

Viscosity Solutions of Fully Nonlinear Path Dependent PDEs

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Parabolic nonlinear path-dependent PDEs

- $\Omega = \{\omega \in C^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d), \omega_0 = 0\}$, $\|\omega\| = \sup_{t \leq T} |\omega_t|$
- B canonical process, \mathbb{F} the corresponding filtration

Our objective : wellposedness theory for the equation :

$$\begin{aligned} \{ -\partial_t u - G(\cdot, u, \partial_\omega u, \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 u) \}(t, \omega) &= 0 \quad \text{for } t < T, \omega \in \Omega \\ u(T, \omega) &= \xi(\omega) \end{aligned}$$

where $\xi(\omega) = \xi((\omega_s)_{s \leq T})$ and $G(t, \omega, y, z, \gamma)$ is \mathbb{F} -prog. meas.

$$G : [0, T] \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{S}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \searrow \text{ in } \gamma,$$

and the unknown process $u(t, \omega) = u(t, \omega_{t \wedge \cdot})$ is prog. meas.



Previous literature

- Sobolev solutions :
 - Semilinear case : Pardoux and Peng (1990) and all subsequent literature on Backward SDEs
 - Fully nonlinear : Cheridito, Soner, T. and Victoir (2006), Soner, T. and Zhang (2010), second order backward SDEs
- Classical solutions for linear PPDE : Dupire 2009, Cont and Fournie (2010)
- Viscosity solutions :
 - Lukuyanov 2007 : First order path-dependent PDE
 - Ekren, T. and Zhang : [this presentation](#)



Time and space derivatives

- Time derivative introduced by Dupire :

$$\partial_t \varphi(t, \omega) := \lim_{h \searrow 0} \frac{\varphi(t+h, \omega_{t \wedge \cdot}) - \varphi(t, \omega)}{h} \quad \text{if exists}$$

- Space derivatives : $\varphi(t, \omega) \in C^{1,2}$ if there exist continuous process, denoted $\partial_\omega \varphi$, $\partial_{\omega\omega}^2 \varphi$, such that Itô's formula holds :

$$d\varphi = \partial_t \varphi dt + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 \varphi : d\langle B \rangle + \partial_\omega \varphi \cdot dB \quad (\dots)$$

Remark Dupire derivatives, Malliavin calculus



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Example : Conditional expectation and Heat equation

- \mathbb{P}_0 : Wiener measure on Ω
- By using the r.c.p.d. define for $\xi \in \mathbb{L}^1(\mathbb{P}_0)$:

$$u(t, \omega) := \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}_0^{t, \omega}} [\xi] \quad \text{for all } t \leq T, \omega \in \Omega$$

- Assume that $u \in C^{1,2}$, then :

$$du_t = \left(\partial_t u_t + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 u_t \right) dt + \partial_{\omega} u_t dB_t, \quad \mathbb{P}_0 - \text{a.s.}$$

Since u is a \mathbb{P}_0 -martingale, we obtain the heat equation :

$$\partial_t u + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 u = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_T = \xi$$



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Example 2 : Stochastic control and HJB equation

- Control : $\{\kappa_r, r \leq T\}$, \mathbb{F} -prog. meas. valued in $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$
- Controlled state : X^κ defined by :

$$X_r = x_r, r \leq t \quad \text{and} \quad dX_s^\kappa = \mu(s, X_s^\kappa, \kappa_s) ds + \sigma(s, X_s^\kappa, \kappa_s) dB_s$$

- Stochastic control problem :

$$u(t, \omega) := \sup_{\kappa \in \mathbb{K}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}_0^{t, \omega}} [\xi(X^\kappa)] \quad \text{for all } t \leq T, \omega \in \Omega$$

- Assume that $u \in C^{1,2}$, then by dynamic programming :

$$-\partial_t u - \sup_{k \in K} \left\{ \mu(t, \omega, k) \cdot \partial_\omega u + \frac{1}{2} \sigma \sigma^T(t, \omega, k) : \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 u \right\} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_T = \xi$$



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Other examples

- Stochastic PDEs : Lions and Souganidis use a transformation along the inverse of the characteristics equation \longrightarrow **forward path-dependent semilinear PDE**
- Backward SDE \longrightarrow **path-dependent semilinear PDE**
- Second order Backward SDE \longrightarrow a certain class of **path-dependent fully nonlinear PDE**
- Dynamic programming equations for non-Markov differential games \implies **Path-dependent Isaacs equation**



Why viscosity solutions of PPDEs

- To obtain wellposedness for a larger class of equations
- Powerful stability result (in particular, [analysis of numerical approximation](#))
- Easy, and very adapted to control and optimization problems

Main difficulty : the paths space Ω is not locally compact

Outline

- 1 Motivation and examples
 - Parabolic nonlinear PPDEs
 - Examples
- 2 Definitions and first properties
 - Smooth processes
 - Definition of viscosity solutions
 - Consistency, stability, partial comparison
- 3 Wellposedness
 - Additional assumption
 - Existence and uniqueness

Nondominated singular measures

- $L > 0$, \mathcal{P}_L : set of prob. meas. \mathbb{P} on Ω s.t.

$$|\alpha^{\mathbb{P}}| \leq L, \quad 0 \leq \beta^{\mathbb{P}} \leq \sqrt{2L} I_d, \quad dB_t = \beta_t^{\mathbb{P}} dW_t^{\mathbb{P}} + \alpha_t^{\mathbb{P}} dt, \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$

for some \mathbb{F} -prog. meas. processes $\alpha^{\mathbb{P}}, \beta^{\mathbb{P}}$, and some d -dimensional \mathbb{P} -Brownian motion $W^{\mathbb{P}}$

- For $\xi \in \mathbb{L}^1(\mathcal{F}_T, \mathcal{P}_L)$, define the nonlinear expectation :

$$\bar{\mathcal{E}}^L[\xi] = \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{P}_L} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[\xi] \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{\mathcal{E}}^L[\xi] = \inf_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{P}_L} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[\xi] = -\bar{\mathcal{E}}^L[-\xi]$$



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Differentiability of processes

- For $\varphi \in C^0(\Lambda)$, the right time-derivative is defined by Dupire :

$$\partial_t \varphi(t, \omega) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0, h > 0} \frac{1}{h} \left[\varphi(t+h, \omega_{\cdot \wedge t}) - \varphi(t, \omega) \right], \quad t < T$$

$$\partial_t \varphi(T, \omega) := \lim_{t < T, t \uparrow T} \partial_t \varphi(t, \omega)$$

whenever the limits exist

- $\varphi \in C^{1,2}(\Lambda)$ if $\varphi \in C^0(\Lambda)$, $\partial_t \varphi \in C^0(\Lambda)$, and there exist $\partial_\omega \varphi \in C^0(\Lambda, \mathbb{R}^d)$, $\partial_{\omega\omega}^2 \varphi \in C^0(\Lambda, \mathbb{S}^d)$ s.t. for all $\mathbb{P} \in \cup_{L>0} \mathcal{P}_L$:

$$d\varphi_t = \partial_t \varphi_t dt + \partial_\omega \varphi_t \cdot dB_t + \frac{1}{2} \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 \varphi_t : d\langle B \rangle_t, \quad \mathbb{P}\text{-a.s.}$$



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Smooth test processes

Recall nonlinear Snell envelope :

$$\bar{\mathcal{S}}_t^L[X](\omega) := \sup_{\tau \in \mathcal{T}^t} \bar{\mathcal{E}}_t^L[X_\tau^{t,\omega}], \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{\mathcal{S}}_t^L[X](\omega) := -\bar{\mathcal{S}}_t^L[-X](\omega)$$

Define :

$$\underline{\mathcal{A}}^L u(t, \omega) := \left\{ \varphi \in C^{1,2}(\Lambda^t) : (\varphi - u^{t,\omega})_t(\mathbf{0}) = \underline{\mathcal{S}}_t^L[(\varphi - u^{t,\omega})_{\cdot \wedge h}] \right. \\ \left. \text{for some } h \in \mathcal{H}^t \right\}$$

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Definition : Viscosity subsolution

$u \in \mathcal{U}$ is a

- viscosity L -subsolution of PPDE if :

$$-\partial_t \varphi_t(0) - G(t, \omega, u(t, \omega), \partial_\omega \varphi_t(0), \partial_{\omega\omega}^2 \varphi_t(0)) \leq 0$$

for all $(t, \omega) \in [0, T) \times \Omega$ and $\varphi \in \underline{\mathcal{A}}^L u(t, \omega)$

- viscosity subsolution of PPDE if u is viscosity L -subsolution of PPDE for some $L > 0$



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Nonlinearity, first assumption

Assumption G1 $G(t, \omega, y, z, \gamma)$ nondecreasing in γ and satisfies :

- (i) $G(\cdot, y, z, \gamma)$ is \mathbb{F} -prog. meas., and $\|G(\cdot, 0, 0, 0)\|_{\infty} < \infty$.
- (ii) G is uniformly continuous in ω
- (iii) G is uniformly Lipschitz in (y, z, γ)



Consistency with classical solutions

Theorem

Let Assumption G1 hold and $u \in C_b^{1,2}(\Lambda)$. Then the following assertions are equivalent :

- u classical solution (resp. subsolution, supersolution) of PPDE
- u viscosity solution (resp. subsolution, supersolution) of PPDE

Stability

Theorem

Let $(G^\varepsilon, \varepsilon > 0)$ be a family of coefficients

- satisfying Assumptions G1 unif.
- $G^\varepsilon \rightarrow G$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, loc. unif.

For fixed $L > 0$, let $(u^\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon > 0}$ be such that

- u^ε is viscosity L -subsolution of PPDE with coefficients G^ε , for all $\varepsilon > 0$,
- $u^\varepsilon \rightarrow u$, uniformly in Λ .

Then u is a viscosity L -subsolution of PPDE with coefficient G .



Existence in all previous examples...

- Non-Markov stochastic control
- Non-Markov stochastic differential game
- Second order Backward SDE

all define a viscosity solution of the corresponding path-dependent PDE



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Freezing ω in the generator

- Define the **deterministic** function on $[t, T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathcal{S}^d$:

$$g^{t,\omega}(s, y, z, \gamma) := G(s, \omega \cdot \wedge_t, y, z, \gamma)$$

- Consider the **standard PDE** :

$$\mathbf{L}^{t,\omega} v := -\partial_t v - g^{t,\omega}(s, v, Dv, D^2v) = 0, \quad (t, x) \in O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta}$$

where

$$O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta} := [t, (1 + \eta)T) \times \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : |x| < \varepsilon\}, \quad \varepsilon > 0, \eta \geq 0$$



Additional Assumption on the generator

Assumption G2 For any small $\varepsilon > 0, \eta \geq 0$ and any $(t, \omega) \in \Lambda$, PDE is wellposed in the following sense :

- (i) for all $\delta > 0$, there exist classical supersolution \bar{w}^δ and subsolution \underline{w}^δ of the frozen path PDE s.t.

$$-\|h\|_\infty - \delta \leq \underline{w}^\delta \leq h \leq \bar{w}^\delta \leq \|h\|_\infty + \delta \quad \text{on} \quad \partial O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta},$$

- (ii) **Peron's approach** : given a continuous function $h : \partial O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the PDE with boundary condition h has a unique viscosity solution v and it satisfies $v = \bar{v} = \underline{v}$, where

$$\bar{v}(s, x) := \inf \left\{ \phi(s, x) : \phi \in C^{1,2}(\bar{O}_t^{\varepsilon, \eta}), \mathbf{L}^{t, \omega} \phi \geq 0 \text{ in } O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta}, \phi \geq h \text{ on } \partial O_t^{\varepsilon, \eta} \right\}$$

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Sufficient conditions for Assumption G2

Assumption G1 and

- G convex in γ and uniformly elliptic,
- or, G is convex in (y, z, γ)
- or, $d \leq 2$

The main results

Theorem (Comparison)

Under Assumptions G1-G2, let $u^1 \in \underline{U}$, $u^2 \in \overline{U}$, $\xi \in UC_b(\Omega)$ s.t

- u^1 is a bounded viscosity subsolution of PPDE*
- u^2 is a bounded viscosity supersolution of PPDE*
- $u^1(T, \cdot) \leq \xi \leq u^2(T, \cdot)$*

Then $u^1 \leq u^2$ on Λ .

Theorem (Existence)

Under Assumptions G1, G2, for any $\xi \in UC_b(\Omega)$, the PPDE with terminal condition ξ has a unique bounded viscosity solution $u \in UC_b(\Lambda)$.



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