

Exercise 4.1, Shreve, volume 2. In this problem, M is a martingale with respect to a filtration $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}$, and Δ is a simple process adapted to $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}$: $\Delta(t) = \sum \Delta(t_j) \mathbf{1}_{[t_j, t_{j+1})}(t)$, where $t_0 = 0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n = T$ is a partition of $[0, T]$. To avoid any technical issues with existence of expectations, assume there is a constant K such that $\mathbb{P}(|\Delta(t)| \leq K, \forall t \geq 0) = 1$; this is a stronger assumption than is actually needed. For $t \in [t_k, t_{k+1})$, $I(t)$ is defined as

$$I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \Delta(t_j) [M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] + \Delta(t_k) [M(t) - M(t_k)], \quad (1)$$

and the object is to show that I is a martingale. The purpose of this problem is to indicate that the definition of the stochastic integral extends beyond Brownian motion to general martingales.

Before starting, observe that for any j , the martingale property of M and the adaptedness of Δ imply

$$E[\Delta(t_j)[M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] \mid \mathcal{F}_{t_j}] = \Delta(t_j)E[M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j) \mid \mathcal{F}_{t_j}] = 0 \quad (2)$$

Let $0 \leq s < t \leq T$. The problem is to show $E[I(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = I(s)$. Let k be the index such that $t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}$, and let i be the index such that $t_i \leq s < t_{i+1}$. The first case is $i = k$, that is $t_k \leq s < t < t_{k+1}$. In this case, the sum of the terms up to $j = k - 1$ in (1) is \mathcal{F}_{t_k} -measurable and hence is \mathcal{F}_s -measurable. Also,

$$E[\Delta(t_k)[M(t) - M(t_k)] \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = \Delta(t_k)[E[M(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] - M(t_k)] = \Delta(t_k)[M(s) - M(t_k)], \quad (3)$$

where in the first equality, the \mathcal{F}_s measurability of $\Delta(t_k)$ and $M(t_k)$ is used, and, in the last equality, the martingale property of M is used. Thus, taking expectations in (1),

$$E[I(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \Delta(t_j) [M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] + \Delta(t_k) [M(s) - M(t_k)] = I(s).$$

Now suppose that $i < k$ and let j be an index such that $i < j \leq k$. Then, $\mathcal{F}_s \subset \mathcal{F}_{t_j}$, and by inserting a conditioning on \mathcal{F}_{t_j} via the tower property of conditional expectation, and by using equality (2),

$$E[\Delta(t_j)[M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = E[E[\Delta(t_j)[M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] \mid \mathcal{F}_{t_j}] \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = 0. \quad (4)$$

For index i itself, the same type of calculation as in (3) yields

$$E[\Delta(t_i)[M(t_{i+1}) - M(t_i)] \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = \Delta(t_i)[M(s) - M(t_i)]. \quad (5)$$

Now take the conditional expectation of $I(t)$ using (4) and (5):

$$E[I(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \Delta(t_j)[M(t_{j+1}) - M(t_j)] + \Delta(t_i)[M(s) - M(t_i)] = I(s).$$

This completes the derivation of the martingale property of I .

Shreve, 4.2. In this problem, I is stochastic integral of a deterministic simple process: $I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \Delta(t_j)[W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)] + \Delta(t_k)[W(t) - W(t_k)]$, for $t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}$.

(i). We show that the increment $I(t) - I(s)$ is independent of \mathcal{F}_s , whenever $s < t$. Let i be such that $t_i \leq s < t_{i+1}$, and k such that $t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}$. Then, a calculation shows that

$$I(t) - I(s) = \Delta(t_i)[W(t_{i+1}) - W(s)] + \sum_{j=i+1}^{k-1} \Delta(t_j)[W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)] + \Delta(t_k)[W(t) - W(t_k)].$$

(If $i = k$, this reduces to $I(t) - I(s) = \Delta(t_k)[W(t) - W(s)]$.) Since Δ is deterministic, we see that $I(t) - I(s)$ is a linear combination of increments of W which are all independent of \mathcal{F}_s , and hence is independent of \mathcal{F}_s .

(ii). The expression for $I(t) - I(s)$ in part (i) represents it as a sum of independent zero mean normal random variables. Hence $I(t) - I(s)$ is normal. Its variance is the sum of the variances of its summands, which a calculation shows to be

$$\Delta^2(t_i)(s - t_i) + \sum_{j=i+1}^{k-1} \Delta^2(t_j)(t_{j+1} - t_j) + \Delta^2(t_k)(t - t_k) = \int_s^t \Delta^2(r) dr.$$

Or one can derive this immediately from the Itô isometry formula (4.2.6) for the expected value of the square of a stochastic integral, using the fact that, here, Δ is deterministic.

(iii). I is a martingale because for every $s < t$, $I(t) - I(s)$ is a mean zero random variable independent of \mathcal{F}_s . Thus $E[I(t) - I(s) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = E[I(t) - I(s)] = 0$, which implies $E[I(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = I(s)$.

(iv). Because I is a normal process, all its second moments are finite and so all conditional expectations involving products of I at various times are defined. Note that for $t > s$,

$$E[I(s)(I(t) - I(s)) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = I(s)E[I(t) - I(s) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = 0.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} E[I^2(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] &= E[(I(t) - I(s))^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_s] + 2E[I(s)(I(t) - I(s)) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] + I^2(s) \\ &= \int_s^t \Delta^2(r) dr + I^2(s). \end{aligned}$$

In the last step we used the result of part (ii). It follows easily that $I^2(t) - \int_0^t \Delta^2(r) dr$ is a martingale.

Exercise 4.3, Shreve. We consider I as defined in problem 4.2, but now we allow Δ to be random, but adapted.

(i). In general, $I(t) - I(s)$ will not be independent of \mathcal{F}_s . Consider for example, $s = t_1$ and $t = t_2$. Then $I(t_2) - I(t_1) = \Delta(t_1)[W(t_2) - W(t_1)]$. If $\Delta(t_1)$ is an \mathcal{F}_{t_1} measurable random variable, for example suppose $\Delta(t_1) = W(t_1)$, then $I(t_2) - I(t_1)$ is not independent of \mathcal{F}_{t_1} because $\Delta(t_1)$ is determined by \mathcal{F}_{t_1} .

(ii). In general, $I(t) - I(s)$ will not be normally distributed. Again, taking $s = t_1$, $t = t_2$, and $\Delta(t_1) = W(t_1)$, $I(t_2) - I(t_1) = W(t_1)(W(t_2) - W(t_1))$. A normal random variable satisfies $E[(X - \mu)^4] = 3(\text{Var}(X))^2$, where $\mu = E[X]$. Note that the expected value of $I(t_2) - I(t_1)$ is zero, and using the independent increments property and normality of Brownian motion,

$$\text{Var}(I(t_2) - I(t_1)) = E[W^2(t_1)] E[(W(t_2) - W(t_1))^2] = t_1(t_2 - t_1),$$

but on the other hand

$$E[(I(t_2) - I(t_1))^4] = E[W^4(t_1)] E[(W(t_2) - W(t_1))^4] = 3t_1^2(3(t_2 - t_1)^2) = 9t_1^2(t_2 - t_1)^2.$$

Hence $I(t_2) - I(t_1)$ is not normal.

(iii). By Theorem 4.3.1, part (iv), on page 134 of Shreve, I is martingale (as long as $E[\int_0^T \Delta^2(u) du] < \infty$, for all $T > 0$) and so $E[I(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] = I(s)$.

(iv). It is still true that

$$E\left[I^2(t) - \int_0^t \Delta^2(u) du \mid \mathcal{F}_s\right] = I^2(s) - \int_0^s \Delta^2(u) du, \quad (6)$$

(as long as $E[\int_0^T \Delta^2(u) du] < \infty$, for all $T > 0$).

We will verify this for $s = t_1$ and $t = t_2$, but the argument generalizes easily to any $0 \leq s < t$. Return to the calculation of problem 4.2 part (iv). The derivation of Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} E[I^2(t) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] &= E[(I(t) - I(s))^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_s] + 2E[I(s)(I(t) - I(s)) \mid \mathcal{F}_s] + I^2(s) \\ &= E[(I(t) - I(s))^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_s] + I^2(s) \end{aligned}$$

uses only the property of part (iii) and so is valid for a random, adapted integrand Δ . The fact that $I(t) - I(s) = \Delta(t_1) [W(t_2) - W(t_1)]$ and the independence of $W(t_2) - W(t_1)$ from $\mathcal{F}_s = \mathcal{F}_{t_1}$ imply

$$E \left[(I(t) - I(s))^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_{t_1} \right] = \Delta^2(t_1)(t_2 - t_1) = E \left[\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \Delta^2(u) du \mid \mathcal{F}_{t_1} \right].$$

(The middle term equals $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \Delta^2(u) du$ and happens to be \mathcal{F}_{t_1} -measurable, and so that is why we can re-introduce the conditional expectation in the last term.) Rearranging terms leads to (6).

Exercise 4.4, Shreve. (i) For a partition $\Pi : 0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n = T$ and $t_i^* \triangleq (t_{i+1} + t_i)/2$, define

$$Q_{\Pi/2} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j) \right)^2.$$

For each j , $E \left[(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j))^2 \right] = t_j^* - t_j = (t_{j+1} - t_j)/2$. Thus

$$E \left[Q_{\Pi/2} \right] = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (t_{j+1} - t_j)/2 = \frac{T}{2}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[(Q_{\Pi/2} - T/2)^2 \right] &= E \left[\left(\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j) \right)^2 - (t_j^* - t_j) \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \sum_j \sum_k E \left[\left(\left(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j) \right)^2 - (t_j^* - t_j) \right) \left(\left(W(t_k^*) - W(t_k) \right)^2 - (t_k^* - t_k) \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

However, by independence of increments, all terms in this sum are zero, except those with $k = j$. Also, using the normality of Brownian increments, we know $E \left[\left(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j) \right)^4 \right] = 3E \left[\left(W(t_j^*) - W(t_j) \right)^2 \right] = 3(t_j^* - t_j)^2$. Using this, one obtains

$$E \left[(Q_{\Pi/2} - T/2)^2 \right] = 2 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (t_j^* - t_j)^2 \leq \|\Pi\|(T/2).$$

Thus $\lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} E \left[(Q_{\Pi/2} - T/2)^2 \right] = 0$.

(ii). We present two ways to do this. First, for a partition Π , define

$$\bar{Q}_{\Pi/2} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left(W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j^*) \right)^2.$$

The same proof as in part (i) shows that $\lim_{\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0} E[(\bar{Q}_{\Pi/2} - T/2)^2] = 0$. Now, by multiplying out the terms in $Q_{\Pi/2}$ and $\bar{Q}_{\Pi/2}$ and summing up, one can verify that

$$W^2(T) - 2 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} W(t_j^*) (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)) = \bar{Q}_{\Pi/2} - Q_{\Pi/2}.$$

Since $Q_{\Pi/2}$ and $\bar{Q}_{\Pi/2}$ both converge to $T/2$ as $\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0$,

$$W^2(T) - 2 \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} W(t_j^*) (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } \|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0.$$

The second method follows the hint in the problem statement. Write

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} W(t_j^*) (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)) = Q_{\Pi/2} + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} W(t_j) (W(t_j^*) - W(t_j)) + W(t_j^*) (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j^*)).$$

The second sum converges to the Itô integral $\int_0^T W(u) dW(u) = (W^2(T) - T)/2$, while the first term converges to $T/2$, as $\|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0$. Hence

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} W(t_j^*) (W(t_{j+1}) - W(t_j)) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } \|\Pi\| \rightarrow 0.$$