \quad x^{\mathbf{k}} = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_d^{k_d}, \quad |\mathbf{k}| = \sum_i k_i$$

- ▶ Spaces of polynomials:

$$\text{Pol}_n(E) = \{p|_E : p \text{ is polynomial on } \mathbb{R}^d \text{ of degree } \leq n\}$$

- ▶ Assumption (A) implies (\*) holds for all  $p \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$ :  $p \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{G})$

**Definition.** We call  $\mathcal{G}$  **polynomial preserving (PP)** if

$$\mathcal{G}\text{Pol}_n(E) \subseteq \text{Pol}_n(E) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1.$$

In this case  $X$  is called a polynomial preserving process.



## Characterization of (PP) generators

**Lemma.** The extended generator

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{G}f(x) &= b(x)^\top \nabla f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (a(x) \nabla^2 f(x)) \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( f(x + \xi) - f(x) - \xi^\top \nabla f(x) \right) \nu(x, d\xi)\end{aligned}$$

is (PP) if and only if for all  $i, j$ ,

$$b_i(x) \in \text{Pol}_1(E) \quad (\text{drift})$$

$$a_{ij}(x) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \xi_i \xi_j \nu(x, d\xi) \in \text{Pol}_2(E) \quad (\text{modified diffusion})$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \xi^{\mathbf{k}} \nu(x, d\xi) \in \text{Pol}_{|\mathbf{k}|}(E), \quad \forall |\mathbf{k}| \geq 3 \quad (\text{jumps})$$

**Proof:** Evaluate  $\mathcal{G}p$  for polynomials  $p$ , collect and match terms. □

## First examples of (PP) processes

The lemma immediately yields several examples of (PP) processes:

**Example.** The following processes are (PP):

- ▶ Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes:  $dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma dW_t$
- ▶ Geometric Brownian motion:  $dX_t = \mu X_t dt + \sigma X_t dW_t$
- ▶ Square-root diffusions:  $dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t}dW_t$
- ▶ Jacobi diffusions:  $dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t(1 - X_t)}dW_t$
- ▶ Dunkl processes:  $E = \mathbb{R}$  with extended generator

$$\mathcal{G}f(x) = f''(x) + \frac{\lambda}{2x} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( f(x + \xi) - f(x) - \xi f'(x) \right) \delta_{-2x}(d\xi)$$

- ▶ Any affine semimartingale satisfying Assumption (A)

... but we want a larger class of examples, and more information about their properties. Specifically:

# Main questions

- ▶ If a (PP) process  $X$  is given a priori, what can be said in general about its **properties**?
- ▶ What about **existence** and **uniqueness** of (PP) processes on various state spaces  $E$  of interest? More specifically, we would like convenient **parameterizations**.

## Closely related literature:

Wong (1964); Mazet (1997); Zhou (2003); Forman and Sørensen (2008); Cuchiero, Keller-Ressel, Teichmann (2012); Filipović, Gourier, Mancini (2013); Bakry, Orevkov, Zani (2014); Larsson, Pulido (2015); Larsson, Krühner (2016); etc.

# Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ Definition and general characterization
- ▶ **Basic properties**
- ▶ Existence and uniqueness
- ▶ Examples

## Basic properties: Conditional moments

**Given:** (PP) process  $X$ , extended generator  $\mathcal{G}$ , satisfies Assumption (A).

**Lemma.** For any polynomial  $p$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$M_t^p = p(X_t) - p(X_0) - \int_0^t \mathcal{G}p(X_s) ds$$

is a (true) martingale.

**Proof:** Assumption (A) implies  $p \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{G})$ , so  $M^p$  is a local martingale.

Assumption (A) and BDG imply  $\sup_{t \leq T} |M_t^p|$  integrable, for any  $T$ . See for instance Lemma 2.17 in Cuchiero et al. (2012).

Hence  $M_t^p$  is a martingale since  $\sup_{t \leq T} |M_t^p|$  integrable. □

## Basic properties: Conditional moments

- ▶ Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and set  $N = \dim \text{Pol}_n(E) < \infty$
- ▶ By definition of (PP),  $\mathcal{G}$  restricts to an operator  $\mathcal{G}|_{\text{Pol}_n(E)}$  on the finite-dimensional vector space  $\text{Pol}_n(E)$
- ▶ Find a basis  $h_1(x), \dots, h_N(x)$  of  $\text{Pol}_n(E)$  and denote

$$H(x) = (h_1(x), \dots, h_N(x))^{\top}$$

- ▶ Coordinate representation  $\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  of  $p \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$ :

$$p(x) = H(x)^{\top} \vec{p}.$$

- ▶ Matrix representation  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  of  $\mathcal{G}|_{\text{Pol}_n(E)}$ :

$$\mathcal{G}p(x) = H(x)^{\top} G \vec{p}.$$

## Basic properties: Conditional moments

**Theorem.** For any  $p \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$  with coordinate vector  $\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[p(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = H(X_t)^\top e^{(T-t)G} \vec{p}$$

is an explicit polynomial in  $X_t$  of degree  $\leq n$ , for all  $t \leq T$ .

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is an explicit polynomial in  $X_t$  of degree  $\leq n$ , for all  $t \leq T$ .

**Proof.** By definition  $\mathcal{G}H(x) = G^\top H(x)$ . Thus for  $N$ -dim local mg  $M$ ,

$$H(X_u) = H(X_t) + \int_t^u G^\top H(X_s) ds + M_u - M_t, \quad u \geq t.$$

Lemma implies  $M$  is true martingale. Thus with  $F(u) = \mathbb{E}[H(X_u) \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$ ,

$$F(u) = H(X_t) + \int_t^u G^\top F(s) ds.$$

Hence  $\mathbb{E}[H(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = F(T) = e^{(T-t)G^\top} H(X_t)$ . □



## Basic properties: Conditional moments

**Theorem.** For any  $p \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$  with coordinate vector  $\vec{p} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[p(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = H(X_t)^\top e^{(T-t)G} \vec{p}$$

is an explicit polynomial in  $X_t$  of degree  $\leq n$ , for all  $t \leq T$ .

### Punchline:

- ▶ Conditional expectations of polynomials are explicit.
- ▶ Computing them only requires calculating a matrix exponential ...
- ▶ ... which should be contrasted with solving a PIDE.

## Example: The scalar diffusion case

Generic scalar (PP) diffusion:  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$dX_t = (b + \beta X_t)dt + \sqrt{a + \alpha X_t + AX_t^2}dW_t$$

Standard basis  $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$  of  $\text{Pol}_n$ :

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n p_k x^k \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \vec{p} = (p_0, \dots, p_n)^\top$$

**Then:** Matrix representation  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  is

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b & 2\frac{a}{2} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \beta & 2\left(b + \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) & 3 \cdot 2\frac{a}{2} & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 2\left(\beta + \frac{A}{2}\right) & 3\left(b + 2\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3\left(\beta + 2\frac{A}{2}\right) & \ddots & n(n-1)\frac{a}{2} \\ \vdots & & & 0 & \ddots & n\left(b + (n-1)\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \\ 0 & \dots & & & 0 & n\left(\beta + (n-1)\frac{A}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example: Scalar Lévy case

Suppose

$$a(x) \equiv b(x) \equiv 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu(x, d\xi) = \mu(d\xi)$$

for some measure  $\eta(d\xi)$  on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  such that

$$\int \xi^k \mu(d\xi) < \infty, \quad k \geq 2.$$

**Then:**  $X$  is a Lévy process and  $G$  is given by

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \int \xi^2 \mu(d\xi) & \int \xi^3 \mu(d\xi) & \int \xi^4 \mu(d\xi) & \cdots & \binom{n}{0} \int \xi^n \mu(d\xi) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \int \xi^2 \mu(d\xi) & 4 \int \xi^3 \mu(d\xi) & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \int \xi^2 \mu(d\xi) & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & 0 & \ddots & \binom{n}{n-3} \int \xi^3 \mu(d\xi) \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots & \ddots & \binom{n}{n-2} \int \xi^2 \mu(d\xi) \\ & & & & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Basic properties: New (PP) processes from old

- ▶ If  $X = (X^1, \dots, X^d)$  is (PP) then

$$(X_t, \int_0^t X_s^1 ds)$$

is (PP) on the state space  $E \times \mathbb{R}$ .

- ▶ More generally, let  $p, q \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$ . Define

$$\bar{X}_t = H(X_t)$$

$$Y_t = \int_0^t p(X_s) ds + \int_0^t \sqrt{q(X_s)} dW_s$$

with  $W \perp X$  a Brownian motion. Then:

$$(\bar{X}, Y) \text{ is (PP) on } H(E) \times \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{N+1}.$$

- ▶ More general results hold, where  $Y$  also can have jumps.

## Basic properties: New (PP) processes from old

- ▶ The proof of these statements relies on the following lemma:

**Lemma.** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$p \in \text{Pol}_{kn}(\mathbb{R}^d) \iff p(x) = f(H(x)) \text{ for some } f \in \text{Pol}_k(\mathbb{R}^N)$$

# Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ Definition and general characterization
- ▶ Basic properties
- ▶ **Existence and uniqueness**
- ▶ Examples

## Existence of (PP) diffusions

- ▶ So far we have taken a (PP) process  $X$  as **given a priori**.
- ▶ **Question:** Which pairs  $(E, \mathcal{G})$  of candidate state space and generator admit a corresponding (PP) process  $X$ ?

**Setup (I):** Consider operator  $\mathcal{G}$  of **diffusion type**:

$$\mathcal{G}f(x) = b(x)^\top \nabla f(x) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a(x) \nabla^2 f(x))$$

with (see Lemma characterizing (PP) generators):

$$b_i \in \text{Pol}_1, \quad a_{ij} \in \text{Pol}_2$$

## Existence of (PP) diffusions

**Setup (II):** Consider **basic closed semialgebraic** state space:

$$E = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : p(x) \geq 0 \text{ for all } p \in \mathcal{P}\}$$

with  $\mathcal{P}$  a finite collection of polynomials on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

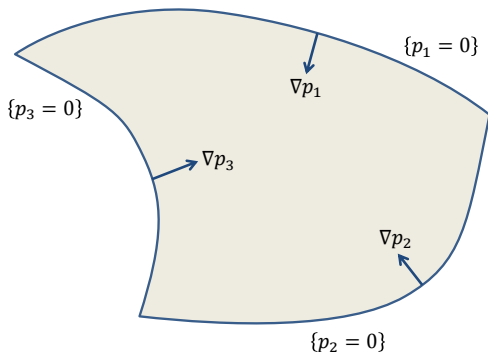


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### Examples:

$$\mathbb{R}_+^d : \quad \mathcal{P} = \{p_i(x) = x_i, i = 1, \dots, d\}$$

$$[0, 1]^d : \quad \mathcal{P} = \{p_i(x) = x_i, p_{d+i}(x) = 1 - x_i, i = 1, \dots, d\}$$

$$\text{unit ball} : \quad \mathcal{P} = \{p(x) = 1 - \|x\|^2\}$$

$$\mathbb{S}_+^m : \quad \mathcal{P} = \{p_I(x) = \det x_{II}, I \subset \{1, \dots, m\}\},$$

(In the last example,  $\mathbb{S}_+^m \subset \mathbb{S}^m \cong \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d = m(m+1)/2$ .)

## Existence of (PP) diffusions

**Goal:** Look for  $E$ -valued (weak) solutions to SDE of the form

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \sigma(X_t)dW_t, \quad X_0 = x_0, \quad (*)$$

for some  $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  with  $\sigma\sigma^\top \equiv a$  on  $E$ .

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**Theorem (necessary conditions).** Assume  $(*)$  admits an  $E$ -valued solution for any  $x_0 \in E$ . Then for all  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

$$a \nabla p = 0 \text{ and } \mathcal{G}p \geq 0 \text{ on } E \cap \{p = 0\}.$$

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**Proof:**  $X$  is  $E$ -valued implies  $p(X) \geq 0, \forall p \in \mathcal{P}$ . On the other hand,

$$p(X_t) = p(x_0) + \int_0^t \mathcal{G}p(X_s)ds + \int_0^t \nabla p(X_s)^\top \sigma(X_s)dW_s$$
$$\langle p(X) \rangle_t = \int_0^t \|\sigma(X_s)^\top \nabla p(X_s)\|^2 ds. \quad \square$$

## Existence of (PP) diffusions

**Goal:** Look for  $E$ -valued (weak) solutions to SDE of the form

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for some  $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  with  $\sigma\sigma^\top \equiv a$  on  $E$ .

**Theorem (existence).** Assume

- ▶  $a(x) \in \mathbb{S}_+^d$  for all  $x \in E$ ,
- ▶  $a \nabla p = 0$  on  $\{p = 0\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}p > 0$  on  $E \cap \{p > 0\}$ ,  $\forall p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,
- ▶ each  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  is irreducible and changes sign on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

Then  $\exists \sigma : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  with  $\sigma\sigma^\top \equiv a$  on  $E$  such that  $(*)$  has an  $E$ -valued solution for every  $x_0 \in E$ . Furthermore, one has

$$\int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{p(X_s)=0\}} ds \equiv 0 \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P}.$$

## Existence of (PP) diffusions

**Proof:** Consider the metric projection  $\pi : \mathbb{S}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_+^d$ , and define

$$\widehat{a}(x) = \pi(a(x)), \quad \widehat{\sigma}(x) = \widehat{a}(x)^{1/2}.$$

Then (see Ikeda/Watanabe, 1981) there exists  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued solution to

$$dX_t = b(X_t)dt + \widehat{\sigma}(X_t)dW_t.$$

**To do:** For all  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ , show  $p(X) \geq 0$  and  $\int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{p(X_s)=0\}} ds \equiv 0$ .

**Lemma** (See [FL16], Lemma A.1). Let  $Y$  be a continuous semimartingale

$$Y_t = Y_0 + \int_0^t \mu_s ds + M_t, \quad Y_0 \geq 0, \quad \mu \text{ continuous.}$$

If  $\mu_t > 0$  on  $\{Y_t = 0\}$  and  $L^0(Y) = 0$ , then  $Y \geq 0$  and  $\int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{Y_s=0\}} ds \equiv 0$ .

Take  $Y = p(X)$ ,  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ . After stopping,  $\mu_t = \mathcal{G}p(X_t) > 0$  on  $\{p(X_t) = 0\}$ .

**To do:** Show  $L^0(p(X)) = 0$ .

# Existence of (PP) diffusions

**Proof (cont'd):** Occupation density formula (see [RY99], Corollary VI.1.6):

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{y} L_t^y(p(X)) dy = \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{p(X_s) > 0\}} \frac{\nabla p(X_s)^\top \hat{a}(X_s) \nabla p(X_s)}{p(X_s)} ds$$

Want  $\frac{\nabla p^\top \hat{a} \nabla p}{p}$  locally bounded. Let's show this for  $\frac{\nabla p^\top a \nabla p}{p}$  instead!

**Lemma** from real algebra on real principal ideals (See [BCR98], Theorem 5.4.1):  
Assume  $p \in \text{Pol}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is irreducible. The following are equivalent:

- (i)  $p$  changes sign on  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- (ii) Any  $q \in \text{Pol}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  with  $q = 0$  on  $\{p = 0\}$  satisfies  $q = pr$  for some  $r \in \text{Pol}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

By assumption  $a \nabla p = 0$  on  $\{p = 0\}$ . Hence

$$a \nabla p = pF, \quad F = (f_1, \dots, f_d)^\top \text{ polynomial.}$$

Thus  $\frac{\nabla p^\top a \nabla p}{p} = \nabla p^\top F = \text{polynomial.}$

□



# Existence of (PP) diffusions

## Remarks.

- ▶ A more general existence theorem is in [FL16], Theorem 5.3:

$$E = \{x \in M : p(x) \geq 0 \text{ for all } p \in \mathcal{P}\}$$

where

$$M = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : q(x) = 0 \text{ for all } q \in \mathcal{Q}\}$$

with  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}$  finite collections of polynomials on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . This requires further conditions involving polynomial ideals and their varieties.

**Example:** Unit simplex  $\Delta^d = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^d : x_1 + \dots + x_d = 1\}$

- ▶ Can relax  $\mathcal{G}p > 0$  to  $\mathcal{G}p \geq 0$  near  $E \cap \{p = 0\}$ .  
 $\implies$  **Boundary absorption**. Here we don't yet have the full picture.
- ▶ Conditions for boundary attainment: [FL16], Theorem 5.7.

## Uniqueness of (PP) processes

- ▶ Let  $(\mathcal{G}, E)$  be given with Assumption (A) satisfied.
- ▶ Notion of uniqueness:

$$\begin{array}{l} X, X' \text{ two } E\text{-valued} \\ \text{semimartingales with} \\ \text{extended generator } \mathcal{G} \\ X_0 = X'_0 \text{ deterministic} \end{array} \implies \text{Law}(X) = \text{Law}(X')$$

*“Uniqueness in law among  $E$ -valued solutions to the local martingale problem for  $\mathcal{G}$ .”*

## Uniqueness of (PP) processes

- ▶ Non-trivial in general: Non-Lipschitz, non-uniformly elliptic.
- ▶ Scalar diffusion case:

$$dX_t = (b + \beta X_t)dt + \sqrt{a + \alpha X_t + AX_t^2}dW_t$$

Yamada-Watanabe gives pathwise uniqueness, and hence:

**Theorem.** If  $d = 1$  and  $\nu \equiv 0$ , then uniqueness holds.

- ▶ What about the general case?

# Uniqueness of (PP) processes

- **Observation:**  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $X_0$  determine all mixed moments

$$\mathbb{E} [X_{t_1}^{k_1} \cdots X_{t_m}^{k_m}], \quad 0 \leq t_1 < \cdots < t_m, \quad k_i \in \mathbb{N}_0^d.$$

**Theorem.** Let  $X$  be (PP) on  $E$  with extended generator  $\mathcal{G}$ . If

$$\text{for each } t \geq 0, \text{ there is } \varepsilon > 0 \text{ with } \mathbb{E}[e^{\varepsilon \|X_t\|}] < \infty \quad (**)$$

then the law of  $X$  is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $X_0$ .

**Proof:** Using MGFs,  $(**)$  implies  $\text{Law}(X_t^i)$  determined by its moments.

By Petersen (1982), so are all FDMDs  $\text{Law}(X_{t_1}^{i_1}, \dots, X_{t_m}^{i_m})$ . □

## Uniqueness of (PP) processes

**Lemma.** Assume  $\nu \equiv 0$  (diffusion case) and there exists  $C < \infty$  such that  $\|a(x)\| \leq C(1 + \|x\|)$  for all  $x \in E$ . Then (\*\*) holds.

**These results cover:**

- ▶ Scalar (PP) diffusions,
- ▶ (PP) processes on compact sets,
- ▶ Any affine diffusions,
- ▶ ... etc.

**Remark.** Uniqueness does **not always** hold: P. Krühner has constructed a (PP) process on  $\mathbb{R}$  for which uniqueness fails. This also leads to an example of a non-Markovian (PP) process.

## An open problem

- ▶ The proof of the Theorem uses moment determinacy of each  $X_t$ .
- ▶ If  $dX_t = X_t dW_t$  (Geometric Brownian motion) then  $X_t$  is lognormal.  
⇒ Moment determinacy of  $X_t$  fails (see Heyde, 1963)  
⇒ Uniqueness can't be proved in this way
- ▶ But could the **mixed moments** still pin down the law of  $X$ ?
- ▶ **Open problem:** Find a process  $Y$ , not geometric Brownian motion, such that for all  $0 \leq t_1 < \dots < t_m$ ,  $(k_1, \dots, k_m) \in \mathbb{N}_0^m$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} [Y_{t_1}^{k_1} \dots Y_{t_m}^{k_m}] = \mathbb{E} [X_{t_1}^{k_1} \dots X_{t_m}^{k_m}],$$

where  $X$  is geometric Brownian motion.

(Related to “weak” and “fake” Brownian motion, see Föllmer/Wu/Yor (2000), Hobson (2012), etc.)

# Polynomial preserving processes

- ▶ Definition and general characterization
- ▶ Basic properties
- ▶ Existence and uniqueness
- ▶ **Examples**

## Examples of (PP) diffusions

- ▶ Diffusion case only.
- ▶ Three examples: Unit cube  $[0, 1]^d$ , unit ball  $\mathcal{B}^d$ , unit simplex  $\Delta^d$ .
- ▶ All of them are compact, hence no issue with uniqueness.
- ▶ Compactness is also nice thanks to Weierstrass: polynomial approximation is possible.
- ▶ An affine diffusion on a compact state is necessarily deterministic. This is one reason to go beyond affine processes.
- ▶ Geometry of the state space crucially affects the possible dynamics.



# The unit cube $[0, 1]^d$

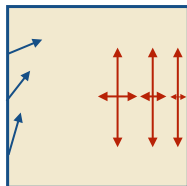
$$E = [0, 1]^d$$

**Proposition.** The conditions of the existence theorem are satisfied if and only if

$$a(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 x_1 (1 - x_1) & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \gamma_d x_d (1 - x_d) \end{pmatrix}, \quad b(x) = \beta + Bx,$$

where  $\gamma_i \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{j \neq i} B_{ij}^- < \beta_i < -B_{ii} - \sum_{j \neq i} B_{ij}^+$ .

- ▶ Interaction occurs only through the **drifts**.
- ▶ **Volatility** is componentwise of Jacobi type.



# The unit simplex $\Delta^d$

$$E = \Delta^d = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^d : x_1 + \dots + x_d\}$$

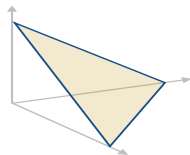
**Proposition.** The conditions of the (general) existence theorem are satisfied if and only if  $a(x)$  and  $b(x)$  are given by

$$a_{ii}(x) = \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha_{ij} x_i x_j \quad a_{ij}(x) = -\alpha_{ij} x_i x_j \quad (i \neq j)$$

$$b(x) = \beta + Bx,$$

with  $\alpha_{ij} \geq 0$ ,  $\alpha_{ij} = \alpha_{ji}$ ,  $B^\top \mathbf{1} + (\beta^\top \mathbf{1}) \mathbf{1} = 0$  and  $\beta_i + B_{ji} > 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j \neq i$ .

- ▶ Generalizes the multivariate Jacobi process: take  $\alpha_{ij} = \sigma^2$ ,  $i \neq j$ ; see Gourieroux/Jasiak (2006).



## The unit ball $\mathcal{B}^d$

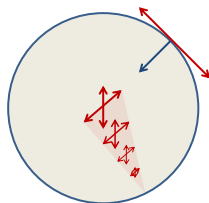
$E = \mathcal{B}^d = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x\| \leq 1\}$ . Details are in Larsson/Pulido (2015).

**Example.** Let  $d = 2$  and consider

$$dX_t = -X_t dt + \sqrt{1 - \|X_t\|^2} \sigma dW_t + AX_t dB_t$$

with  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ ,  $W = \begin{pmatrix} W^1 \\ W^2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  skew-symmetric,  $B$  is one-dimensional Brownian motion.

- ▶ Mean-reverting **drift**.
- ▶ **Volatility** has both tangential and radially scaled components.



**Note:**  $a(x) = (1 - \|x\|^2)\sigma\sigma^\top + Ax x^\top A^\top$

## The unit ball $\mathcal{B}^d$

**Proposition.**  $\mathcal{G}$  is the extended generator of a (PP) diffusion on  $E$  if and only if

$$a(x) = (1 - \|x\|^2)\alpha + c(x),$$

$$b(x) = b + Bx,$$

for some  $b \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{S}_+^d$ , and  $c \in \mathcal{C}_+$  such that

$$b^\top x + x^\top Bx + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(c(x)) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{S}^{d-1}.$$

Here  $\mathcal{S}^{d-1}$  is the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and

$$\mathcal{C}_+ = \left\{ c : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d : \begin{array}{l} c_{ij} \in \text{Hom}_2 \text{ for all } i, j \\ c(x)x \equiv 0 \\ c(x) \in \mathbb{S}_+^d \text{ for all } x \end{array} \right\}$$

## The unit ball $\mathcal{B}^d$

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**Examples of  $c \in \mathcal{C}_+$ :**

- ▶ Take  $A_1 \in \text{Skew}(d)$  and set

$$c(x) = A_1 x x^\top A_1^\top$$

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**Examples of  $c \in \mathcal{C}_+$ :**

- ▶ Take  $A_1, \dots, A_m \in \text{Skew}(d)$  and set

$$c(x) = A_1 x x^\top A_1^\top + A_2 x x^\top A_2^\top + \dots + A_m x x^\top A_m^\top$$

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- ▶ This leads to a convenient parameterization of a large class of elements of  $\mathcal{C}_+$  ...

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- ▶ Take  $A_1, \dots, A_m \in \text{Skew}(d)$  and set

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- ▶ This leads to a convenient parameterization of a large class of elements of  $\mathcal{C}_+$  ...
- ▶ ... but is this exhaustive?



## The unit ball $\mathcal{B}^d$

$c(x)$  with  $c_{ij} = c_{ji} \in \text{Hom}_2$   $\iff$  BQ( $x, y$ ) :=  $y^\top c(x)y$   
is a **biquadratic form**

$c(x)x \equiv 0$   $\iff$  BQ( $x, x$ )  $\equiv 0$

$c(x)$  positive semidefinite for all  $x$   $\iff$  BQ( $x, y$ )  $\geq 0$  for all  $x, y$

$c(x) = \sum_{p=1}^m A_p x x^\top A_p^\top$   $\iff$  BQ( $x, y$ ) =  $\sum_p (y^\top A_p x)^2$   
= sum of squares (**SOS**)

$\mathcal{C}_+ \cong \{\text{all nonnegative biquadratic forms with vanishing diagonal}\}$   
 $\stackrel{?}{=} \{\text{all **SOS** biquadratic forms with vanishing diagonal}\}$

**Answer:**  $d \leq 4$ : Yes!  $d \geq 6$ : No!  $d = 5$ : Don't know!

## Other interesting state spaces

- ▶  $[0, 1]^m \times \mathbb{R}_+^n$  and  $[0, 1]^m \times \mathbb{R}_+^n \times \mathbb{R}^l$  are straightforward extensions of the unit cube; see [FL16].
- ▶ The unit ball analysis can be brought to bear on **parabolic and hyperbolic sets**, although this has not been done and will require some effort.
- ▶ A nice feature of the **unit sphere** is that it is **compact** (polynomial approximation) with **no boundary** (simulation easier). This has yet to be exploited in applications.
- ▶ Partial parameterization exists for  $E = \mathbb{S}_+^m$ : the affine case is fully understood, see Cuchiero et al. (2011).
- ▶ Partial parameterization exists for  $E = \mathfrak{C}^m$  (correlation matrices), see Ahdida/Alfonsi (2013), but work remains.

# Applications in finance

- ▶ **Overview**
- ▶ State price density models
- ▶ Polynomial term structure models

## Overview

(PP) processes have been used in a variety of applications

- ▶ Term structure of interest rates (See [FLT15] and Glau/Grbac/Keller-Ressel, 2015)
- ▶ Stochastic volatility models (Ackerer/Filipović/Pulido, 2016)
- ▶ Variance swap rates (Filipović/Gourier/Mancini, 2016)
- ▶ Credit risk (Ackerer/Filipović, 2016)
- ▶ Stochastic portfolio theory (Cuchiero, 2016)

The crucial property of (PP) processes — closed-form expressions for conditional moments — are exploited in different ways in these papers.

Here I will focus on models for the **term structure of interest rates**.

# Applications in finance

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ **State price density models**
- ▶ Polynomial term structure models

## State price density models

**Recipe** for building arbitrage-free asset pricing models:

Let  $\zeta > 0$  be a positive semimartingale on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ . For any claim  $C_T$  maturing at some  $T < \infty$ , **define**

$$\text{model price at } t = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_T C_T \mid \mathcal{F}_t] \quad (t \leq T).$$

We call  $\zeta$  the **state price density**.

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## Remarks:

- ▶ Usually  $\mathbb{P}$  is **not** a risk-neutral measure ...
- ▶ ... but need not be the historical measure either.
- ▶ In the applications to interest rate modeling presented here,  $\mathbb{P}$  is the so-called **long forward measure**; see Hansen/Scheinkman (2009) and Qin/Linetsky (2015), etc.

## State price density models

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**Remarks:**

- ▶ Zero-coupon bond prices,  $C_T = 1$ :

$$P(t, T) = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_T \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$$



## State price density models

**Such models are arbitrage-free** on any finite time horizon  $[0, T^*]$ :

- ▶ Asset prices  $S^1, \dots, S^m$ :

$$S_t^i = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_{T^*} S_{T^*}^i \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$$

- ▶ Suppose  $S^1 > 0$  and choose this as numeraire.
- ▶ Define  $\mathbb{Q}^1 \sim \mathbb{P}$  with Radon-Nikodym density process

$$Z_t = \frac{\zeta_t S_t^1}{\zeta_0 S_0^1}$$

- ▶ Then  $S^i/S^1$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^1$ -martingale for all  $i$ ,

$$\frac{S_t^i}{S_t^1} Z_t = \frac{\zeta_t S_t^i}{\zeta_0 S_0^1} = \mathbb{P}\text{-martingale}$$

... and hence NFLVR holds with respect to the numeraire  $S^1$ .

## State price density models

**Such models are arbitrage-free** on any finite time horizon  $[0, T^*]$ :

- ▶ Suppose  $\mathbb{Q} \sim \mathbb{P}$  is a (local) martingale measure associated with the usual bank account numeraire

$$B_t = e^{\int_0^t r_s ds}.$$

Then

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\int_0^t r_s ds} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{d\mathbb{Q}}{d\mathbb{P}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

is the “discounted density process”.

# State price density models

## **Closely related literature:**

Constantinides (1992); Flesaker and Hughston (1996); Rogers (1997); Rutkowski (1997); Brody and Hughston (2005), Carr, Gabaix, Wu (2010); Nguyen and Seifried (2015) Crépey, Macrina, Nguyen, Skovmand (2015), etc.

# Applications in finance

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ State price density models
- ▶ **Polynomial term structure models**

## Polynomial term structure models

Let  $X$  be a (PP) process on  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  with extended generator  $\mathcal{G}$ .  
Specify the state price density by

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t} p(X_t)$$

for some positive  $p \in \text{Pol}(E)$  and some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

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**Example.**  $X$  is a scalar square-root diffusion

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t}dW_t$$

and the state price density is given by

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t}(1 + X_t).$$

## Polynomial term structure models

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**Fix the following notation:**

- ▶  $n \geq \deg(p)$
- ▶  $N = \dim \text{Pol}_n(E)$
- ▶  $H(x) = (h_1(x), \dots, h_N(x))^T$  basis for  $\text{Pol}_n(E)$
- ▶  $G$  matrix representation of  $\mathcal{G}$
- ▶  $\vec{p}$  coordinate representation of  $p$

## Bond prices and short rate

Explicit zero-coupon bond prices:

$$P(t, T) = e^{-\alpha(T-t)} \frac{H(X_t)^\top e^{(T-t)G} \vec{p}}{H(X_t)^\top \vec{p}}$$

**Proof:**  $P(t, T) = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_T \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = \frac{e^{-\alpha T} \mathbb{E}[p(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t]}{e^{-\alpha t} p(X_t)}$  □

Explicit short rate:

$$r_t = \alpha - \frac{H(X_t)^\top G \vec{p}}{H(X_t)^\top \vec{p}}$$

**Proof:**  $r_t = -\partial_T \log P(t, T) \Big|_{T=t} = \alpha - \frac{H(X_t)^\top G e^{(T-t)G} \vec{p}}{H(X_t)^\top e^{(T-t)G} \vec{p}} \Big|_{T=t}$  □

- Elucidates the role of  $\alpha$  as a shift to the short rate



## Bond prices and short rate

**Example (cont'd).**  $X$  is a scalar square-root diffusion

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t}dW_t$$

and the state price density is given by

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t}(1 + X_t).$$

Then

$$P(t, T) = e^{-\alpha(T-t)} \frac{1 + \theta + e^{-\kappa(T-t)}(X_t - \theta)}{1 + X_t}$$
$$r_t = \alpha + \frac{1 + \theta(1 + \kappa) - \kappa X_t}{1 + X_t}$$

The short rate is bounded:

$$\alpha - \kappa \leq r_t \leq \alpha + 1 + \theta(\kappa + 1)$$

## $\alpha$ as infinite-maturity yield

- ▶ The **yield**  $y(t, T)$  is by definition

$$P(t, T) = e^{-(T-t)y(t, T)}$$

- ▶ Since  $\mathcal{G}1 = 0$ ,  $G$  has at least one zero eigenvalue. Suppose it has exactly one. Suppose also that every other eigenvalue  $\lambda$  satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re}(\lambda) < 0.$$

- ▶ Assume  $\inf_{x \in E} p(x) > 0$

Under these conditions,  $\alpha = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} y(t, T)$ .

**Proof:**  $y(t, T) = \alpha - \frac{1}{T-t} \log \mathbb{E}[p(X_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] + \frac{1}{T-t} \log p(X_t)$ .

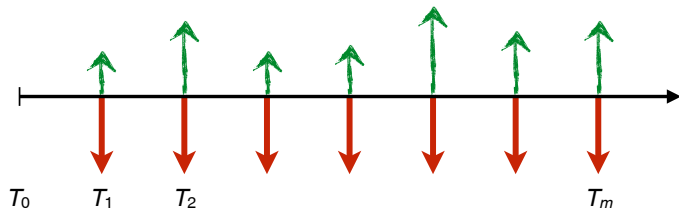
Eigenvalue assumption  $\implies$  moments  $\mathbb{E}[X_t^{\mathbf{k}}]$ ,  $|\mathbf{k}| \leq n$ , bounded in  $t$ .  $\square$

# Interest rate swaps

- ▶ Tenor structure  $T_0 < T_1 < \dots < T_m$ ,  $\Delta = T_i - T_{i-1}$
- ▶ Fixed annualized rate  $K$
- ▶ Value per dollar notional of **payer swap** (pay fixed, receive floating):

$$\Pi_t^{\text{swap}} = P(t, T_0) - P(t, T_m) - \Delta K \sum_{i=1}^m P(t, T_i), \quad t \leq T_0$$

- ▶ The **swap rate**  $S_t^{T_0, T_m}$  is the value of  $K$  that yields  $\Pi_t^{\text{swap}} = 0$ .



# Swaptions

- ▶ Option with expiry date  $T_0$  written on the swap
- ▶ Payoff at time  $T_0$ :

$$C_{T_0} = (\Pi_{T_0}^{\text{swap}})^+$$

- ▶ Note that

$$\Pi_{T_0}^{\text{swap}} = \sum_{i=0}^m c_i P(T_0, T_i) = \frac{1}{\zeta_{T_0}} \sum_{i=0}^m c_i q_i(X_{T_0})$$

for some constants  $c_i$  and polynomials  $q_i$ .

- ▶ Option price at  $t \leq T_0$ :

$$\Pi_t^{\text{swaption}} = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_{T_0} C_{T_0} \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=0}^m c_i q_i(X_{T_0}) \right)^+ \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$$

- ▶  $\implies$  Must compute  $\mathbb{E}[q(X_{T_0})^+ \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$  for  $q \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$
- ▶ More coupon payments yield **no increase** in complexity!

# Swaptions: Comparison with affine models

- ▶ Consider (for this slide only) an **affine interest rate model**:

$$r_t = \alpha + a^\top X_t \text{ for some } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, a \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$X$  is an **affine process** under  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

- ▶ Then  $\bar{X}_t = (\int_0^t r_s ds, X_t)$  is again affine, and bond prices are given by

$$P(t, T) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ e^{u^\top \bar{X}_{T_0}} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] = e^{A(T-t) + B(T-t)^\top \bar{X}_t}$$

where  $u = (-1, 0, \dots, 0)^\top$  and  $(A, B)$  solves a system of quadratic ODEs called the (generalized) Riccati equations.

- ▶ Hence  $\Pi_t^{\text{swaption}} = \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=0}^m c_i e^{A_i + B_i^\top \bar{X}_{T_0}} \right)^+ \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \dots$
- ▶ ... but linear combinations of exponentials are unfriendly!
- ▶ See Filipović (2009) for more on affine term structure models.

## Swaptions: How to evaluate $\mathbb{E}[q(X_T)^+]$ ?

- ▶ **Transform method** if  $\widehat{q}(z) = \mathbb{E}[e^{zq(X_T)}]$  is available: The identity

$$s^+ = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{(\mu+i\lambda)s} \frac{1}{(\mu+i\lambda)^2} d\lambda \quad (\text{any } \mu > 0)$$

implies

$$\mathbb{E}[q(X_T)^+] = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\widehat{q}(\mu+i\lambda)}{(\mu+i\lambda)^2} \right) d\lambda$$

- ▶ **Polynomial expansion:** Fix a weight function  $w(x)$  and consider Hilbert space  $L_w^2$  with inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle_w = \int f(x)g(x)w(x)dx$ . Let  $Q_n, n \geq 0$  be an orthonormal polynomial basis. Then

$$\int q(x)^+ f_{X_T}(x) dx = \langle q^+, \frac{f_{X_T}}{w} \rangle_w = \sum_{n \geq 0} \langle q^+, Q_n \rangle_w \langle \frac{f_{X_T}}{w}, Q_n \rangle_w$$

(Filipović/Mayerhofer/Schneider, '13; Ackerer/Filipović/Pulido, '15)

# Unspanned stochastic volatility

**Empirical fact:** Volatility risk cannot be hedged using bonds

- ▶ Collin-Dufresne, Goldstein (2002): Interest rate swaps can hedge only **10%–50% of variation in ATM straddles** (a volatility-sensitive instrument)
- ▶ Heidari, Wu (2003): Level/curve/slope explain 99.5% of yield curve variation, but **59.5% of variation in swaption implied vol**

This phenomenon is called **Unspanned Stochastic Volatility (USV)**.

- ▶ Other types of factors can be similarly unspanned
- ▶ Joslin, Priebsch, Singleton (2014): Bonds cannot be used to hedge macro-economic risks

How to operationalize this in a polynomial term structure model?

# Unspanned stochastic volatility

- ▶ Assume we are in the linear case:

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t} (\phi + \psi^\top X_t)$$

for some  $\phi \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\psi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

- ▶ This is **w.l.o.g.**:  $\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t} p(X_t)$  is linear in  $\bar{X}_t = H(X_t)$ , which is again (PP).
- ▶ Since  $X$  is (PP) it has affine drift. Thus, in mean-reversion form:

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + dM_t,$$

where  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and  $M$  is a martingale.

- ▶ Bond prices are **linear-rational** in  $X_t$ ,

$$P(t, T) = e^{-\alpha(T-t)} \frac{\phi + \psi^\top X_t + \psi^\top e^{-\kappa(T-t)}(X_t - \theta)}{\phi + \psi^\top X_t},$$

which **does not depend on the specification of  $M$** .



## Unspanned stochastic volatility

Consider an extended factor process  $(X, U)$  such that:

- ▶  $(X, U)$  is jointly (PP)
- ▶  $X$  has autonomous linear drift,

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + dM_t$$

- ▶  $U$  feeds into the characteristics of  $M$ .

Then  $U$  acts as an unspanned volatility factor:

- ▶ **Does not** affect  $P(t, T) = e^{-\alpha(T-t)} \frac{\phi + \psi^\top X_t + \psi^\top e^{-\kappa(T-t)}(X_t - \theta)}{\phi + \psi^\top X_t}$
- ▶ But **does** generically affect the “volatility”  $\langle P(\cdot, T) \rangle_t$

## Unspanned stochastic volatility

**Example.** Consider a model on  $\mathbb{R}_+ \times [0, 1]$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned}dX_t &= \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{U_t X_t}dW_t \\dU_t &= \gamma(\eta - U_t)dt + \nu\sqrt{U_t(1 - U_t)}dB_t\end{aligned}$$

with  $W$  and  $B$  independent Brownian motions. Let

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t}(1 + X_t).$$

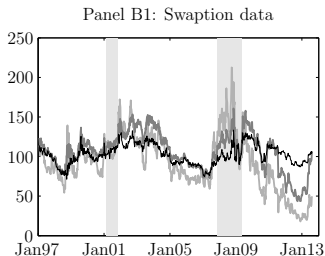
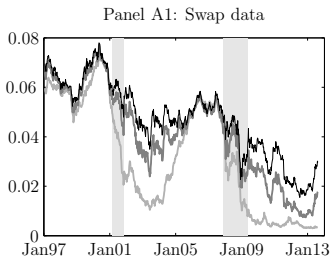
Then with  $\tau = T - t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}P(t, T) &= e^{-\alpha\tau} \frac{1 + \theta + e^{-\kappa\tau}(X_t - \theta)}{1 + X_t} \\ \langle P(\cdot, T) \rangle_t &= \sigma^2(1 + \theta)^2 e^{-2\alpha\tau} (1 - e^{-\kappa\tau})^2 \frac{X_t U_t}{(1 + X_t)^4}\end{aligned}$$

This leads to **USV**: Delta-hedging is ineffective for risks that depend on  $\langle P(\cdot, T) \rangle$ .

# Empirics

- ▶ Panel data set of swaps and ATM swaptions
- ▶ Swap maturities: 1Y, 2Y, 3Y, 5Y, 7Y, 10Y
- ▶ Swaptions on 1Y, 2Y, 3Y, 5Y, 7Y, 10Y forward starting swaps with option expiries 3M, 1Y, 2Y, 5Y
- ▶ 866 weekly observations, Jan 29, 1997 – Aug 28, 2013



# Empirics

**Linear-rational square root (LRSQ) model:**  $E = \mathbb{R}_+^d$

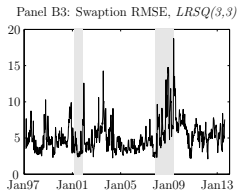
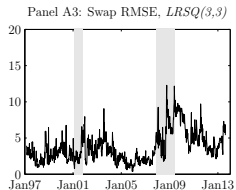
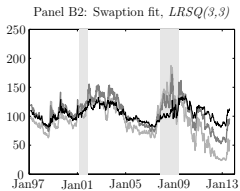
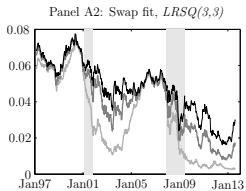
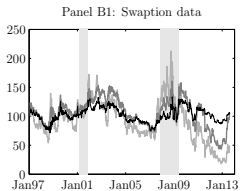
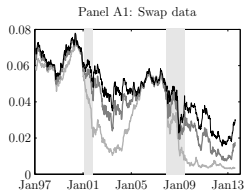
$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1\sqrt{X_{1t}} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_d\sqrt{X_{dt}} \end{pmatrix} dW_t$$

$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t}(\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1}^\top X_t)$$

**LRSQ( $m, n$ ):**

- ▶ Constrained to have  $m$  term structure factors and  $n$  USV factors ( $m \geq n, m + n = d$ )
- ▶ Number of parameters:  $m^2 + 2m + 2n$
- ▶ Estimation approach: Quasi-maximum likelihood in conjunction with the unscented Kalman Filter

# Fit to data



## Comparison of model specifications

Specification	Swaps	Swaptions				
		All	3 mths	1 yr	2 yrs	5 yrs
$LRSQ(3,1)$	7.11	6.63	8.27	5.54	5.25	5.71
$LRSQ(3,2)$	3.83	5.77	7.87	5.12	3.98	4.19
$LRSQ(3,3)$	3.72	5.19	7.20	4.40	3.88	3.70
$LRSQ(3,2)-LRSQ(3,1)$	-3.28*** (-8.95)	-0.86** (-2.18)	-0.40 (-0.74)	-0.42 (-1.04)	-1.27*** (-3.66)	-1.52** (-2.55)
$LRSQ(3,3)-LRSQ(3,2)$	-0.12 (-0.78)	-0.58** (-2.52)	-0.67* (-1.82)	-0.72*** (-2.97)	-0.11 (-0.46)	-0.49** (-2.06)

Figure: Average RMSE (bps)

- ▶  $LRSQ(3,1)$  and  $LRSQ(3,2)$  both have reasonable fit
- ▶ ... but  $LRSQ(3,3)$  is the preferred model
- ▶ Captures level-dependence in swaption implied vol at low rates
- ▶ Upper bounds on short rate:

$LRSQ(3,1)$	$LRSQ(3,2)$	$LRSQ(3,3)$
0.20	1.46	0.72

# Conclusions and outlook

## Conclusions and outlook

- ▶ Polynomial models represent an attractive tradeoff between flexibility and tractability.
- ▶ Significant progress has already been made both on the theoretical side and in applications.
- ▶ Nonetheless this is a wide open area ...



## Conclusions and outlook

... the following being but a few examples of unexplored territory:

- ▶ **Statistical estimation.** E.g. martingale estimating functions (see Forman/Sørensen (2008) and Kessler/Sørensen (1999)) and generalized method of moments (see Zhou (2003)).
- ▶ **Filtering.** Exploit the (PP) property to improve existing approximate filters, such as the extended and unscented Kalman filters.
- ▶ **Improved existence/uniqueness theory.** Various natural state spaces like  $\mathcal{C}^d$  are not well-understood. Uniqueness in the diffusion case should hold but is not completely settled. Same for boundary absorption.
- ▶ **Other open questions**, such as existence of “fake” GBM and the sum-of-squares problem for the unit ball.

**Thank you!**

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