## Polynomial Preserving Diffusions and Models of the Term Structure

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- Polynomial term structure models
- Polynomial preserving diffusions
  - Existence
  - Uniqueness
  - Boundary attainment
- Examples
- Moment asymptotics

### Term structure of interest rates

- P(t, T) = time t price of zero-coupon bond maturing at  $T \ge t$
- Yields are defined by:  $P(t, T) = e^{-(T-t) \operatorname{yield}(t, T)}$

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- Filtered probability space  $(\Omega, \mathscr{F}, \mathscr{F}_t, \mathbb{P})$
- State price density: positive process  $\zeta_t$
- Model price of claim  $C_T$  maturing at T:

price at 
$$t = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}[\zeta_{\mathcal{T}} \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{T}} \mid \mathscr{F}_t]$$

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#### Note:

Arbitrage-free price system is guaranteed (NUPBR)

$$\blacktriangleright \ \frac{\zeta_t}{\zeta_0} = e^{-\int_0^t r_s \mathrm{d}s} \times \left. \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}}{\mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}} \right|_{\mathscr{P}_t}$$

• Model is under  $\mathbb{P}$ : Time series properties, risk management

► Risk-free zero-coupon bond: 
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#### **Previous literature:**

- Constantinides (92)
- Flesaker & Hughston (96)
- Rogers (97)
- Carr, Gabaix & Wu (10)
- etc.

#### Factor model:

- X<sub>t</sub> multivariate factor process
- Postulate  $\zeta_t = f(t, X_t)$  for some function f(t, x)
- Bond prices:

$$P(t,T) = \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[f(T,X_T) \mid \mathscr{F}_t\right]}{f(t,X_t)}$$

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▶ Need f(t,x) and X so that  $\mathbb{E}[f(T,X_T) | \mathscr{F}_t]$  is easy to compute

#### Polynomial-preserving factor process

- Time-homogeneous Markov semimartingale X, state space  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$
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**Polynomials:** 

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{Pol}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) = \big\{ \text{polynomials on } \mathbb{R}^d \text{ of degree} \leq n \big\} \\ &\operatorname{Pol}_n(E) = \big\{ p|_E \ : \ p \in \operatorname{Pol}_n(\mathbb{R}^d) \big\} \end{aligned}$$

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**Definition.** X is called **Polynomial Preserving (PP)** if  $T_t \operatorname{Pol}_n(E) \subset \operatorname{Pol}_n(E)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}, t \ge 0$ .

Let  $\mathscr{G}$  be the **extended generator** of X: For all  $f \in \text{Dom}(\mathscr{G})$ ,

$$f(X_t) - f(X_0) - \int_0^t \mathscr{G}f(X_s) \mathrm{d}s =$$
local martingale

Formally: 
$$\mathscr{G} = \frac{\mathrm{d}T_t}{\mathrm{d}t}\Big|_{t=0}$$
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**Theorem** (Mazet ('97), Zhou ('03), Cuchiero et al. ('10,'11), etc.)  $X \text{ is (PP)} \iff \mathscr{G} \operatorname{Pol}_n(E) \subset \operatorname{Pol}_n(E), \text{ all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$ 

**Hence:**  $\mathscr{G}$  restricts to an operator  $\mathscr{G}|_{\operatorname{Pol}_n(E)}$  on the finite-dimensional vector space  $\operatorname{Pol}_n(E)$ 

Functions/operators	In coordinates	
$\mathscr{G} _{\mathrm{Pol}_n(E)}$ p $q := T_t p = e^{t\mathscr{G}} p$	G P $Q = e^{tG}P$	$\in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ $\in \mathbb{R}^{N}$ $\in \mathbb{R}^{N}$

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$\mathscr{G} _{\mathrm{Pol}_{\pmb{n}}(\pmb{E})}$	G	$\in \mathbb{R}^{N  imes N}$
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#### **Consequence:**

- Finding T<sub>t</sub>p(x) = ℝ<sub>x</sub>[p(X<sub>t</sub>)], for p ∈ Pol<sub>n</sub>(E), only requires computing a matrix exponential.
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#### Building G from $\mathcal{G}$ :

C++ implementation (with Wahid Khosrawi-Sardroudi)

#### Examples:

- Affine processes
- ▶ Pearson diffusions (Forman, Sørensen ('08)),  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = (\beta + bX_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{\alpha + aX_t + AX_t^2}\mathrm{d}W_t$$

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▶ Representation of  $\mathscr{G}|_{\text{Pol}_n(\mathbb{R})}$  with respect to  $1, x, x^2, \ldots$ :

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \beta & 2\frac{\alpha}{2} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & b & 2\left(\beta + \frac{a}{2}\right) & 3 \cdot 2\frac{\alpha}{2} & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 2\left(b + \frac{A}{2}\right) & 3\left(\beta_0 + 2\frac{a}{2}\right) & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3\left(b + 3\frac{A}{2}\right) & \ddots & n(n-1)\frac{\alpha}{2} \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & n\left(\beta + (n-1)\frac{a}{2}\right) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n\left(b + (n-1)\frac{A}{2}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

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Next: Option pricing, estimation, filtering, etc.

Factor process and state price density:

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + dM_t$$
$$\zeta_t = e^{-\alpha t}(1 + \psi^{\top}X_t)$$

for some martingale *M*,  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\psi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

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Linear-rational bond prices and short rate:

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

$$r_t = -\partial \log P(t, T)|_{T=t} = lpha - rac{\psi^+ \kappa( heta - X_t)}{1 + \psi^\top X_t}$$

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$$\frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}\left[\zeta_T\left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_i P(T, T_i)\right)^+ \middle| \mathscr{F}_t\right] = \frac{1}{\zeta_t} \mathbb{E}\left[\operatorname{polynomial}(X_T)^+ \middle| \mathscr{F}_t\right]$$

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(iv) Extensive empirical analysis, estimation using 15 years of weekly swaps and swaptions data

# Polynomial preserving diffusions

### Polynomial preserving diffusions

Suppose X is a **diffusion**: for some  $b : E \to \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\sigma : E \to \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ ,

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = b(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sigma(X_t)\mathrm{d}W_t$$

With  $a = \sigma \sigma^{\top}$ , we have

$$\mathscr{G}f = \frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Tr}\left(a\nabla^{2}f\right) + b^{\top}\nabla f$$

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Theorem (Cuchiero et al. ('12))

$$X \text{ is (PP)} \qquad \Longleftrightarrow \qquad \begin{cases} a_{ij} \in \operatorname{Pol}_2(E) & i, j = 1, \dots, d \\ b_i \in \operatorname{Pol}_1(E) & i = 1, \dots, d \end{cases} \tag{*}$$
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**Question:** For given *E*, *a*, *b*, what are the conditions under which the above SDE has a unique (in law) weak solution starting from any  $x \in E$ ?

Want (PP), so always assume (\*) holds

#### Challenges:

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#### Why care about more general state spaces?

- Boundary geometry affects factor covariation structure
- Boundary attainment (important for implementation) can be analyzed in a general setting

**Class of state spaces:** Let *E* be a basic closed semialgebraic set:

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

for a finite collection  $\mathscr{P} \subset \operatorname{Pol}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  of irreducible polynomials with non-constant sign.



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**Lemma** from real algebraic geometry on real principal ideals: Assume  $p \in Pol(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is irreducible. The following are equivalent:

(i) p changes sign on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ 

(ii) Every 
$$q \in Pol(\mathbb{R}^d)$$
 with  $q = 0$  on  $\{p = 0\}$  satisfies  $q = pr$  for some  $r \in Pol(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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**Lemma (Real Nullstellensatz).** Let *I* be the ideal generated by a family  $\{r_1, \ldots, r_m\}$  of polynomials. The following are equivalent:

• The ideal I is **real**: for any  $f_1, \ldots, f_k \in Pol(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$f_1^2 + \dots + f_k^2 \in I \implies f_1, \dots, f_k \in I.$$

• Any  $f \in Pol(\mathbb{R}^d)$  vanishing on  $\bigcap_{i=1}^m \{r_i = 0\}$  lies in *I*:

 $f = f_1 r_1 + \dots + f_m r_m$  for some  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in \operatorname{Pol}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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#### Examples:

$\mathbb{R}^d_+$ :	$\mathscr{P} = \{p_i(x) = x_i, i = 1, \dots, d\}$
$[0,1]^d$ :	$\mathscr{P} = \{p_i(x) = x_i, \ p_{d+i}(x) = 1 - x_i, \ i = 1, \dots, d\}$
unit ball :	$\mathscr{P} = \{p(x) = 1 - \ x\ ^2\}$
$\mathbb{S}^m_+$ :	$\mathscr{P} = \{p_I(x) = \det x_{II}, \ I \subset \{1, \ldots, m\}\},\$

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

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Candidate coefficients: Let a, b satisfy

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**Question:** Set  $\sigma = a^{1/2}$  on *E*. For which *a*, *b*,  $\mathscr{P}$  does

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = b(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sigma(X_t)\mathrm{d}W_t, \qquad X_0 = x.$$

have a unique (in law) *E*-valued weak solution for all  $x \in E$ ?

## Existence (necessity)

**Theorem.** Assume for each  $x \in E$  there exists an *E*-valued weak solution to

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**Reason:** If X is *E*-valued, then  $p(X_t) \ge 0$ , all  $p \in \mathscr{P}$ . And,

$$p(X_t) = p(x) + \int_0^t \mathscr{G}p(X_s) \mathrm{d}s + \int_0^t \nabla p(X_s)^\top \sigma(X_s) \mathrm{d}W_s$$

#### Theorem. Assume

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#### Note:

- ➤ X spends zero time at ∂E ...
- ... but it can nonetheless hit  $\partial E$  in general, e.g. BESQ( $\beta$ ):

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = \beta \mathrm{d}t + 2\sqrt{X_t} \mathrm{d}W_t, \qquad 0 < \beta < 2.$$

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• Occupation density formula with  $L_t^y := L_t^y(p(X))$ :

$$\begin{split} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{y} L_t^y \mathrm{d}y &= \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{p(X_s) > 0\}} \frac{\mathrm{d} \langle p(X), p(X) \rangle_s}{p(X_s)} \\ &= \int_0^t \mathbf{1}_{\{p(X_s) > 0\}} \; \frac{\nabla p^\top a \, \nabla p(X_s)}{p(X_s)} \; \mathrm{d}s \end{split}$$

**Key step of proof:** Suppose we have a not necessarily *E*-valued solution *X*. Must prove  $p(X) \ge 0$  for all  $p \in \mathscr{P}$ .

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• Hence  $L^0 = 0$ 

Now apply the following lemma with Y = p(X):

**Lemma.** Let Y be a continuous semimartingale with decomposition

$$Y_t = Y_0 + \int_0^t \mu_s \mathrm{d}s + M_t, \qquad Y_0 \ge 0,$$

where  $\mu$  is continuous. If

$$\mu_t > 0$$
 on  $\{Y_t = 0\}, L^0(Y) = 0,$ 

then  $Y \ge 0$  and  $\{t : Y_t = 0\}$  is Lebesgue-null.

**Note:** For Y = p(X) we have  $\mu_t = \mathscr{G}p(X_t) > 0$  on  $\{p(X_t) = 0\}$ 

**Goal:** Relax  $\mathscr{G}p > 0$  on  $\{p = 0\}$ : Allow boundary absorption

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- For each  $p \in \mathscr{P}$  we have  $a \nabla p = 0$  on  $E \cap \{p = 0\}$ .
- For any subset *R* ⊂ *P*<sub>abs</sub>, the gradients ∇*r*, *r* ∈ *R*, are linearly independent on the set *E* ∩ ∩<sub>*r*∈*R*</sub>{*r* = 0}.
- Each p ∈ 𝒫 is irreducible and changes sign, and the set E ∩ {p = 0} is Zariski dense in {p = 0}.

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- Each p ∈ 𝒫 is irreducible and changes sign, and the set E ∩ {p = 0} is Zariski dense in {p = 0}.

**Theorem.** Suppose **Assumption** (\*) holds. Then for each  $x \in E$  there exists an *E*-valued weak solution to

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = b(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sigma(X_t)\mathrm{d}W_t, \qquad X_0 = x.$$

This solution satisfies the following properties:

- ▶ for any  $p \in \mathscr{P}_{\text{refl}}$ , the set  $\{t : p(X_t) = 0\}$  is Lebesgue-null,
- ▶ for any  $p \in \mathscr{P}_{abs}$ , the process  $p(X_t)$  is absorbed at zero,

$$p(X_t) = 0$$
 for all  $t \ge \inf\{s \ge 0 : p(X_s) = 0\}$ .

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- Do we have determinacy of the moment problem?
- First answer: Not always! The log-normal distribution is indeterminate in the sense of the moment problem.

Lemma. Assume exponential moments exist:

For each 
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, there is  $\varepsilon > 0$  with  $\mathbb{E}\left[e^{\varepsilon ||X_t||}\right] < \infty$ .

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**Theorem.** Assume the quadratic part of a is bounded on E. Then exponential moments exist.

Note: In particular, this covers

- (PP) diffusions on compact state spaces
- All affine diffusions
- Many interesting intermediate examples

#### An open question

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Univariate determinacy  $\implies$  multivariate determinacy

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to deduce all finite-dimensional distributions are determinate.

- For geometric Brownian motion, the proof breaks because univariate determinacy fails. But does multivariate determinacy fail?
- ▶ **Open problem:** Find a process X, not geometric Brownian motion, such that for all  $0 \le t_1 < \ldots < t_m$ ,  $(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m) \in \mathbb{N}_0^m$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X_{t_1}^{\alpha_1}\cdots X_{t_m}^{\alpha_m}\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[Y_{t_1}^{\alpha_1}\cdots Y_{t_m}^{\alpha_m}\right],$$

where Y is geometric Brownian motion.

- Can X be taken continuous?
- Can X be taken Markovian?
- ▶ ...

## Boundary attainment
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**Theorem.** Suppose  $p \in \mathscr{P}_{refl}$ ,  $p(X_0) > 0$ , or both. Assume one of the following two conditions holds:

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$$2 \mathscr{G} p - h^\top \nabla p > 0$$
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**Example.** BESQ( $\beta$ ):  $dX_t = \beta dt + 2\sqrt{X_t} dW_t$ ,  $\mathscr{P} = \{p(x) = x\}$ 

• 
$$a(x)p'(x) = 4x \cdot 1 = 4p(x)$$
. Hence  $h = 4$ 

▶ 
$$2\mathscr{G}p - hp' = 2\beta - 4$$

• Theorem:  $\beta \ge 2$  implies non-attainment (this is tight)

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**Theorem.** Suppose  $x^* \in E \cap \{p = 0\}$  satisfies

$$2\mathscr{G}p(x^*) - h(x^*)^\top \nabla p(x^*) < 0.$$

Then  $p(X_t)$  hits zero with positive probability, if  $X_0$  is sufficiently near  $x^*$ .



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For  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , the drift of (X, Y) points out of *E*:

$$b(x,y)=\left(\begin{array}{c}0\\\alpha-1\end{array}\right)$$

#### $\mathscr{G}p > 0$ does not mean inward-pointing drift



This happens for **non-convex state spaces** 

#### The closed unit ball $E = \{x : 1 - ||x||^2 \ge 0\}$

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$$\mathrm{d}X_t = (\beta + BX_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{1 - \|X_t\|^2} \,\alpha^{1/2} \,\mathrm{d}W_t$$

has unique solution if  $\max\{\beta^\top x + x^\top B x : \|x\|^2 = 1\} < 0$ 

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But richer diffusion dynamics is possible:



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Define

$$\mathscr{C} = \left\{ c : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{S}^d_+ : \begin{array}{l} c_{ij} \text{ is hom. poly. of degree 2 for all } i, j \\ c(0) = 0, \begin{array}{l} c(x)x = 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^d \end{array} \right\}$$

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• Then, with  $c \in \mathscr{C}$ ,

$$a(x) = (1 - ||x||^2) \alpha + c(x)$$
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• This is exhaustive among (PP) diffusions on E reflected at  $\partial E$ 

#### Examples of maps $c \in \mathscr{C}$

- ▶ Let  $S_1, ..., S_m$  be a basis for Skew(d), the space of  $d \times d$  skew-symmetric matrices  $(m = \frac{d(d-1)}{2})$ .
- Then, for any  $\gamma_{kl} \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,

$$c(x) = \sum_{k \leq l} \gamma_{kl} \left( S_k + S_l \right) x x^\top \left( S_k + S_l \right)^\top$$

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This gives a large class of factor processes with nontrivial correlation and compact state space

# Example 2'

#### Variations:

- The exterior of the unit ball:  $E = \{x : 1 ||x||^2 \le 0\}$
- Other quadratic (non-parabolic) sets:  $E = \{x : 1 x^{\top} H x \ge 0\}$ , where

$$H = \mathsf{Diag}(\pm 1, \dots, \pm 1)$$

# Moment asymptotics

#### Recall the scalar case:

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = (\beta + bX_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{\alpha + aX_t + AX_t^2}\mathrm{d}W_t$$

Drift of  $(1, X_t, X_t^2, ..., X_t^n)$ :



**Note:** Moment asymptotics as  $t \to \infty$  depends on diagonal entries **Goal:** Look for something similar in the general case

• Derive dynamics of  $(1, X_t, X_t \otimes X_t, X_t^{\otimes 3}, \cdots, X_t^{\otimes m})$  in



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$$\bigoplus_{n\geq 0} (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$$

• Think of  $X_t \otimes X_t$  as

$$X_{t} X_{t}^{\top} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1t}^{2} & X_{1t} X_{2t} & \cdots & X_{1t} X_{dt} \\ X_{2t} X_{1t} & X_{2t}^{2} & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ X_{dt} X_{1t} & & & X_{dt}^{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

• Think of  $X_t^{\otimes 3}$  as a 3-dimensional array with entries  $X_{it}X_{jt}X_{kt}$ 

Etc.

• Derive dynamics of  $(1, X_t, X_t \otimes X_t, X_t^{\otimes 3}, \cdots, X_t^{\otimes m})$  in

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Consider the shuffle product ω:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{i_m} \end{pmatrix}}_{\in \ (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes m}} \amalg \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{j_n} \end{pmatrix}}_{\in \ (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}} = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_{m+n}} x_{k_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{k_{m+n}}$$

where the sum runs over all **shuffles** of  $(i_1, \ldots, i_m)$  and  $(j_1, \ldots, j_n)$ 

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where the sum runs over all **shuffles** of  $(i_1, \ldots, i_m)$  and  $(j_1, \ldots, j_n)$ • Example:

$$(x \otimes y) \sqcup (u \otimes v) = x \otimes y \otimes u \otimes v + x \otimes u \otimes y \otimes v$$
$$+ x \otimes u \otimes v \otimes y + u \otimes x \otimes y \otimes v$$
$$+ u \otimes x \otimes v \otimes y + u \otimes v \otimes x \otimes y$$

**Lemma (formal Itô product rule)** For  $n \ge 2$ ,

$$\mathrm{d}(X_t^{\otimes n}) = X_t^{\otimes (n-1)} \sqcup \mathrm{d}X_t + X_t^{\otimes (n-2)} \sqcup (\mathrm{d}X_t)^{\otimes 2}$$

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In our case:

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 $\blacktriangleright \, \mathrm{d}X_t = b(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sigma(X_t)\mathrm{d}W_t, \qquad (\mathrm{d}X_t)^{\otimes 2} = a(X_t)$ 

• Drift 
$$b(x) = \beta + Bx$$
, where

$$\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d$$
,  $B : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$  (linear)

• Diffusion  $a(x) = \alpha + A(x) + \aleph(x, x)$ , where

 $\alpha \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes 2}, \qquad A : \mathbb{R}^d \to (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes 2}, \qquad \aleph : (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes 2} \to (\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes 2}$ 

(A and  $\aleph$  linear)

This gives:

 $d\begin{pmatrix} 1\\ X_t\\ X_t^{\otimes 2}\\ \vdots\\ \vdots\\ X_t^{\otimes m} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0\\ \psi_1 & \pi_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0\\ \phi_2 & \psi_2 & \pi_2 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & \phi_3 & \psi_3 & \pi_3 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0\\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\ X_t\\ X_t^{\otimes 2}\\ \vdots\\ X_t^{\otimes m} \end{pmatrix} dt + (\text{martingale})$  $\phi_n$  :  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes (n-2)}$  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$ where  $\psi_n$  :  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes (n-1)}$  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$  $\pi_n$  :  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$  $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{\otimes n}$ 

are linear maps given by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-2}) &= (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-2}) \le \alpha \\ \psi_n(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-1}) &= (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-2}) \le A(x_{n-1}) + (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-1}) \le \beta \\ \pi_n(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n) &= (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-2}) \le \aleph(x_{n-1}, x_n) + (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-1}) \le Bx_n \end{aligned}$$

This gives:



- ► Taking expectations yields linear ODE for (1, E[X<sub>t</sub>],..., E[X<sub>t</sub><sup>⊗n</sup>])
- Convergence of moments as  $t \to \infty$  depends on eigenvalues of  $\pi_n$ :

$$\pi_n(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n) = x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-1} \sqcup Bx_n + x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{n-2} \sqcup \aleph(x_{n-1}, x_n),$$

which depend only on B and  $\aleph$ .

• Affine case: all moments converge  $\iff \operatorname{Re}(\sigma(B)) \subset (-\infty, 0)$ 

# Conclusion

#### Summary:

- Polynomial term structure models provide a flexible, yet tractable framework for term structure modeling
- Existence and uniqueness of (PP) diffusions on a large class of state spaces
- Boundary attainment
- Moment asymptotics
- The semialgebraic structure of the state spaces connects the study of (PP) processes to real algebraic geometry
- Connections to the classical moment problem

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#### Going forward:

- Uniqueness in full generality
- Transition densities? Further large time properties? Jumps?
- Further applications: Equities, commodities, ...

# Thank You!