



Density Models for default risk

Monique Jeanblanc, Université d'Évry; Institut Europlace de Finance

Workshop on Financial Derivatives and Risk Management, Fields Institute, 24-28 May 2010

In many models for credit risk, it is implicitly assumed that the intensity contains all the needed information. Our goal is to present a more general setting.

Gapeev, P. V., Jeanblanc, M., Li, L., and Rutkowski, M. (2009):

Constructing Random Times with Given Survival Processes and Applications to Valuation of Credit Derivatives. Forthcoming in: *Contemporary Quantitative Finance*, C. Chiarella and A. Novikov, eds., Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg New York, 2010.

Jeanblanc, M. and Song, S. (2010) Explicit Model of Default Time with given Survival Probability

and Default times with given survival probability and their \mathbb{F} -martingale decomposition formula. In preparation.

El Karoui, N., Jeanblanc, M. and Jiao, Y. (2009). What happens after a default: the conditional density approach. Forthcoming SPA 120 (2010) 1011-1032.

Related works:

Brody D.C. and Hughston L.P. (2002): Entropy and information in the interest rate term structure, Quantitative Finance, 2, 70-80.

Papapantoleon, A. (2009): Old and new approaches to Libor modeling, preprint. Filipovic, D., L. Overbeck and T. Schmidt (2009): Dynamic CDO term structure modelling, preprint

Mathematical Model

A filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is given, as well as a random time τ . The default process is $H_t = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq t}$, the associated filtration is $\mathbb{H} = (\mathcal{H}_t = \sigma(t \wedge \tau), t \geq 0)$. The filtration \mathbb{G} is defined as $\mathcal{G}_t = \mathcal{F}_t \vee \mathcal{H}_t$. The \mathbb{G} -intensity of τ is the process $\lambda^{\mathbb{G}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^t \lambda_s^{\mathbb{G}} ds$$

is a \mathbb{G} -martingale. There exists an \mathbb{F} -adapted process $\lambda^{\mathbb{F}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^{t \wedge \tau} \lambda_s^{\mathbb{F}} ds$$

If $X \in \mathcal{F}_T$, and $G_t = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t)$, then

$$\mathbb{E}(X\mathbb{1}_{T<\tau}|\mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{1}_{t<\tau}\frac{1}{G_t}\mathbb{E}(XG_T|\mathcal{F}_t)$$

One can think that the knowledge of λ and G will allow us to have the knowledge of the conditional law of τ . We shall show that this is not the case.

Mathematical Model

A filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is given, as well as a random time τ . The default process is $H_t = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq t}$, the associated filtration is $\mathbb{H} = (\mathcal{H}_t = \sigma(t \wedge \tau), t \geq 0)$. The filtration \mathbb{G} is defined as $\mathcal{G}_t = \mathcal{F}_t \vee \mathcal{H}_t$. The \mathbb{G} -intensity of τ is the process $\lambda^{\mathbb{G}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^t \lambda_s^{\mathbb{G}} ds$$

is a \mathbb{G} -martingale. There exists an \mathbb{F} -adapted process $\lambda^{\mathbb{F}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^{t \wedge \tau} \lambda_s^{\mathbb{F}} ds$$

If $X \in \mathcal{F}_T$, and $G_t = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t)$, then

$$\mathbb{E}(X\mathbb{1}_{T<\tau}|\mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{1}_{t<\tau} \frac{1}{G_t} \mathbb{E}(XG_T|\mathcal{F}_t)$$

One can think that the knowledge of λ and G will allow us to have the knowledge of the conditional law of τ . We shall show that this is not the case.

Mathematical Model

A filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is given, as well as a random time τ . The default process is $H_t = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq t}$, the associated filtration is $\mathbb{H} = (\mathcal{H}_t = \sigma(t \wedge \tau), t \geq 0)$. The filtration \mathbb{G} is defined as $\mathcal{G}_t = \mathcal{F}_t \vee \mathcal{H}_t$. The \mathbb{G} -intensity of τ is the process $\lambda^{\mathbb{G}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^t \lambda_s^{\mathbb{G}} ds$$

is a \mathbb{G} -martingale. There exists an \mathbb{F} -adapted process $\lambda^{\mathbb{F}}$ such that

$$M_t = H_t - \int_0^{t \wedge \tau} \lambda_s^{\mathbb{F}} ds$$

If $X \in \mathcal{F}_T$, and $G_t = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t)$, then

$$\mathbb{E}(X \mathbb{1}_{T < \tau} | \mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{1}_{t < \tau} \frac{1}{G_t} \mathbb{E}(X G_T | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

One can think that the knowledge of λ and G will allow us to have the knowledge of the conditional law of τ . We shall show that this is not the case.

Intensity models

Models with a given intensity are constructed as follows.

Let λ be a given \mathbb{F} -adapted positive process and Θ a random variable independent of \mathcal{F}_{∞} , with unit exponential law. Then

$$\tau = \inf\{t : \int_0^t \lambda_s ds \ge \Theta\}$$

has intensity equal to λ .

In that model, $\mathbb{P}(\tau > u | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{-\Lambda_u} | \mathcal{F}_t)$ and immersion property holds:

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_{\infty}) = e^{\Lambda_t}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{G}_t), \forall X \in \mathcal{F}_{\infty}$$

Under immersion property, one has

$$p_t(u)du := \mathbb{P}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(\lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u}|\mathcal{F}_t)du$$

and we note that $p_t(u) = p_u(u), \forall t \geq u$.

Intensity models

Models with a given intensity are constructed as follows.

Let λ be a given \mathbb{F} -adapted positive process and Θ a random variable independent of \mathcal{F}_{∞} , with unit exponential law. Then

$$\tau = \inf\{t : \int_0^t \lambda_s ds \ge \Theta\}$$

has intensity equal to λ .

In that model, $\mathbb{P}(\tau > u | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{-\Lambda_u} | \mathcal{F}_t)$ and immersion property holds:

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_{\infty}) = e^{\Lambda_t}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{G}_t), \forall X \in \mathcal{F}_{\infty}$$

Under immersion property, one has

$$p_t(u)du := \mathbb{P}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(\lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u}|\mathcal{F}_t)du$$

and we note that $p_t(u) = p_u(u), \forall t \geq u$.

Intensity models

Models with a given intensity are constructed as follows.

Let λ be a given \mathbb{F} -adapted positive process and Θ a random variable independent of \mathcal{F}_{∞} , with unit exponential law. Then

$$\tau = \inf\{t : \int_0^t \lambda_s ds \ge \Theta\}$$

has intensity equal to λ .

In that model, $\mathbb{P}(\tau > u | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{-\Lambda_u} | \mathcal{F}_t)$ and immersion property holds:

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_{\infty}) = e^{\Lambda_t}$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(X | \mathcal{G}_t), \forall X \in \mathcal{F}_{\infty}$$

Under immersion property, one has

$$p_t(u)du := \mathbb{P}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(\lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u}|\mathcal{F}_t)du$$

and we note that $p_t(u) = p_u(u), \forall t \geq u$.

We now construct probabilities \mathbb{Q} equivalent to \mathbb{P} such that τ has intensity λ , and where immersion does not hold, hence, for t > u, the density $p_t^{\mathbb{Q}}(u)$ is not determined in terms of the intensity.

Let $p_t(u)du = \mathbb{P}(\tau \in du | \mathcal{F}_t)$ and z(u) a family of processes such that (i) $(z_t(u), t \geq u)$ are positive \mathbb{F} -martingales.

Define, for z positive \mathbb{F} -adapted process

$$Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} = z_t \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} + z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau \le t\}}$$

and let

$$Z_t^{\mathbb{F}} := \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}}|\mathcal{F}_t) = z_t G_t + \int_0^t z_t(u) p_t(u) du$$

be its F-projection. Assume that

(ii) $Z^{\mathbb{F}}$ is a \mathbb{F} -martingale.

Then, $Z^{\mathbb{G}}$ is a positive \mathbb{G} -martingale.

We now construct probabilities \mathbb{Q} equivalent to \mathbb{P} such that τ has intensity λ , and where immersion does not hold, hence, for t > u, the density $p_t^{\mathbb{Q}}(u)$ is not determined in terms of the intensity.

Let $p_t(u)du = \mathbb{P}(\tau \in du | \mathcal{F}_t)$ and z(u) a family of processes such that (i) $(z_t(u), t \geq u)$ are positive \mathbb{F} -martingales.

Define, for z positive \mathbb{F} -adapted process

$$Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} = z_t 1\!\!1_{\{\tau > t\}} + z_t(\tau) 1\!\!1_{\{\tau \le t\}}$$

and let

$$Z_t^{\mathbb{F}} := \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}}|\mathcal{F}_t) = z_t G_t + \int_0^t z_t(u) p_t(u) du$$

be its \mathbb{F} -projection (where $G_t = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t)$). Assume that (ii) $\mathbb{Z}^{\mathbb{F}}$ is a \mathbb{F} -martingale.

Then, $Z^{\mathbb{G}}$ is a positive \mathbb{G} -martingale.

Proof: (we assume here that G is continuous.) Let s < t.

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}}|\mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{E}(z_t \mathbb{1}_{\tau > t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{s < \tau \leq t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq s}|\mathcal{G}_s) = I_1 + I_2.$$

For I_1 , we apply the standard formula

$$I_1 = 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(Z_t G_t | \mathcal{F}_s) + 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) 1_{s < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_s),$$

For I_2 , we obtain

$$I_2 = \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(u) | \mathcal{F}_s)_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} (z_s(u))_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} z_s(\tau),$$

where the first equality holds under the immersion hypothesis and the second follows from (i). It thus suffices to show that $I_1 = Z_s \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s}$.

Proof: (we assume here that G is continuous.) Let s < t.

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}}|\mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{E}(z_t \mathbb{1}_{\tau > t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{s < \tau \leq t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq s}|\mathcal{G}_s) = I_1 + I_2.$$

For I_1 , we apply the standard formula

$$I_1 = 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(Z_t G_t | \mathcal{F}_s) + 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) 1_{s < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_s),$$

For I_2 , we obtain

$$I_2 = \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(u) | \mathcal{F}_s)_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} (z_s(u))_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} z_s(\tau),$$

where the first equality holds under the immersion hypothesis and the second follows from (i). It thus suffices to show that $I_1 = z_s \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s}$.

Proof: (we assume here that G is continuous.) Let s < t.

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}}|\mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{E}(z_t \mathbb{1}_{\tau > t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{s < \tau \leq t}|\mathcal{G}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau)\mathbb{1}_{\tau \leq s}|\mathcal{G}_s) = I_1 + I_2.$$

For I_1 , we apply the standard formula

$$I_1 = 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(Z_t G_t | \mathcal{F}_s) + 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) 1_{s < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_s),$$

For I_2 , we obtain

$$I_2 = \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{G}_s) = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} \mathbb{E}(z_t(u) | \mathcal{F}_s)_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} (z_s(u))_{u = \tau} = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} z_s(\tau),$$

where the first equality holds under the immersion hypothesis and the second follows from (i). It thus suffices to show that $I_1 = z_s \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s}$.

It thus suffices to show that $I_1 = z_s \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s}$ where

$$I_1 = \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(z_t G_t | \mathcal{F}_s) + \mathbb{1}_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \mathbb{E}(z_t (\tau) \mathbb{1}_{s < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_s),$$

Condition (ii) yields

$$\mathbb{E}(z_t G_t | \mathcal{F}_s) + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_s) - \mathbb{E}(z_s(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{F}_s) = z_s G_s.$$

Therefore,

$$I_1 = 1_{\tau > s} \frac{1}{G_s} \left(z_s G_s + \mathbb{E}((z_s(\tau) - z_t(\tau)) 1_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{F}_s) \right) = z_s 1_{\tau > s},$$

where the last equality holds since

$$\mathbb{E}((z_s(\tau) - z_t(\tau)) \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} | \mathcal{F}_s) = \mathbb{1}_{\tau \le s} \mathbb{E}((z_s(u) - z_t(u)) | \mathcal{F}_s)_{u = \tau} = 0.$$

For the last equality in the formula above, we have again used condition (i).

We assume (w.l.g.) that $Z_0^{\mathbb{G}} = 1$.

Let \mathbb{Q} be the probability measure defined on \mathcal{G}_t by $d\mathbb{Q} = Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} d\mathbb{P}$.

We assume that $z_t(t) = z_t$ (so that the RN density has no jump at time τ).

Then, for $t \geq \theta$,

$$p_t^{\mathbb{Q}}(\theta) = p_t(\theta) \frac{z_t(\theta)}{Z_t^{\mathbb{F}}},$$

and the Q-conditional survival process is defined by

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = e^{-\Lambda_t} \frac{z_t}{Z_t^{\mathbb{F}}} = N_t^{\mathbb{Q}} e^{-\Lambda_t}$$

(in particular, the Q-intensity and the P-intensity are the same.

We assume (w.l.g.) that $Z_0^{\mathbb{G}} = 1$.

Let \mathbb{Q} be the probability measure defined on \mathcal{G}_t by $d\mathbb{Q} = Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} d\mathbb{P}$.

We assume that $z_t(t) = z_t$ (so that the RN density has no jump at time τ).

Then, for
$$t \geq \theta$$
,

$$p_t^{\mathbb{Q}}(\theta) = p_t(\theta) \frac{z_t(\theta)}{Z_t^{\mathbb{F}}},$$

and the Q-conditional survival process is defined by

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = e^{-\Lambda_t} \frac{z_t}{Z_t^{\mathbb{F}}} = N_t^{\mathbb{Q}} e^{-\Lambda_t}$$

(in particular, the Q-intensity and the P-intensity are the same.

Proof: For t > u,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > u | \mathcal{F}_t) = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} | \mathcal{F}_t)} \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{t < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t) + \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_t) = z_t G_t + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

$$= z_t G_t + \int_u^t z_t(v) p_t(v) dv$$

and the density follows by differentiation. The form of the intensity $(\lambda_t^{\mathbb{G}} = \frac{p_t^{\mathbb{G}}(t)}{G_t^{\mathbb{G}}})$ follows. Indeed, if $G_t = \mu_t - A_t$ is the Doob-Meyer decomposition of G, $A_t = \int_0^t p_u(u) du$ and the intensity is $\lambda_t dt = \frac{dA_t}{G_t}$.

Proof: For t > u,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > u | \mathcal{F}_t) = \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} | \mathcal{F}_t)} \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{t < \tau} | \mathcal{F}_t) + \mathbb{E}(Z_t^{\mathbb{G}} \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_t) = z_t G_t + \mathbb{E}(z_t(\tau) \mathbb{1}_{u < \tau \le t} | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

$$= z_t G_t + \int_u^t z_t(v) p_t(v) dv$$

and the density follows by differentiation. The form of the intensity $(\lambda_t^{\mathbb{G}} = \frac{p_t^{\mathbb{G}}(t)}{G_t^{\mathbb{G}}})$ follows. Indeed, if $G_t = \mu_t - A_t$ is the Doob-Meyer decomposition of the survival probability, $A_t = \int_0^t p_u(u) du$ and the intensity is $\lambda_t dt = \frac{dA_t}{G_t}$.

Construction of a random time with given conditional law

Let p(u) a family of positive \mathbb{F} -martingales such that

$$\int_0^\infty p_t(u)du = 1, \, \forall t$$

One can construct (on an extended space) a probability $\mathbb Q$ and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = p_t(u)du$$

as follows:

- Construct \mathbb{Q}^* and τ such that τ is independent from \mathcal{F}_{∞} and $\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du) = p_0(u)du$

- Set
$$d\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t \vee \sigma(\tau)} = (p_t(\tau))^{-1} d\mathbb{Q}^*$$

Construction of a random time with given conditional law

Let p(u) a family of positive \mathbb{F} -martingales such that

$$\int_0^\infty p_t(u)du = 1, \, \forall t$$

One can construct (on an extended space) a probability $\mathbb Q$ and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = p_t(u)du$$

as follows:

- Construct \mathbb{Q}^* and τ such that τ is independent from \mathcal{F}_{∞} and $\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du) = p_0(u)du$

- Set
$$d\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t \vee \sigma(\tau)} = (p_t(\tau))^{-1} d\mathbb{Q}^*$$

Construction of a random time with given conditional law

Let p(u) a family of positive \mathbb{F} -martingales such that

$$\int_0^\infty p_t(u)du = 1, \, \forall t$$

One can construct (on an extended space) a probability $\mathbb Q$ and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du|\mathcal{F}_t) = p_t(u)du$$

as follows:

- Construct \mathbb{Q}^* and τ such that τ is independent from \mathcal{F}_{∞} and $\mathbb{Q}(\tau \in du) = p_0(u)du$
- Set $d\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t \vee \sigma(\tau)} = (p_t(\tau))^{-1} d\mathbb{Q}^*|_{\mathcal{F}_t \vee \sigma(\tau)}$

Construct (on an extended space) a probability \mathbb{Q} and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t|\mathcal{F}_t) = G_t$$

where G is a given \mathbb{F} -supermartingale. One recall that any supermartingale admits a multiplicative decomposition decomposition as $G_t = N_t D_t = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$ where D (resp. Λ) is decreasing (resp. increasing) In what follows, we assume that G is continuous, and $0 < G_t < 1$ for t > 0.

Construct (on an extended space) a probability \mathbb{Q} and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t|\mathcal{F}_t) = G_t$$

where G is a given \mathbb{F} -supermartingale.

One recall that any supermartingale admits a multiplicative decomposition decomposition as $G_t = N_t D_t = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$ where D (resp. Λ) is decreasing (resp. increasing)

In what follows, we assume that G is continuous, and $0 \le G_t < 1$ for t > 0

Construct (on an extended space) a probability \mathbb{Q} and a random time τ such that

$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t|\mathcal{F}_t) = G_t$$

where G is a given \mathbb{F} -supermartingale.

One recall that any supermartingale admits a multiplicative decomposition decomposition as $G_t = N_t D_t = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$ where D (resp. Λ) is decreasing (resp. increasing)

In what follows, we assume that G is continuous, and $0 \le G_t < 1$ for t > 0.

Let us start with a model in which $\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = e^{-\Lambda_t}$, where $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$ and let N be an \mathbb{F} -local martingale such that $0 \leq N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} \leq 1$.

There exists a G-martingale L such that, setting $d\mathbb{Q} = Ld\mathbb{P}$

(i)
$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}}$$

(ii)
$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$$

The G-adapted process L

$$L_t = \ell_t 1_{t < \tau} + \ell_t(\tau) 1_{\tau \le t}$$

is a martingale if for any u, $(\ell_t(u), t \ge u)$ is a martingale and if $\mathbb{E}(L_t | \mathcal{F}_t)$ is a \mathbb{F} -martingale. Then, (i) is satisfied if

$$1 = \mathbb{E}(L_t|\mathcal{F}_t) = \ell_t G_t + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

and (ii) implies that $\ell = N$ and $\ell_t(t) = \ell_t$.

Conditional Survival Probability

Let us start with a model in which $\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = e^{-\Lambda_t}$, where $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$ and let N be an \mathbb{F} -local martingale such that $0 \leq N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} \leq 1$.

There exists a G-martingale L such that, setting $d\mathbb{Q} = Ld\mathbb{P}$

(i)
$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}}$$

(ii)
$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$$

The \mathbb{G} -adapted process L

$$L_t = \ell_t 1\!\!1_{t < \tau} + \ell_t(\tau) 1\!\!1_{\tau \le t}$$

is a martingale if for any u, $(\ell_t(u), t \geq u)$ is a martingale and if $\mathbb{E}(L_t | \mathcal{F}_t)$ is a \mathbb{F} -martingale. Then, (i) is satisfied if

$$1 = \mathbb{E}(L_t|\mathcal{F}_t) = \ell_t G_t + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

and (ii) implies that $\ell = N$ and $\ell_t(t) = \ell_t$.

Conditional Survival Probability

Let us start with a model in which $\mathbb{P}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = e^{-\Lambda_t}$, where $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$ and let N be an \mathbb{F} -local martingale such that $0 \leq N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} \leq 1$.

There exists a \mathbb{G} -martingale L such that, setting $d\mathbb{Q} = Ld\mathbb{P}$

(i)
$$\mathbb{Q}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}} = \mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_{\infty}}$$

(ii)
$$\mathbb{Q}(\tau > t | \mathcal{F}_t) = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t}$$

The \mathbb{G} -adapted process L

$$L_t = \ell_t 1\!\!1_{t < \tau} + \ell_t(\tau) 1\!\!1_{\tau \le t}$$

is a martingale if for any u, $(\ell_t(u), t \ge u)$ is a martingale and if $\mathbb{E}(L_t | \mathcal{F}_t)$ is a \mathbb{F} -martingale. Then, (i) is satisfied if

$$1 = \mathbb{E}(L_t | \mathcal{F}_t) = \ell_t e^{-\Lambda_t} + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

and (ii) implies that $\ell = N$ and $\ell_t(t) = \ell_t$.

It remains to find a family of martingales $\ell(u)$ such that

$$\ell_u(u) = N_u$$

$$1 = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

We choose

$$\ell_t(u) = \frac{N_u}{1 - G_u} (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right)$$

Then, $\mathbb{Q}[\tau \leq u | \mathcal{F}_t] = M_t^u$ for $0 \leq u \leq t \leq \infty$ where

$$M_t^u = (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right) \quad 0 \le u \le t \le \infty,$$

One can also construct other martingales M^u which give a solution (i.e., families of [0,1]-valued martingales such that $u \to M_t^u$ is decreasing and $M_t^t = 1 - G_t$).

It remains to find a family of martingales $\ell(u)$ such that

$$\ell_u(u) = N_u$$

$$1 = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

We choose

$$\ell_t(u) = \frac{N_u}{1 - G_u} (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right)$$

Then, $\mathbb{Q}[\tau \leq u | \mathcal{F}_t] = M_t^u$ for $0 \leq u \leq t \leq \infty$ where

$$M_t^u = (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right) \quad 0 \le u \le t \le \infty,$$

One can also construct other martingales M^u which give a solution (i.e., families of [0,1]-valued martingales such that $u \to M_t^u$ is decreasing and $M_t^t = 1 - G_t$).

It remains to find a family of martingales $\ell(u)$ such that

$$\ell_u(u) = N_u$$

$$1 = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} + \int_0^t \ell_t(u) \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} du$$

We choose

$$\ell_t(u) = \frac{N_u}{1 - G_u} (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right)$$

Then, $\mathbb{Q}[\tau \leq u | \mathcal{F}_t] = M_t^u$ for $0 \leq u \leq t \leq \infty$ where

$$M_t^u = (1 - G_t) \exp\left(-\int_u^t \frac{G_s}{1 - G_s} \lambda_s ds\right) \quad 0 \le u \le t \le \infty,$$

One can also construct other martingales M^u which give a solution (i.e., families of [0,1]-valued martingales such that $u \to M_t^u$ is decreasing and $M_t^t = 1 - G_t$).

Cox processes

Let λ be a strictly positive \mathbb{F} -adapted process, and $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$.

Let Θ be a strictly positive random variable whose conditional distribution w.r.t. \mathbb{F} admits a density w.r.t. the Lebesgue measure, i.e., there exists a family of $\mathcal{F}_t \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}_+)$ -measurable functions $\gamma_t(u)$ such that $\mathbb{P}(\Theta > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} \gamma_t(u) du$.

Let
$$\tau = \inf\{t > 0 : \Lambda_t \ge \Theta\}.$$

Then τ admits the density

$$p_t(\theta) = \lambda_{\theta} \gamma_t(\Lambda_{\theta}) \text{ if } t \geq \theta \quad \text{and} \quad p_t(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[\lambda_{\theta} \gamma_{\theta}(\Lambda_{\theta}) | \mathcal{F}_t] \text{ if } t < \theta$$

Cox processes

Let λ be a strictly positive \mathbb{F} -adapted process, and $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$.

Let Θ be a strictly positive random variable whose conditional distribution w.r.t. \mathbb{F} admits a density w.r.t. the Lebesgue measure, i.e., there exists a family of $\mathcal{F}_t \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}_+)$ -measurable functions $\gamma_t(u)$ such that $\mathbb{P}(\Theta > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} \gamma_t(u) du$.

Let $\tau = \inf\{t > 0 : \Lambda_t \ge \Theta\}.$

Then τ admits the density

$$p_t(\theta) = \lambda_{\theta} \gamma_t(\Lambda_{\theta}) \text{ if } t \geq \theta \quad \text{and} \quad p_t(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[\lambda_{\theta} \gamma_{\theta}(\Lambda_{\theta}) | \mathcal{F}_t] \text{ if } t < \theta.$$

Proof: By definition and by the fact that Λ is strictly increasing and absolutely continuous, we have for $t \geq \theta$,

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\Theta > \Lambda_\theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \int_{\Lambda_\theta}^{\infty} \gamma_t(u) du = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} \gamma_t(\Lambda_u) d\Lambda_u = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} \gamma_t(\Lambda_u) \lambda_u du,$$

which implies $p_t(\theta) = \lambda_{\theta} \gamma_t(\Lambda_{\theta})$. The martingale property of p gives the whole density.

Conversely, if we are given a density p, and hence an associated process $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \lambda_s ds$ with $\lambda_s = \frac{p_s(s)}{G_s}$, then it is possible to find a threshold Θ such that τ has p as density.

We denote by Λ^{-1} the inverse of the strictly increasing process λ .

We let $\Lambda_t = \int_0^t \frac{p_s(s)}{G_s} ds$ and $\Theta = \Lambda_\tau$. Then Θ has a density γ with respect to \mathbb{F} given by

$$\gamma_t(\theta) = \mathbb{E}\Big[p_{t \vee \Lambda_{\theta}^{-1}}(\Lambda_{\theta}^{-1}) \frac{1}{\lambda_{\Lambda_{\theta}^{-1}}} | \mathcal{F}_t \Big].$$

Proof: We set $\Theta = \Lambda_{\tau}$ and compute the density of Θ w.r.t. \mathbb{F}

$$\mathbb{P}(\Theta > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\Lambda_{\tau} > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{P}(\tau > t, \Lambda_{\tau} > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) + \mathbb{P}(\tau \leq t, \Lambda_{\tau} > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[-\int_t^{\infty} \mathbb{1}_{\{\Lambda_u > \theta\}} dG_u | \mathcal{F}_t] + \int_0^t \mathbb{1}_{\{\Lambda_u > \theta\}} p_t(u) du$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[\int_t^{\infty} \mathbb{1}_{\{\Lambda_u > \theta\}} p_u(u) du | \mathcal{F}_t] + \int_0^t \mathbb{1}_{\{\Lambda_u > \theta\}} p_t(u) du$$

where the last equality comes from the fact that $(G_t + \int_0^t p_u(u)du, t \ge 0)$ is an \mathbb{F} -martingale. Note that since the process Λ is continuous and strictly increasing, also is its inverse. Hence

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\int_{\theta}^{\infty} p_{\Lambda_{s}^{-1} \vee t}(\Lambda_{s}^{-1}) \frac{1}{\lambda_{\Lambda_{s}^{-1}}} ds | \mathcal{F}_{t}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{\Lambda_{\theta}^{-1}}^{\infty} p_{s \vee t}(s) \frac{1}{\lambda_{s}} d\Lambda_{s} | \mathcal{F}_{t}\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{\infty} \mathbb{1}_{\{s > \Lambda_{\theta}^{-1}\}} p_{s \vee t}(s) ds | \mathcal{F}_{t}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{\infty} \mathbb{1}_{\{\Lambda_{s} > \theta\}} p_{s \vee t}(s) ds | \mathcal{F}_{t}\right],$$

which equals $\mathbb{P}(\Theta > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t)$.

Defaultable Zero-Coupon Bonds

A defaultable zero-coupon with maturity T associated with the default time τ is an asset which pays one monetary unit at time T if (and only if) the default has not occurred before T. We assume that \mathbb{P} is the pricing measure.

$$D(t,T) := \mathbb{P}(\tau > T \mid \mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \frac{\mathbb{P}(\tau > T \mid \mathcal{F}_t)}{G_t} = \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(N_T e^{-\Lambda_T} \mid \mathcal{F}_t)}{G_t}$$

However, using a change of probability, one can get rid of the martingale part N, assuming that there exists p such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} p_t(u) du$$

Defaultable Zero-Coupon Bonds

A defaultable zero-coupon with maturity T associated with the default time τ is an asset which pays one monetary unit at time T if (and only if) the default has not occurred before T. We assume that \mathbb{P} is the pricing measure.

$$D(t,T) := \mathbb{P}(\tau > T \mid \mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \frac{\mathbb{P}(\tau > T \mid \mathcal{F}_t)}{G_t} = \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(N_T e^{-\Lambda_T} \mid \mathcal{F}_t)}{G_t}$$

However, using a change of probability, one can get rid of the martingale part N, assuming that there exists p such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\tau > \theta | \mathcal{F}_t) = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} p_t(u) du$$

Let \mathbb{P}^* be defined as

$$d\mathbb{P}^*|_{\mathcal{G}_t} = Z_t^* d\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{G}_t}$$

where Z^* is the (\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{G}) -martingale defined as

$$Z_t^* = 1_{\{t < \tau\}} + 1_{\{t \ge \tau\}} \lambda_{\tau} e^{-\Lambda_{\tau}} \frac{N_t}{p_t(\tau)}$$

Then,

- (a) Immersion property holds under \mathbb{P}^* ,
- (b) $d\mathbb{P}^*|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = N_t d\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$
- (c) \mathbb{P}^* and \mathbb{P} coincide on \mathcal{G}_{τ} .

However, \mathbb{P}^* and \mathbb{P} do not coincide on \mathcal{F}_{∞}

Let \mathbb{P}^* be defined as

$$d\mathbb{P}^*|_{\mathcal{G}_t} = Z_t^* d\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{G}_t}$$

where Z^* is the (\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{G}) -martingale defined as

$$Z_t^* = \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{t \ge \tau\}} \lambda_{\tau} e^{-\Lambda_{\tau}} \frac{N_t}{p_t(\tau)}$$

Then,

- (a) Immersion property holds under \mathbb{P}^* ,
- (b) $d\mathbb{P}^*|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = N_t d\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$
- (c) \mathbb{P}^* and \mathbb{P} coincide on \mathcal{G}_{τ} .

However, \mathbb{P}^* and \mathbb{P} do not coincide on \mathcal{F}_{∞}

Proof: We prove first that $d\mathbb{P}^*|_{\mathcal{F}_t} = N_t d\mathbb{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t}$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(Z_t^* | \mathcal{F}_t) = G_t + \int_0^t \lambda_u e^{-\Lambda_u} \frac{N_t}{p_t(u)} p_t(u) du = N_t e^{-\Lambda_t} + N_t (1 - e^{-\Lambda_t}) = N_t$$

We compute the \mathbb{P}^* conditional law of τ . For $t > \theta$,

$$\mathbb{P}^{*}(\theta < \tau | \mathcal{F}_{t}) = \frac{1}{N_{t}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(Z_{t}^{*} \mathbb{1}_{\{\theta < \tau\}} | \mathcal{F}_{t}) = \frac{1}{N_{t}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(\mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{t \ge \tau > \theta\}} \lambda_{\tau} e^{-\Lambda_{\tau}} \frac{N_{t}}{p_{t}(\tau)} | \mathcal{F}_{t})$$

$$= \frac{1}{N_{t}} \left(N_{t} e^{-\Lambda_{t}} + \int_{\theta}^{t} \lambda_{u} e^{-\Lambda_{u}} \frac{N_{t}}{p_{t}(u)} p_{t}(u) du \right) = e^{-\Lambda_{\theta}}$$

which proves that immersion holds true under \mathbb{P}^* , and the intensity of τ is the same under \mathbb{P} and \mathbb{P}^* . It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}^*(X 1\!\!1_{\{T < \tau\}} | \mathcal{G}_t) = 1\!\!1_{\{t < \tau\}} \frac{1}{e^{-\Lambda_t}} \mathbb{E}^*(e^{-\Lambda_T} X | \mathcal{F}_t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X 1\!\!1_{\{T < \tau\}} | \mathcal{G}_t)$$

Note that, if the intensity is the same under \mathbb{P} and \mathbb{P}^* , its dynamics under \mathbb{P}^* will involve a change of driving process, since \mathbb{P} and \mathbb{P}^* do not coincide on \mathcal{F}_{∞} .

Let us now study the pricing of a recovery. Let Z be an \mathbb{F} -predictable bounded process.

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(Z_{\tau} \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau \leq T\}} | \mathcal{G}_{t}) = \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau\}} \frac{1}{G_{t}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(-\int_{t}^{T} Z_{u} dG_{u} | \mathcal{F}_{t})$$

$$= \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau\}} \frac{1}{G_{t}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(\int_{t}^{T} Z_{u} N_{u} \lambda_{u} e^{-\Lambda_{u}} du | \mathcal{F}_{t})$$

$$= \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau\}} \frac{1}{e^{-\Lambda_{t}}} \mathbb{E}^{*}(\int_{t}^{T} Z_{u} \lambda_{u} e^{-\Lambda_{u}} du | \mathcal{F}_{t})$$

$$= \mathbb{E}^{*}(Z_{\tau} \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau < T\}} | \mathcal{G}_{t})$$

The problem is different for pricing a recovery paid at maturity, i.e. for $X \in \mathcal{F}_T$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X\mathbb{1}_{\tau < T}|\mathcal{G}_{t}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X|\mathcal{G}_{t}) - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X\mathbb{1}_{\tau > T}|\mathcal{G}_{t})$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X|\mathcal{G}_{t}) - \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \frac{1}{e^{-\Lambda_{t}}} \mathbb{E}^{*}(Xe^{-\Lambda_{T}}|\mathcal{F}_{t})$$

If both quantities $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X \mathbb{1}_{\tau < T} | \mathcal{G}_t)$ and $\mathbb{E}^*(X \mathbb{1}_{\tau < T} | \mathcal{G}_t)$ are the same, this would imply that $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}}(X | \mathcal{G}_t) = \mathbb{E}^*(X | \mathcal{F}_t)$ i.e., immersion holds under \mathbb{P} .

Misspecification of the Information

In this section, we point out that the price of a derivative product written on a default τ depends strongly on the other default and the hedging strategies have to be constructed with the full observation. Let us study the following toy model

Two default times
$$\tau_1, \tau_2$$
 let $G(t,s) = \mathbb{P}(\tau_1 > t, tau_2 > s)$

We consider two filtrations \mathbb{H}^1 an $\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{H}^1 \vee \mathbb{H}^2$

The price of a DZC is

$$\bar{D}^{1}(t,T) = \mathbb{P}(\tau_{1} > T | \mathcal{H}_{t}^{1}) = (1 - H_{t}^{1}) \frac{G(T,0)}{G(t,0)}$$

$$D^{1}(t,T) = \mathbb{P}(\tau_{1} > T | \mathcal{H}_{t}) = (1 - H_{t}^{1}) \left((1 - H_{t}^{2}) \frac{G(T,t)}{G(t,t)} + H_{t}^{2} \frac{\partial_{2}(T,\tau_{2})}{\partial_{2}G(t,\tau_{2})} \right)$$

The un-informed agent knows only \mathbb{H}^1 . He will hedge the contingent claim $C = h(\tau_1) \mathbb{1}_{\tau_1 > T} + k \mathbb{1}_{\tau_1 > T}$ thinking the market is complete, with an initial wealth $x = \mathbb{E}(C)$ buying ζ_t DZC, so that

$$\widehat{X}_T := x + \int_0^T \zeta_s d\widehat{D}(t, T) = C$$

and he will invest $\zeta_t^0 = X_t - \zeta_t \widehat{D}(t,T)$ in the savings account in a self financing way. However, his "real" wealth will be $X_t = \zeta_t^0 + \zeta_t D(t,T)$ and the strategy is not self-financing. The cost of refinancing is

$$dX_t - \zeta_t dD(t, T) = d\zeta_t^0 + D(t, T)d\zeta_t^0 + d\langle \zeta, D(\cdot, T) \rangle_t$$

If he uses a self financing strategy, his terminal wealth will be $X_T^* = x + \int_0^T \zeta_t dD(t,T)$ and the associated cost is $C - X_T^* = \int_0^T \zeta_t (d\widehat{D}(t,T) - dD(t,T))$. One has $\mathbb{E}(C - X_T^*) = 0$

