## **Chapter 14**

# **The Ito Integral ˆ**

The following chapters deal with *Stochastic Differential Equations in Finance*. References:

- 1. B. Oksendal, *Stochastic Differential Equations*, Springer-Verlag,1995
- 2. J. Hull, *Options, Futures and other Derivative Securities,* Prentice Hall, 1993.

#### **14.1 Brownian Motion**

(See Fig. 13.3.)  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is given, always in the background, even when not explicitly mentioned. **Brownian motion**,  $B(t, \omega) : [0, \infty) \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , has the following properties:

- 1.  $B(0) = 0$ ; Technically,  $I\!\!P \{\omega; B(0, \omega) = 0\} = 1$ ,
- 2.  $B(t)$  is a continuous function of t,
- 3. If  $0 = t_0 \le t_1 \le \ldots \le t_n$ , then the increments

$$
B(t_1) - B(t_0), \ldots, B(t_n) - B(t_{n-1})
$$

are *independent,normal,* and

$$
E[B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k)] = 0,
$$
  
\n
$$
E[B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k)]^2 = t_{k+1} - t_k.
$$

#### **14.2 First Variation**

Quadratic variation is a measure of volatility. First we will consider *first variation*,  $FV(f)$ , of a function  $f(t)$ .



Figure 14.1: *Example function*  $f(t)$ *.* 

For the function pictured in Fig. 14.1, the first variation over the interval  $[0, T]$  is given by:

$$
FV_{[0,T]}(f) = [f(t_1) - f(0)] - [f(t_2) - f(t_1)] + [f(T) - f(t_2)]
$$
  
= 
$$
\int_{0}^{t_1} f'(t) dt + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (-f'(t)) dt + \int_{t_2}^{T} f'(t) dt.
$$
  
= 
$$
\int_{0}^{T} |f'(t)| dt.
$$

Thus, first variation measures the total amount of up and down motion of the path. The general definition of first variation is as follows:

**Definition 14.1 (First Variation)** Let  $\Pi = \{t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_n\}$  be a *partition* of  $[0, T]$ , i.e.,

$$
0=t_0\leq t_1\leq \ldots \leq t_n=T.
$$

The *mesh* of the partition is defined to be

$$
||\Pi|| = \max_{k=0,\ldots,n-1} (t_{k+1} - t_k).
$$

We then define

$$
FV_{[0,T]}(f) = \lim_{\|H\| \to 0} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f(t_{k+1}) - f(t_k)|.
$$

Suppose f is differentiable. Then the Mean Value Theorem implies that in each subinterval  $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$ , there is a point  $t_k^*$  such that

$$
f(t_{k+1}) - f(t_k) = f'(t_k^*)(t_{k+1} - t_k).
$$

Then

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f(t_{k+1}) - f(t_k)| = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f'(t_k^*)| (t_{k+1} - t_k),
$$

and

$$
FV_{[0,T]}(f) = \lim_{\substack{\| \Pi \| \to 0 \\ \theta = 0}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f'(t_k^*)|(t_{k+1} - t_k)
$$

$$
= \int_0^T |f'(t)| dt.
$$

## **14.3 Quadratic Variation**

**Definition 14.2 (Quadratic Variation)** The *quadratic variation* of a function f on an interval  $[0, T]$ is  $\overline{1}$ 

$$
\langle f \rangle(T) = \lim_{\| \Pi \| \to 0} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f(t_{k+1}) - f(t_k)|^2.
$$

**Remark 14.1 (Quadratic Variation of Differentiable Functions)** If f is differentiable, then  $\langle f \rangle(T)$  = , because

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f(t_{k+1}) - f(t_k)|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f'(t_k^*)|^2 (t_{k+1} - t_k)^2
$$
  

$$
\leq ||\Pi|| \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f'(t_k^*)|^2 (t_{k+1} - t_k)
$$

and

$$
\langle f \rangle(T) \le \lim_{\| \Pi \| \to 0} \| \Pi \| \cdot \lim_{\| \Pi \| \to 0} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f'(t_k^*)|^2 (t_{k+1} - t_k)
$$
  
= 
$$
\lim_{\| \Pi \| \to 0} \| \Pi \| \int_0^T |f'(t)|^2 dt
$$
  
= 0.

**Theorem 3.44**

$$
\langle B \rangle(T) = T,
$$

*or more precisely,*

$$
I\!\!P\{\omega \in \Omega; \langle B(.,\omega) \rangle(T) = T\} = 1.
$$

*In particular, the paths of Brownian motion are not differentiable.*

**Proof:** (Outline) Let  $\Pi = \{t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_n\}$  be a partition of  $[0, T]$ . To simplify notation, set  $D_k =$  $B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k)$ . Define the *sample quadratic variation* 

$$
Q_{\Pi} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} D_k^2.
$$

Then

$$
Q_{\Pi} - T = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [D_k^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k)].
$$

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

We want to show that

$$
\lim_{||\Pi|| \to 0} (Q_{\Pi} - T) = 0.
$$

Consider an individual summand

$$
D_k^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k) = [B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k)]^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k).
$$

This has expectation 0, so

$$
I\!\!E(Q_{\Pi}-T) = I\!\!E \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [D_k^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k)] = 0.
$$

For  $j \neq k$ , the terms

$$
D_j^2 - (t_{j+1} - t_j)
$$
 and  $D_k^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k)$ 

are independent, so

$$
\begin{aligned}\n\text{var}(Q_{\Pi} - T) &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \text{var}[D_k^2 - (t_{k+1} - t_k)] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[D_k^4 - 2(t_{k+1} - t_k)D_k^2 + (t_{k+1} - t_k)^2] \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [3(t_{k+1} - t_k)^2 - 2(t_{k+1} - t_k)^2 + (t_{k+1} - t_k)^2] \\
&\quad \text{(if } X \text{ is normal with mean 0 and variance } \sigma^2 \text{, then } \mathbb{E}(X^4) = 3\sigma^4) \\
&= 2 \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (t_{k+1} - t_k)^2 \\
&\le 2||\Pi|| \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (t_{k+1} - t_k) \\
&= 2||\Pi|| T.\n\end{aligned}
$$

Thus we have

$$
E(Q_{\Pi} - T) = 0,
$$
  
var
$$
(Q_{\Pi} - T) \le 2||\Pi|| \cdot T.
$$

As  $||\Pi|| \rightarrow 0$ , var $(Q_{\Pi} - T) \rightarrow 0$ , so

$$
\lim_{||\Pi|| \to 0} (Q_{\Pi} - T) = 0.
$$

 $\blacksquare$ 

#### **Remark 14.2 (Differential Representation)** We know that

$$
I\!\!E[(B(t_{k+1})-B(t_k))^2-(t_{k+1}-t_k)]=0.
$$

We showed above that

$$
var[(B(t_{k+1})-B(t_k))^2-(t_{k+1}-t_k)]=2(t_{k+1}-t_k)^2.
$$

When  $(t_{k+1} - t_k)$  is small,  $(t_{k+1} - t_k)^2$  is *very* small, and we have the approximate equation

$$
(B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k))^2 \simeq t_{k+1} - t_k,
$$

which we can write informally as

$$
dB(t) \; dB(t) = dt
$$

#### **14.4 Quadratic Variation as Absolute Volatility**

On any time interval  $[T_1, T_2]$ , we can sample the Brownian motion at times

$$
T_1 = t_0 \leq t_1 \leq \ldots \leq t_n = T_2
$$

and compute the *squared sample absolute volatility*

$$
\frac{1}{T_2 - T_1} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (B(t_{k+1}) - B(t_k))^2.
$$

This is approximately equal to

$$
\frac{1}{T_2 - T_1} [\langle B \rangle (T_2) - \langle B \rangle (T_1)] = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 - T_1} = 1.
$$

As we increase the number of sample points, this approximation becomes exact. In other words, Brownian motion has *absolute volatility 1.*

Furthermore, consider the equation

$$
\langle B \rangle(T) = T = \int_{0}^{T} 1 \, dt, \qquad \forall T \ge 0.
$$

This says that quadratic variation for Brownian motion accumulates at rate 1 *at all times along almost every path*.

#### **14.5 Construction of the Ito Integral ˆ**

The **integrator** is Brownian motion  $B(t)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , with associated filtration  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and the following properties:

- 1.  $s \leq t \Longrightarrow$  every set in  $\mathcal{F}(s)$  is also in  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ ,
- 2.  $B(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable,  $\forall t$ ,
- 3. For  $t \le t_1 \le \ldots \le t_n$ , the increments  $B(t_1) B(t), B(t_2) B(t_1), \ldots, B(t_n) B(t_{n-1})$ are independent of  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ .

The **integrand** is  $\delta(t)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , where

- 1.  $\delta(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable  $\forall t$  (i.e.,  $\delta$  is adapted)
- 2.  $\delta$  is square-integrable:

$$
I\!\!E\int\limits_0^T\delta^2(t)\;dt<\infty,\qquad\forall T.
$$

We want to define the **Ito Integral: ˆ**

$$
I(t) = \int\limits_0^t \delta(u) \; dB(u), \qquad t \geq 0.
$$

**Remark 14.3 (Integral w.r.t. a differentiable function)** If  $f(t)$  is a differentiable function, then we can define  $\overline{t}$ 

$$
\int\limits_0^t \delta(u) \; df(u) = \int_0^t \delta(u) f'(u) \; du.
$$

This won't work when the integrator is Brownian motion, because the paths of Brownian motion are not differentiable.

#### **14.6 Ito integral of an elementary integrand ˆ**

Let  $\Pi = \{t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_n\}$  be a partition of  $[0, T]$ , i.e.,

$$
0=t_0\leq t_1\leq \ldots \leq t_n=T.
$$

Assume that  $\delta(t)$  is constant on each subinterval  $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$  (see Fig. 14.2). We call such a  $\delta$  an *elementary process*.

The functions  $B(t)$  and  $\delta(t_k)$  can be interpreted as follows:

• Think of  $B(t)$  as the *price per unit share* of an asset at time t.

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Figure 14.2: An elementary function  $\delta$ .

- Think of  $t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_n$  as the *trading dates* for the asset.
- Think of  $\delta(t_k)$  as the *number of shares of the asset acquired* at trading date  $t_k$  and held until trading date  $t_{k+1}$ .

Then the Itô integral  $I(t)$  can be interpreted as the *gain from trading* at time t; this gain is given by:

$$
I(t) = \begin{cases} \delta(t_0)[B(t) - B(t_0)], & 0 \le t \le t_1 \\ \delta(t_0)[B(t_1) - B(t_0)] + \delta(t_1)[B(t) - B(t_1)], & t_1 \le t \le t_2 \\ \delta(t_0)[B(t_1) - B(t_0)] + \delta(t_1)[B(t_2) - B(t_1)] + \delta(t_2)[B(t) - B(t_2)], & t_2 \le t \le t_3. \end{cases}
$$

In general, if  $t_k \leq t \leq t_{k+1}$ ,

$$
I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \delta(t_j) [B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)] + \delta(t_k) [B(t) - B(t_k)].
$$

#### **14.7 Properties of the Ito integral of an elementary process ˆ**

**Adaptedness** For each t,  $I(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable.

**Linearity** If

$$
I(t) = \int_{0}^{t} \delta(u) dB(u), \qquad J(t) = \int_{0}^{t} \gamma(u) dB(u)
$$

then

$$
I(t) \pm J(t) = \int_0^t (\delta(u) \pm \gamma(u)) dB(u)
$$



Figure 14.3: *Showing* <sup>s</sup> *and* <sup>t</sup> *in different partitions.*

and

$$
cI(t) = \int_0^t c\delta(u)dB(u).
$$

**Martingale**  $I(t)$  is a martingale.

We prove the martingale property for the elementary process case.

#### **Theorem 7.45 (Martingale Property)**

$$
I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \delta(t_j) [B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)] + \delta(t_k) [B(t) - B(t_k)], \qquad t_k \le t \le t_{k+1}
$$

*is a martingale.*

**Proof:** Let  $0 \leq s \leq t$  be given. We treat the more difficult case that s and t are in different subintervals, i.e., there are partition points  $t_{\ell}$  and  $t_k$  such that  $s \in [t_{\ell}, t_{\ell+1}]$  and  $t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]$  (See Fig. 14.3).

Write

$$
I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\ell-1} \delta(t_j) [B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)] + \delta(t_\ell) [B(t_{\ell+1}) - B(t_\ell)]
$$
  
+ 
$$
\sum_{j=\ell+1}^{k-1} \delta(t_j) [B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)] + \delta(t_k) [B(t) - B(t_k)]
$$

We compute conditional expectations:

$$
E\left[\sum_{j=0}^{\ell-1} \delta(t_j) (B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)) \middle| \mathcal{F}(s) \right] = \sum_{j=0}^{\ell-1} \delta(t_j) (B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)).
$$
  

$$
E\left[\delta(t_{\ell}) (B(t_{\ell+1}) - B(t_{\ell})) \middle| \mathcal{F}(s) \right] = \delta(t_{\ell}) (E[B(t_{\ell+1}) | \mathcal{F}(s)] - B(t_{\ell}))
$$
  

$$
= \delta(t_{\ell}) [B(s) - B(t_{\ell})]
$$

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These first two terms add up to  $I(s)$ . We show that the third and fourth terms are zero.

$$
E\left[\sum_{j=\ell+1}^{k-1} \delta(t_j)(B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j))\middle| \mathcal{F}(s)\right] = \sum_{j=\ell+1}^{k-1} E\left[E\left[\delta(t_j)(B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j))\middle| \mathcal{F}(t_j)\right]\middle| \mathcal{F}(s)\right]
$$

$$
= \sum_{j=\ell+1}^{k-1} E\left[\delta(t_j)\underbrace{\left(E[B(t_{j+1})|\mathcal{F}(t_j)] - B(t_j)\right)}_{=0}\middle| \mathcal{F}(s)\right]
$$

$$
E\left[\delta(t_k)(B(t) - B(t_k))\middle| \mathcal{F}(s)\right] = E\left[\delta(t_k)\underbrace{\left(E[B(t)|\mathcal{F}(t_k)] - B(t_k)\right)}_{=0}\middle| \mathcal{F}(s)\right]
$$

**Theorem 7.46 (Ito Isometry) ˆ**

$$
E I^2(t) = E \int_0^t \delta^2(u) \ du.
$$

**Proof:** To simplify notation, assume  $t = t_k$ , so

$$
I(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k} \delta(t_j) \underbrace{[B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_j)]}_{D_j}
$$

Each  $D_j$  has expectation 0, and different  $D_j$  are independent.

$$
I^{2}(t) = \left(\sum_{j=0}^{k} \delta(t_{j}) D_{j}\right)^{2}
$$
  
= 
$$
\sum_{j=0}^{k} \delta^{2}(t_{j}) D_{j}^{2} + 2 \sum_{i < j} \delta(t_{i}) \delta(t_{j}) D_{i} D_{j}.
$$

Since the cross terms have expectation zero,

$$
E I^{2}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{k} E[\delta^{2}(t_{j}) D_{j}^{2}]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{j=0}^{k} E\left[\delta^{2}(t_{j}) E\left[(B(t_{j+1}) - B(t_{j}))^{2} \Big| \mathcal{F}(t_{j})\right]\right]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \sum_{j=0}^{k} E \delta^{2}(t_{j}) (t_{j+1} - t_{j})
$$
  
\n
$$
= E \sum_{j=0}^{k} \int_{t_{j}}^{t_{j+1}} \delta^{2}(u) du
$$
  
\n
$$
= E \int_{0}^{t} \delta^{2}(u) du
$$

 $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$   $\sim$ 



Figure 14.4: Approximating a general process by an elementary process  $\delta_4$ , over  $[0, T]$ .

#### **14.8** Itô integral of a general integrand

Fix  $T > 0$ . Let  $\delta$  be a process (not necessarily an elementary process) such that

- $\delta(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$ ,
- $\bullet E \int_0^1 \delta^2(t) dt < \infty$ .

**Theorem 8.47** *There is a sequence of elementary processes*  $\{\delta_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  *such that* 

$$
\lim_{n \to \infty} I\!\!E \int_0^T |\delta_n(t) - \delta(t)|^2 dt = 0.
$$

**Proof:** Fig. 14.4 shows the main idea.

П

 $\blacksquare$ 

In the last section we have defined

$$
I_n(T) = \int_0^T \delta_n(t) \; dB(t)
$$

for every  $n$ . We now define

$$
\int_0^T \delta(t) \; dB(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_0^T \delta_n(t) \; dB(t).
$$

The only difficulty with this approach is that we need to make sure the above limit exists. Suppose  $n$  and  $m$  are large positive integers. Then

$$
\operatorname{var}(I_n(T) - I_m(T)) = \mathbb{E} \left( \int_0^T [\delta_n(t) - \delta_m(t)] \, dB(t) \right)^2
$$
  
(Itô Isometry:) =  $\mathbb{E} \int_0^T [\delta_n(t) - \delta_m(t)]^2 \, dt$   
=  $\mathbb{E} \int_0^T [\delta_n(t) - \delta(t)] + |\delta(t) - \delta_m(t)|]^2 \, dt$   
 $((a+b)^2 \le 2a^2 + 2b^2 :) \le 2\mathbb{E} \int_0^T |\delta_n(t) - \delta(t)|^2 \, dt + 2\mathbb{E} \int_0^T |\delta_m(t) - \delta(t)|^2 \, dt,$ 

which is small. This guarantees that the sequence  $\{I_n(T)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  has a limit.

### 14.9 Properties of the (general) Itô integral

$$
I(t) = \int_0^t \delta(u) \; dB(u).
$$

Here  $\delta$  is any adapted, square-integrable process.

**Adaptedness.** For each t,  $I(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}(t)$ -measurable.

**Linearity.** If

$$
I(t) = \int\limits_0^t \delta(u) \; dB(u), \qquad J(t) = \int\limits_0^t \gamma(u) \; dB(u)
$$

then

$$
I(t) \pm J(t) = \int_0^t (\delta(u) \pm \gamma(u)) dB(u)
$$

and

$$
cI(t) = \int_0^t c\delta(u)dB(u).
$$

**Martingale.**  $I(t)$  is a martingale.

**Continuity.**  $I(t)$  is a continuous function of the upper limit of integration t.

**Itô Isometry.**  $\mathbb{E} I^2(t) = \mathbb{E} \int_0^t \delta^2(u) \ du$ .

**Example 14.1** () Consider the Itô integral

$$
\int_0^T B(u) \; dB(u).
$$

We approximate the integrand as shown in Fig. 14.5



Figure 14.5: *Approximating the integrand*  $B(u)$  with  $\delta_4$ , over  $[0, T]$ .

$$
\delta_n(u) = \begin{cases}\nB(0) = 0 & \text{if } 0 \le u < T/n; \\
B(T/n) & \text{if } T/n \le u < 2T/n; \\
\cdots & \cdots & \vdots \\
B\left(\frac{(n-1)T}{T}\right) & \text{if } \frac{(n-1)T}{n} \le u < T.\n\end{cases}
$$

By definition,

$$
\int_0^T B(u) \, dB(u) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} B\left(\frac{kT}{n}\right) \left[ B\left(\frac{(k+1)T}{n}\right) - B\left(\frac{kT}{n}\right) \right].
$$

To simplify notation, we denote

$$
B_k \stackrel{\triangle}{=} B\left(\frac{kT}{n}\right),
$$

so

$$
\int_0^T B(u) \, dB(u) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} B_k (B_{k+1} - B_k).
$$

We compute

$$
\frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}(B_{k+1}-B_k)^2 = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_{k+1}^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_kB_{k+1} + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_k^2
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2}B_n^2 + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{j=0}^{n-1}B_j^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_kB_{k+1} + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_k^2
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2}B_n^2 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_k^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_kB_{k+1}
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2}B_n^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1}B_k(B_{k+1}-B_k).
$$

Therefore,

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} B_k (B_{k+1} - B_k) = \frac{1}{2} B_n^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (B_{k+1} - B_k)^2,
$$

or equivalently

$$
\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} B\left(\frac{kT}{n}\right) \left[ B\left(\frac{(k+1)T}{n}\right) - B\left(\frac{kT}{n}\right) \right] = \frac{1}{2} B^2(T) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ B\left(\frac{(k+1)T}{n}\right) \left(\frac{k}{T}\right) \right]^2.
$$

Let  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and use the definition of quadratic variation to get

$$
\int_0^T B(u) \; dB(u) = \frac{1}{2}B^2(T) - \frac{1}{2}T.
$$

**Remark 14.4 (Reason for the**  $\frac{1}{2}T$  **term)** If f is differentiable with  $f(0) = 0$ , then

$$
\int_0^T f(u) \, df(u) = \int_0^T f(u) f'(u) \, du
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2} f^2(u) \Big|_0^T
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2} f^2(T).
$$

In contrast, for Brownian motion, we have

$$
\int_0^T B(u)dB(u) = \frac{1}{2}B^2(T) - \frac{1}{2}T.
$$

The extra term  $\frac{1}{2}T$  comes from the nonzero quadratic variation of Brownian motion. It has to be there, because

$$
I\!\!E \int_0^T B(u) \; dB(u) = 0 \qquad \text{(Itô integral is a martingale)}
$$

but

$$
I\!\!E \tfrac{1}{2} B^2(T) = \tfrac{1}{2}T.
$$

## **14.10 Quadratic variation of an Ito integral ˆ**

**Theorem 10.48 (Quadratic variation of Ito integral) ˆ** *Let*

$$
I(t) = \int_0^t \delta(u) \; dB(u).
$$

*Then*

$$
\langle I \rangle(t) = \int_0^t \delta^2(u) \ du.
$$

 $\blacksquare$ 

This holds even if  $\delta$  is not an elementary process. The quadratic variation formula says that at each time *u*, the *instantaneous absolute volatility* of *I* is  $\delta^2(u)$ . This is the absolute volatility of the Brownian motion scaled by the size of the position (i.e.  $\delta(t)$ ) in the Brownian motion. Informally, we can write the quadratic variation formula in differential form as follows:

$$
dI(t) dI(t) = \delta^2(t) dt.
$$

Compare this with

$$
dB(t) \; dB(t) = dt
$$

**Proof:** (For an elementary process  $\delta$ ). Let  $\Pi = \{t_0, t_1, \ldots, t_n\}$  be the partition for  $\delta$ , i.e.,  $\delta(t)$  =  $\delta(t_k)$  for  $t_k \le t \le t_{k+1}$ . To simplify notation, assume  $t = t_n$ . We have

$$
\langle I \rangle(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ \langle I \rangle(t_{k+1}) - \langle I \rangle(t_k) \right].
$$

Let us compute  $\langle I \rangle (t_{k+1}) - \langle I \rangle (t_k)$ . Let  $\Xi = \{s_0, s_1, \ldots, s_m\}$  be a partition

$$
t_k = s_0 \leq s_1 \leq \ldots \leq s_m = t_{k+1}.
$$

Then

$$
I(s_{j+1}) - I(s_j) = \int_{s_j}^{s_{j+1}} \delta(t_k) \, dB(u)
$$
  
=  $\delta(t_k) [B(s_{j+1}) - B(s_j)]$ 

 $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 

 $\blacksquare$ 

so

$$
\langle I \rangle (t_{k+1}) - \langle I \rangle (t_k) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left[ I(s_{j+1}) - I(s_j) \right]^2
$$

$$
= \delta^2 (t_k) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left[ B(s_{j+1}) - B(s_j) \right]^2
$$

$$
\underline{||\Xi|| \rightarrow 0} \delta^2 (t_k) (t_{k+1} - t_k).
$$

It follows that

$$
\langle I \rangle(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \delta^2(t_k) (t_{k+1} - t_k)
$$

$$
= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \delta^2(u) du
$$

$$
\frac{||\Pi|| \rightarrow 0}{\longrightarrow} \int_0^t \delta^2(u) du.
$$