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Numeraire-invariant quadratic hedging and mean–variance portfolio allocation

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The paper investigates quadratic hedging in a semimartingale market that does not necessarily contain a risk-free asset. An equivalence result for hedging with and without numeraire change is established. This permits direct computation of the optimal strategy without choosing a reference asset and/or performing a numeraire change. New explicit expressions for optimal strategies are obtained, featuring the use of oblique projections that provide unified treatment of the case with and without a risk-free asset. The analysis yields a streamlined computation of the efficient frontier for the pure investment problem in terms of three easily interpreted processes. The main result advances our understanding of the efficient frontier formation in the most general case where a risk-free asset may not be present. Several illustrations of the numeraire-invariant approach are given.

Key words: quadratic hedging; numeraire change; oblique projection; mean–variance portfolio selection; no risk-free asset;

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1. Introduction. Markowitz’s mean–variance portfolio optimization is one of the pillars of modern financial economic theory, underpinning large parts of investment practice. While this problem has been considered in one period with or without a risk-free asset, a multi-period or continuous-time analysis usually involves the existence of a risk-free asset that is taken as the numeraire and/or as the reference asset. The choice of numeraire then typically affects both the problem formulation via the set of admissible trading strategies and the formulae for optimal trading strategies through the input quantities they are derived from.

In this paper, we consider mean–variance portfolio optimization and quadratic hedging without necessarily assuming a risk-free asset or choosing a numeraire asset. Our main contributions are a numeraire-invariant problem formulation including a symmetric definition of admissible trading strategies (Definition 3.4), sufficient conditions for the existence of optimal trading strategies (Theorem 3.1), expressions for the optimal trading strategies that do not require the choice of a reference asset and/or numeraire change (Theorems 4.1 and 4.2), and an equivalence result for hedging with and without numeraire change (see (1.9–1.11) and Proposition 3.2). Our results apply in both multi-period discrete time and continuous time settings and allow computing optimal strategies in concrete models. In particular, the framework yields the optimal strategy for mean–variance portfolio optimization and quadratic hedging in the case of only risky assets.

Our analysis provides a streamlined computation of the efficient frontier for the pure investment problem in terms of three easily interpreted processes: the *opportunity process* L that measures the smallest second moment of a fully invested portfolio, a *tracking process* $V(1)$ used for hedging

the constant payoff 1, and the corresponding *minimal expected squared hedging error* $\varepsilon^2(1)$. The efficient frontier is characterized by the equation

$$\text{Var}(R) = \frac{L_0 \varepsilon_0^2(1)}{L_0 V_0^2(1) + \varepsilon_0^2(1)} + \left(\frac{1}{1 - L_0 V_0^2(1) - \varepsilon_0^2(1)} - 1 \right) \left(\mathbb{E}[R] - \frac{L_0 V_0(1)}{L_0 V_0^2(1) + \varepsilon_0^2(1)} \right)^2, \quad (1.1)$$

linking the variance of any efficient payoff R to its expected value; see Section 5. Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 describe how the three main ingredients are obtained in a semimartingale model. Section 6 provides numerical illustrations of the streamlined approach.

The novel explicit formulae in Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 reveal the key role that certain *oblique projectors* play in the solution to mean-variance hedging and portfolio optimization. They apply universally in discrete as well as continuous time and, formulated in undiscounted terms, allow for a unified treatment of the cases with and without a risk-free asset. As an easy corollary we are able to obtain the generalization of the models in Li and Ng [24] and Yao et al. [34] to asset returns driven by arbitrary square-integrable processes with independent increments, see Section 6.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In the rest of this introduction we outline the main research questions arising from numeraire change in quadratic hedging. After establishing notation in Section 2, Section 3 introduces a symmetric definition of admissibility and studies its consequences. In particular, Theorem 3.2 in Subsection 3.5 and Corollary 3.1 in Subsection 3.6 give symmetric versions of the classical optimal hedging results with constant risk-free asset before and after numeraire change, respectively. Section 4 is devoted to optimal hedging without numeraire change; here Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 contain the main results of the paper. The short Section 5 summarizes known facts about efficient frontiers, paving the way for Section 6 that concludes with three illustrative examples of the numeraire-invariant approach without discounting. Appendix A outlines the connection among affinely constrained quadratic optimization, oblique projections, and pseudoinverses; Appendix B proves the auxiliary Theorem 3.2; Appendices C and D contain the proof and auxiliary statements for the main Theorem 4.1.

1.1. Numeraire invariance. We shall now outline the main building blocks of our approach. Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}, \mathbb{P})$ be a filtered probability space with $\mathcal{F}_0$ trivial. Our aim is to study the quadratic hedging problem

$$\min_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T - H)^2], \quad (1.2)$$

where $H \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$ is the payoff to be hedged, S an $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued price process of $d \geq 2$ traded assets, $v \in \mathbb{R}$ the initial capital, and $\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})$ some set of self-financing trading strategies with initial value $v \in \mathbb{R}$. Recall that with Harrison and Kreps [20], an $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued strategy ϑ that is integrable with respect to S is called self-financing if its value satisfies

$$\vartheta_t S_t = \vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S_t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad (1.3)$$

where $\vartheta_t S_t = \sum_{i=1}^d \vartheta_t^i S_t^i$ and $\vartheta \bullet S_t$ stands for the stochastic integral $\int_{(0, t]} \vartheta_u dS_u$.

In the literature, (1.2) is typically considered only in discounted form. Explicitly or implicitly, it is assumed that

$$S = (X, Y) \quad (1.4)$$

with $(d-1)$ -dimensional Y and constant $X = 1$. Writing self-financing strategies in the form $\vartheta = (\chi, \eta)$ with $\chi = \vartheta^1$ and $\eta = \vartheta^{2:d} = (\vartheta^2, \dots, \vartheta^d)$, the value process (1.3) of ϑ can in this case be rewritten as

$$\vartheta S = v + \eta \bullet Y,$$

where $v = \vartheta_0 S_0$ denotes the initial wealth. Problem (1.2) then turns into

$$\min_{\eta \in \bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(v + \eta \bullet Y_T - H)^2], \quad (1.5)$$

where $\bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P})$ denotes some appropriately chosen set of admissible trading strategies (see, e.g., [7]). The reader is referred to Schweizer [32] for a recent overview of quadratic hedging.

The aim of this paper is to consider more general $S = (X, Y)$, where we only require that the price of the first asset X and its left limit X_- are strictly positive. To make progress in this setting, we use X as a *numeraire* and denote the discounted quantities with a hat $\hat{\cdot}$, writing

$$\hat{v} = \frac{v}{X_0}, \quad \hat{S} = \frac{S}{X}, \quad \hat{Y} = \frac{Y}{X}, \quad \text{etc.}$$

The discounted form of the self-financing condition now reads

$$\vartheta \hat{S} = \vartheta_0 \hat{S}_0 + \vartheta \bullet \hat{S} = \hat{v} + \eta \bullet \hat{Y}. \quad (1.6)$$

In order to examine the link between the discounted and the undiscounted version, assume $X_T \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$ and let $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ denote a new absolutely continuous probability measure defined by

$$\frac{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}}{d\mathbb{P}} = \frac{X_T^2}{\mathbb{E}[X_T^2]}. \quad (1.7)$$

Observe that $\hat{H} = \frac{H}{X_T}$ is in $L^2(\hat{\mathbb{P}})$ if and only if $H \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$. Furthermore, $\vartheta_T S_T$ is in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ if and only if $\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T \in L^2(\hat{\mathbb{P}})$. This allows us to write

$$\mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T - H)^2] = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2] \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2], \quad (1.8)$$

whenever one of the two expressions is well-defined. Let us now denote by $\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})$ the set of admissible quadratic hedging strategies for asset S with initial capital v under measure $\mathbb{P}$. The equality (1.8) now yields equivalence of hedging with and without change of numeraire, namely

$$\underbrace{\min_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T - H)^2]}_{\text{undiscounted problem } (S, H, \mathbb{P})} = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2] \underbrace{\min_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_{\hat{v}}(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})} \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2]}_{\text{discounted problem } (\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})} \quad (1.9)$$

and

$$\underbrace{\arg \min_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T - H)^2]}_{\text{optimal strategy for } (S, H, \mathbb{P})} = \underbrace{\arg \min_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_{\hat{v}}(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})} \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2]}_{\text{optimal strategy for } (\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})}, \quad (1.10)$$

provided that

$$\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P}) = \bar{\Theta}_{\hat{v}}(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}) \quad (1.11)$$

holds. This crucial last relation (1.11) is shown in Proposition 3.2 in our setup.

The solution of the second optimization in (1.10) is known by virtue of the results in Černý and Kallsen [7], where thanks to (1.6) one can naturally identify $\bar{\Theta}_{\hat{v}}(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ with $\bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(\hat{Y}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$. Therefore, if one decides to be guided solely by the discounted optimization in (1.10), one ought to use (1.11) as the *definition* of what is admissible in the undiscounted problem. This is certainly possible if X is fixed *a priori*. But if one wants to make a more fundamental progress, such approach is problematic on two grounds: (i) for some choices of the numeraire X the discounted price process $\hat{S}$ may not be locally square-integrable under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$, making the discounted optimization undefined; (ii) it is in principle possible that two different choices of X yield two *different* sets of $\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})$ via (1.11).

In this paper, we opt to give a direct meaning to $\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})$. The theory of quadratic hedging (and more broadly the utility maximization literature, e.g., [4]) is concerned with designing a set of admissible strategies that precludes creation of wealth out of nothing but is rich enough to contain the optimizer. By extending the techniques of [7] we provide a *symmetric* definition (Subsection 3.1 and Definition 3.4) of the set $\bar{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P})$ as an appropriately specified $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -closure

of highly integrable d -dimensional self-financing strategies. This guarantees, under suitable no-arbitrage conditions, that the set of admissible terminal wealths is $L^2(\mathbf{P})$ -closed and therefore an optimizer exists for the undiscounted problem (Theorem 3.1).

Although the undiscounted problem now has a solution thanks to Theorem 3.1, the only way to compute the solution is by passing to the $(\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{\mathbf{P}})$ formulation in (1.10) because, at present, there is no theory that can deal with the undiscounted problem directly. To gain access to the discounted problem (1.10), the required equality of strategies in (1.11) calls for certain restrictions on the numeraire X , which we formalize in the concept of the ‘nice numeraire’ (Definition 3.8). For example, X is nice whenever both X and X^{-1} are uniformly bounded or, without uniform boundedness, if $\log X$ has independent increments and X_T is in $L^2(\mathbf{P})$ (Proposition 3.3).

It remains to address one final point. There are circumstances when the discounted problem is preferable. This notably happens for Asian options in a model with IID returns, where a suitable choice of numeraire reduces the number of state variables (Večer and Xu [33]). However, there are also situations when solving the discounted problem instead of the direct $(S, H, \mathbf{P})$ minimization is counterproductive. For example, in models with independent asset returns the optimal portfolio depends only on the first and second moments of one-period returns (see, e.g., [24]), while the passage to the discounted problem requires full specification of the jump measure for S , and not just its first two moments under $\mathbf{P}$. Clearly, in this case the numeraire change introduces a number of unnecessary calculations.

Motivated by this observation, we use the links in (1.9) and (1.11) to derive a general solution that deals directly with the undiscounted problem $(S, H, \mathbf{P})$ in terms of the semimartingale characteristics of S under $\mathbf{P}$. We start from the state of knowledge in [7] and [12]. We reinterpret those findings suitably (Theorem 3.2) and apply them after numeraire change (Corollary 3.1). The key novelty of the paper is that we are then able to translate these results back to the original setting without numeraire change (Theorem 4.1). On the way, we introduce analogues of the opportunity process (Subsection 3.3) and the mean value process (4.6) from [7] in the undiscounted setting. This yields explicit formulae for the optimal trading strategies in terms of semimartingale characteristics of the underlying processes in Theorem 4.2.

The literature on quadratic hedging in continuous time is largely limited to the formulation (1.5), cf. Schweizer [29, 31]; Bertsimas, Kogan, and Lo [3]; [7], and [12]. Notable exceptions are Zhou and Yin [36], Lim [25, 26], and Yao, Li, and Chen [34], for example. Notwithstanding these important contributions, Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 and the streamlined efficient frontier formula (1.1) advance our understanding of the efficient frontier formation in the most general case where a risk-free asset may not be present. Table 1 below connects existing literature to the three quantities identified in the efficient frontier equation (1.1). It is evident that no clear pattern emerges from previous work.

	L	$V(1)$	$V(H)$	$\varepsilon^2(1)$	$\varepsilon^2(H)$
Li and Ng [24]	$\tau \star$	$\frac{\mu}{\tau} \star$	—	$1 - 4\nu^2 - \frac{\mu^2}{\tau} \star$	—
Bertsimas et al. [3]	$a(\cdot, P, Z)$	from $V(H)$	$b(\cdot, P, Z)$	0	$c(\cdot, P, Z)$
Zhou and Yin [36]	$P(\cdot, i)$	$H(\cdot, i)$	—	$\theta \star$	—
Lim [25]	p	g	—	$M \star$	—
Lim [26]	p	from $V(H)$	h	from $\varepsilon(H)$	$\star^1$
Yao et al. [34]	$\frac{p}{2}$	$-\frac{g}{p}$	—	$c - \frac{g^2}{2p}$	—

TABLE 1. Notation in pre-existing literature for the key processes L , $V(1)$, $V(H)$, $\varepsilon^2(1)$, and $\varepsilon^2(H)$ related to the efficient frontier. Entries marked with $\star$ do not denote a process but only a single value corresponding to $t = 0$. Papers ordered chronologically by publication date.

The paper is not the first to treat numeraire change in quadratic hedging. Specific numeraire changes appear in Gourieroux, Laurent, and Pham [18], Arai [1], and Kallsen, Muhle-Karbe, and Vierthauer [23]; this paper, however, offers the first systematic study of general numeraire changes in the quadratic hedging context.

2. Semimartingale characteristics and notation. A glossary of mathematical notation and terminology is available in Appendix E. Superscripts refer generally to coordinates of a vector or vector-valued process rather than powers. The few exceptions should be obvious from the context. If X is a semimartingale, $L(X)$ denotes the set of X -integrable predictable processes in the sense of [22, III.6.17].

In the subsequent sections, optimal hedging strategies are expressed in terms of semimartingale characteristics.

DEFINITION 2.1 (SEMIMARTINGALE CHARACTERISTICS). Let X be an $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued semimartingale with characteristics (B, C, ν) relative to some truncation function $h: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$.

By [22, II.2.9], there exists some increasing, predictable, integrable process A , some predictable $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ -valued process c whose values are non-negative, symmetric matrices, and some transition kernel F from $(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathcal{P})$ into $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}^d)$ such that

$$B_t = b \bullet A_t, \quad C_t = c \bullet A_t, \quad \nu([0, t] \times G) = F(G) \bullet A_t \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T], G \in \mathcal{B}^d.$$

Here $\mathcal{B}^d$ is the Borel σ -algebra over $\mathbb{R}^d$. We call (b, c, F, A) *differential characteristics* of X . $\square$ One should observe that the differential characteristics are not unique: e.g. $(2b, 2c, 2F, \frac{1}{2}A)$ yields another version. Especially for $A_t = t$, one can interpret b_t or rather $b_t + \int (x - h(x))F_t(dx)$ as a drift rate, c_t as a diffusion coefficient, and F_t as a local jump measure. The differential characteristics are typically derived from other “local” representations of the process, e.g., in terms of a stochastic differential equation.

From now on, we choose the same fixed process A for all the (finitely many) semimartingales in this paper. The results do not depend on its particular choice. In concrete models, A is often taken to be $A_t = t$ (e.g., for Lévy processes, diffusions, Itô semimartingales) or $A_t = [t] = \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \leq t\}$ for discrete-time processes. Since almost all semimartingales of interest in this paper are actually special semimartingales, we use from now on the otherwise forbidden ‘truncation function’ $h(x) = x$, which simplifies a number of expressions considerably.

By $\langle X, Y \rangle$ we denote the $\mathcal{P}$ -compensator of $[X, Y]$ provided that X, Y are semimartingales such that $[X, Y]$ is $\mathcal{P}$ -special (cf. [21, p. 37]). If X and Y are vector-valued, then $[X, Y]$ and $\langle X, Y \rangle$ are to be understood as matrix-valued processes with components $[X^i, Y^j]$ and $\langle X^i, Y^j \rangle$, respectively. If both the integrator X and the integrand $\theta \in L(X)$ are $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued, we define the stochastic integral for vector-valued processes as in [22, III.6.17]. However, for compatibility with matrix notation, we consider integrators X as column vectors in $\mathbb{R}^d$ and integrands θ as a row vectors. For $\theta \in L(X)$ and $\psi \in L(Y)$, this yields $[\theta \bullet X, \psi \bullet Y] = \int \theta d[X, Y] \psi^\top$ and accordingly $\langle \theta \bullet X, \psi \bullet Y \rangle = \int \theta d\langle X, Y \rangle \psi^\top$. If $\mathcal{P}^*$ denotes another probability measure, we write $\langle X, Y \rangle^{\mathcal{P}^*}$ for the $\mathcal{P}^*$ -compensator of $[X, Y]$.

In the whole paper, we write M^X for the local martingale part and B^X for the predictable part of finite variation in the canonical decomposition $X = X_0 + M^X + B^X$ of a special semimartingale X . If $\mathcal{P}^*$ denotes another probability measure, we write accordingly $X = X_0 + M^{X*} + B^{X*}$ for the $\mathcal{P}^*$ -canonical decomposition of X .

From now on we use the notation (b^X, c^X, F^X, A) to denote differential characteristics of a special semimartingale X . If $[X, X]$ is special (i.e., X is locally square-integrable),

$$\tilde{c}^X = c^X + \int x x^\top F(dx) = b^{[X, X]}$$

¹ The reference implicitly yields an expression for $\varepsilon_0^2(H)$ but does not give it a label.

stands for the modified second characteristic of X . In such case, by [22, I.4.52], one has

$$\langle X, X \rangle = \tilde{c}^X \bullet A.$$

If they refer to some probability measure P^* rather than P , we write instead $(b^{X^*}, c^{X^*}, F^{X^*}, A)$ and $\tilde{c}^{X^*}$, respectively. We denote the joint characteristics of two special vector-valued semimartingales X, Y , i.e., the characteristics of $S = (X, Y)$ as

$$(b^S, c^S, F^S, A) = (b^{X,Y}, c^{X,Y}, F^{X,Y}, A) = \left(\begin{pmatrix} b^X \\ b^Y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} c^X & c^{XY} \\ c^{YX} & c^Y \end{pmatrix}, F^{X,Y}, A \right)$$

and

$$\tilde{c}^{X,Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{c}^X & \tilde{c}^{XY} \\ \tilde{c}^{YX} & \tilde{c}^Y \end{pmatrix}.$$

In the whole paper, we write c^{-1} for the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse of a matrix or matrix-valued process c , which is a particular matrix satisfying $cc^{-1}c = c$ (see Appendix A). From the construction, it follows that the mapping $c \mapsto c^{-1}$ is Borel-measurable from $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ to $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ with the Euclidean norm. Moreover, c^{-1} is non-negative and symmetric if this holds for c .

3. Symmetric definition of admissibility.

3.1. Self-financing strategies. Hereafter $S = (X, Y)$ is a semimartingale in $\mathbb{R}^d$, $d \geq 2$, with $\mathbb{R}$ -valued X and $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ -valued Y . A trading strategy $\vartheta \in L(S)$ is accordingly partitioned as $\vartheta = (\chi, \eta)$. Recall that the integrator S is treated as a column vector and the integrand $\vartheta \in L(S)$ as a row vector, hence in particular $\vartheta S = \sum_{i=1}^d \vartheta^i S^i$. With Harrison and Kreps [20], we use the following numeraire-invariant definition of self-financing trading strategies. Observe that none of the assets in S plays a special role, hence the definition treats all assets *symmetrically*.

DEFINITION 3.1 (SELF-FINANCING STRATEGY). A trading strategy $\vartheta = (\vartheta_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ in $L(S)$ is called *self-financing* if it satisfies $\vartheta S = \vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S$ on $[0, T]$. $\square$

We have the following equivalent characterization of the self-financing condition.

PROPOSITION 3.1 (Equivalent characterizations of self-financing property). *The following assertions are equivalent.*

- (1) $\vartheta \in L(S)$ and $\vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S = \vartheta S$, which implies $(\vartheta S)_- = \vartheta S_-$.
- (2) $\vartheta \in L(S)$, $\vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S_- = \vartheta S_-$.
- (3) for arbitrary scalar-valued semimartingale Z one has $\vartheta \in L(SZ)$ and

$$(\vartheta_0 S_0)Z_0 + \vartheta \bullet (SZ) = (\vartheta S)Z.$$

Proof. (1) On taking left limits one obtains $\vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S_- = (\vartheta S)_-$. The definition of stochastic integral yields $\vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S_- + \vartheta \Delta S = \vartheta S$, and on rearranging $\vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S_- = \vartheta S_-$. Combined together, one obtains $(\vartheta S)_- = \vartheta S_-$.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1) follows by adding $\vartheta \Delta S$ to both sides of (2).

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) follows trivially by taking left limits. To show (3) $\Rightarrow$ (1), take $Z = 1$.

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (3) Integration by parts yields

$$\begin{aligned} (\vartheta S)Z &= (\vartheta S)_0 Z_0 + (\vartheta S)_- \bullet Z + Z_- \bullet (\vartheta S) + [\vartheta S, Z] \\ &= (\vartheta S)_0 Z_0 + (\vartheta S)_- \bullet Z + Z_- \bullet (\vartheta \bullet S) + [\vartheta \bullet S, Z]. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

From (1) one has $(\vartheta S)_- \bullet Z = (\vartheta S_-) \bullet Z$. Goll and Kallsen [17, Proposition 5.1] now yields $\vartheta \in L(S_- \bullet Z)$. Similarly, by [17, Proposition 5.1 and 5.2] $\vartheta \in L(Z_- \bullet S)$ and $\vartheta \in L([S, Z])$. Integrating by parts, $SZ = S_0 Z_0 + S_- \bullet Z + Z_- \bullet S$, one obtains $\vartheta \in L(SZ)$. After simplifications, (3.1) yields $(\vartheta S)Z = (\vartheta S)_0 Z_0 + \vartheta \bullet (SZ)$. $\square$

DEFINITION 3.2 (SELF-FINANCING STRATEGY ON A SUBINTERVAL). For a $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ , a process $\vartheta = (\vartheta_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a *self-financing trading strategy on $[\tau, T]$* if $\mathbf{1}_{[\tau, T]} \vartheta \in L(S)$, ϑ_τ is $\mathcal{F}_\tau$ -measurable, and $\vartheta S = \vartheta_\tau S_\tau + (\mathbf{1}_{[\tau, T]} \vartheta) \bullet S$ on $[\tau, T]$. $\square$

REMARK 3.1 (SELF-FINANCING STRATEGY ON $[\tau, T]$ VS. $[0, T]$). Observe that, for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ , a self-financing strategy on $[0, T]$ is also self-financing on $[\tau, T]$. Moreover, Proposition 3.1 holds on $[\tau, T]$. Note, however, that in Definition 3.2 ϑ_τ is only $\mathcal{F}_\tau$ -measurable, while ϑ_τ of a self-financing strategy on $[0, T]$ must be $\mathcal{F}_{\tau-}$ -measurable. $\square$

3.2. Admissibility and $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -closedness. Following [4], admissible strategies are obtained as an appropriate closure of ‘tame strategies’ whose wealth is highly integrable. Unlike [7], we do not insist tame strategies are of buy-and-hold type; this yields better properties when the price process is enlarged by a self-financing strategy (see Remark 3.2 below).

DEFINITION 3.3 (TAME TRADING STRATEGIES). We say that $\vartheta = (\vartheta_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a *tame trading strategy*, writing $\vartheta \in \Theta(S, \mathbb{P})$, if

- (i) ϑ is self-financing, i.e., it satisfies $\vartheta S = \vartheta_0 S_0 + \vartheta \bullet S$ on $[0, T]$ with $\vartheta \in L(S)$;
- (ii) ϑS is an $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -semimartingale in the sense of Delbaen and Schachermayer [14], i.e.,

$$\sup\{\mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_\sigma S_\sigma)^2] : \sigma \text{ is a } [0, T]\text{-valued stopping time}\} < \infty.$$

For $v \in L^0(\mathcal{F}_0, \mathbb{P})$, we let $\Theta_v(S, \mathbb{P}) = \{\vartheta \in \Theta(S, \mathbb{P}) : \vartheta_0 S_0 = v\}$. $\square$

REMARK 3.2 (INVARIANCE OF TAME STRATEGIES TO SELF-FINANCED MARKET EXTENSION). Observe that one can take any self-financed wealth process and add it as an extra component of the price process S without altering the set of tame terminal wealths. That is, for *any* self-financing $\varphi \in L(S)$ we automatically have that

$$\{\vartheta_T S_T : \vartheta \in \Theta_0(S, \mathbb{P})\} = \{\theta_T(S_T, \varphi_T S_T) : \theta \in \Theta_0((S, \varphi S), \mathbb{P})\}. \quad \square$$

REMARK 3.3 (INTERMEDIATE WEALTH). Note that when there is no risk-free asset, the quantity $\vartheta_\tau S_\tau$ appearing in Definition 3.3(ii), cannot be interpreted as the terminal value of a trading strategy liquidated at time τ . That is, there will typically be no self-financing strategy that turns the wealth $\vartheta_\tau S_\tau$ at time τ into the wealth $\vartheta_T S_T$ at time T . $\square$

REMARK 3.4 (TAME STRATEGIES AND NON-EXISTENCE OF SOLUTIONS). In finite discrete time with a constant risk-free asset, the intermediate wealth of an optimal strategy is not necessarily in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$, hence the set of tame terminal wealths is generally not closed in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$; see [8, Example 8.6] and related continuous-time results of Stricker and co-authors [11, 13, 27]. In a general setting with constant risk-free asset, Černý and Kallsen [7] show how to obtain a closed set of terminal wealths by passing to a wider class of ‘admissible integrands.’ This idea is extended below to the case without a risk-free asset. $\square$

DEFINITION 3.4 (ADMISSIBLE TRADING STRATEGIES). We say that ϑ is an *admissible* trading strategy, writing $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}(S, \mathbb{P})$, if ϑ is self-financing in the sense of Definition 3.1 and there is an approximating sequence of tame trading strategies $\vartheta^{(n)} \in \Theta(S, \mathbb{P})$ such that

- (i) $\vartheta_\sigma^{(n)} S_\sigma \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \vartheta_\sigma S_\sigma$ for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times σ ;
- (ii) $\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T \xrightarrow{L^2(\mathbb{P})} \vartheta_T S_T$.

For $v \in L^0(\mathcal{F}_0, \mathbb{P})$, we set $\overline{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbb{P}) = \{\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}(S, \mathbb{P}) : \vartheta_0 S_0 = v\}$. $\square$

We next give sufficient conditions for the admissible terminal wealths to be closed in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$.

DEFINITION 3.5 (DEFLATOR). We call process $Z = (Z_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ a *deflator* for S under $\mathbb{P}$, writing $Z \in \mathcal{M}_2(S, \mathbb{P})$, if

- (i) $Z_T \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$;
- (ii) $Z(\vartheta S)$ is a $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale for all $\vartheta \in \Theta_0(S, \mathbb{P})$;
- (iii) $Z(\varphi S)$ is a $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale for some self-financing strategy φ such that $\varphi S > 0$. $\square$

LEMMA 3.1 (Martingale property of deflated admissible wealth). *For all admissible strategies $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}(S, P)$ and all deflators $Z \in \mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$, the process $Z(\vartheta S)$ is a P -martingale.*

Proof. Consider $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}(S, P)$ and the corresponding sequence of approximating simple strategies $\vartheta^{(n)} \in \Theta(S, P)$. Since $\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T \xrightarrow{L^2(P)} \vartheta_T S_T$, the Hölder inequality yields

$$\mathbb{E}[\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T Z_T | \mathcal{F}_t] \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} \mathbb{E}[\vartheta_T S_T Z_T | \mathcal{F}_t]. \quad (3.2)$$

The martingale property of $Z(\vartheta^{(n)} S)$ in Definition 3.5(ii) yields $\mathbb{E}[Z_T(\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = Z_t(\vartheta_t^{(n)} S_t)$, while from the definition of admissibility $Z_t(\vartheta_t^{(n)} S_t) \xrightarrow{P} Z_t(\vartheta_t S_t)$ and as a consequence of (3.2) we obtain $\mathbb{E}[Z_T(\vartheta_T S_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = Z_t(\vartheta_t S_t)$, P -almost surely. $\square$

THEOREM 3.1 (Existence and uniqueness of the optimal wealth process). *If $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ contains a strictly positive element, the hedging problem (1.2) allows for an optimizer $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$, provided $\overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ is non-empty. Moreover, the value process ϑS of the optimizer is up to indistinguishability unique.*

Proof. In steps (i)–(vi) below we shall show, for each $v \in \mathbb{R}$, that the set

$$K_v(S, P) = \{\vartheta_T S_T : \vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)\},$$

if not empty, is a closed affine subspace of $L^2(P)$. Step (vii) then argues existence and uniqueness of the optimal wealth process.

(i) Assume $K_1(S, P)$ is non-empty, otherwise there is nothing to prove for $v \neq 0$. Since $\overline{\Theta}(S, P)$ is a vector space one has $K_v(S, P) = vJ + K_0(S, P)$ for some $J \in K_1(S, P)$ and it is enough to prove that $K_0(S, P)$ is closed. Consider a random variable $G \in L^2(P)$ and a convergent sequence

$$\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T \xrightarrow{L^2(P)} G, \quad \vartheta^{(n)} \in \overline{\Theta}_0(S, P).$$

(ii) By assumption there is $Z > 0$ in $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$. By Lemma 3.1, $Z(\vartheta^{(n)} S)$ is a P -martingale for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Denoting $N = \varphi S > 0$, we have by assumption that $NZ > 0$, too, is a P -martingale, hence $N_- > 0$. Without loss of generality, we may assume $X \equiv S^1 = N$ because adding a self-financed price process $N = \varphi S$ to S does not affect the set of terminal wealths attained by tame strategies; see Remark 3.2. On defining a new measure $\tilde{P} \sim P$ by letting

$$\frac{d\tilde{P}}{dP} = \frac{X_T Z_T}{X_0 Z_0},$$

the martingale property of XZ yields the density process of the form

$$\frac{d(\tilde{P}|_{\mathcal{F}_t})}{d(P|_{\mathcal{F}_t})} = \mathbb{E} \left(\frac{d\tilde{P}}{dP} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right) = \frac{X_t Z_t}{X_0 Z_0}. \quad (3.3)$$

(iii) Let $\hat{S} = \frac{S}{X} = (1, \hat{Y})$. Process $\vartheta^{(n)} \hat{S}$ is a $\tilde{P}$ -martingale by [22, III.3.8] and (3.3).

(iv) Hölder's inequality yields $\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T Z_T \xrightarrow{L^1(P)} G Z_T$, equivalent to the $L^1(\tilde{P})$ -convergence of $(\vartheta^{(n)} \hat{S})_T$ to the random variable $\hat{G} = \frac{G}{X_T}$.

(v) Then, $\vartheta^{(n)} \in \overline{\Theta}_0(S, P)$ and Proposition 3.1 yield $\vartheta^{(n)} \hat{S} = \vartheta^{(n)} \bullet \hat{S}$. In view of (iii) and (iv), a classical martingale compactness result of Yor [35, Corolaire 2.5.2] yields the existence of $\eta \in L(\hat{Y}, \tilde{P})$ such that $\eta \bullet \hat{Y}$ is a $\tilde{P}$ -martingale and $\eta \bullet \hat{Y}_T = \hat{G}$. We now let

$$\chi = \eta \bullet \hat{Y} - \eta \hat{Y} = (\eta \bullet \hat{Y})_- - \eta \hat{Y}_-.$$

By construction χ is predictable and therefore it belongs to $L(\hat{S}^1) = L(1)$. Consequently $\vartheta = (\chi, \eta)$ is in $L(\hat{S})$ and by construction ϑ is self-financing;

$$\vartheta \bullet \hat{S} = \eta \bullet \hat{Y} = \chi + \eta \hat{Y} = \vartheta \hat{S}.$$

(vi) The $L^1(\tilde{\mathbb{P}})$ -convergence of $\vartheta_T^{(k)} \hat{S}_T$ to $\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T = \hat{G}$ established in (iv) yields

$$\vartheta_t^{(k)} \hat{S}_t = \mathbb{E}^{\tilde{\mathbb{P}}}[(\vartheta_T^{(n)} \hat{S}_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] \xrightarrow{L^1(\tilde{\mathbb{P}})} \mathbb{E}^{\tilde{\mathbb{P}}}[(\vartheta_T \hat{S}_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = \vartheta_t \hat{S}_t.$$

In view of $\mathbb{P} \sim \tilde{\mathbb{P}}$ and $X > 0$ this yields $\vartheta_t^{(k)} S_t = (\vartheta_t^{(k)} \hat{S}_t) X_t \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} (\vartheta_t \hat{S}_t) X_t = \vartheta_t S_t$, which completes the proof of $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -closedness.

(vii) $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -closedness of $K_v(S, \mathbb{P})$ and strict convexity in (1.2) yield the existence of an optimizer together with $\vartheta_T S_T = \tilde{\vartheta}_T S_T$ almost surely for any two optimizers $\vartheta, \tilde{\vartheta}$. The martingale property in Lemma 3.1 yields

$$Z_t \vartheta_t S_t = \mathbb{E}[Z_T \vartheta_T S_T | \mathcal{F}_t] = \mathbb{E}[Z_T \tilde{\vartheta}_T S_T | \mathcal{F}_t] = Z_t \tilde{\vartheta}_t S_t$$

and hence $\vartheta_t S_t = \tilde{\vartheta}_t S_t$ almost surely because Z is positive. $\square$

REMARK 3.5 (ON THE ASSUMPTION OF THEOREM 3.1). (1) Since $Z(\varphi S)$ in Definition 3.5 is a strictly positive $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale, neither the processes Z and φS nor their left limits Z_- and $(\varphi S)_-$ are allowed to hit zero. One could weaken these assumptions by considering Z and φS in the form of stochastic exponentials that are restarted after hitting zero, *à la* Choulli, Krawczyk, and Stricker [11]. Proposition 6.1 and Theorem 6.2 of [12] then offer a way of generalizing Theorem 3.1 to such relaxed setting; see [6] for the details.

(2) For the assumption of Theorem 3.1 to hold, it is sufficient that there exists a strictly positive process Z such that ZS is a $\mathbb{P}$ - σ -martingale and $\sup_{t \in [0, T]} |Z_t| \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$. Up to the $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -condition, this holds if $X > 0$ and $\hat{S} = S/X$ satisfies the no free lunch with vanishing risk (NFLVR) condition, which is implied by the existence of an equivalent local martingale measure for $\hat{S}$; see Delbaen and Schachermayer [15]. In that sense, the assumption in Theorem 3.1 is related to the absence of arbitrage. $\square$

3.3. Opportunity process. The next definition describes a straightforward extension of tameness and admissibility to a subinterval. It is needed to establish the key concept of the opportunity process below.

DEFINITION 3.6 (TAME AND ADMISSIBLE TRADING STRATEGIES ON A SUBINTERVAL). For a $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ , we say that $\vartheta = (\vartheta_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a *tame trading strategy on $[\tau, T]$* , writing $\vartheta \in \Theta^\tau(S, \mathbb{P})$, if

- (i) ϑ is self-financing on $[\tau, T]$ in the sense of Definition 3.2;
- (ii) $\text{ess sup} \{ \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_\sigma S_\sigma)^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] : \sigma \text{ is a } [\tau, T]\text{-valued stopping time} \} < \infty$, where we use the generalized conditional expectation as in Jacod and Shiryaev [22, I.1.1].

We say that ϑ is an *admissible trading strategy on $[\tau, T]$* , writing $\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}^\tau(S, \mathbb{P})$, if ϑ is self-financing on $[\tau, T]$ in the sense of Definition 3.2 and there is an approximating sequence of tame trading strategies $\vartheta^{(n)} \in \Theta^\tau(S, \mathbb{P})$ such that

- (iii) $\vartheta^{(n)} S_\sigma \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} \vartheta_\sigma S_\sigma$ for all $[\tau, T]$ -valued stopping times σ ;
- (iv) $\vartheta_T^{(n)} S_T \rightarrow \vartheta_T S_T$ in $L^2(\mathbb{P}[\cdot | \mathcal{F}_\tau])$.

Here, a sequence X_n of random variables converges to a random variable X in $L^2(\mathbb{P}[\cdot | \mathcal{F}_\tau])$, if the sequence of random variables $(\mathbb{E}[|X_n - X|^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau])_{n=1}^\infty$ converges to 0, $\mathbb{P}$ -almost surely.

Finally, for $v \in L^0(\mathcal{F}_\tau, \mathbb{P})$, we let

$$\Theta_v^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) = \{ \vartheta \in \Theta^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) : \vartheta_\tau S_\tau = v \}; \quad \bar{\Theta}_v^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) = \{ \vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) : \vartheta_\tau S_\tau = v \}. \quad \square$$

We shall now extend the notion of the *opportunity process* from [7] to the setting without a risk-free asset. This extension is non-trivial: Corollary 3.4 in [7] interprets the opportunity process as the conditional squared hedging error from approximating the constant payoff 1 by portfolios that cost 0, which is then linked to the Sharpe ratio and therefore to investment opportunities. What is needed instead is the squared hedging error in the approximation of the constant payoff 0 by portfolios that cost 1 (called the fully invested portfolios). The two quantities happen to

coincide when there is a risk-free asset with constant value 1 but in the general setting studied here their roles are quite different. The latter no longer has a direct link to the Sharpe ratio of zero-cost portfolios; instead, it represents the minimal conditional second moment among fully invested portfolios. Thus the terminology “opportunity process,” which we shall maintain, is a misnomer in the context of this paper.

DEFINITION 3.7 (OPPORTUNITY PROCESS). The *opportunity process* $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is given by

$$L_t = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(S, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t] = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(S, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(1 + (\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \vartheta) \bullet S_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t], \quad 0 \leq t \leq T. \quad (3.4)$$

Thus, L_t measures the smallest conditional second moment among fully invested self-financing portfolios on the subinterval $[t, T]$. $\square$

3.4. Nice numeraire. For the proof of our explicit representation of optimal strategies, the existence of sufficiently well-behaved numeraires plays an important role.

DEFINITION 3.8 (NICE NUMERAIRE). We say that N is a *nice numeraire* under $\mathbb{P}$ if $N > 0$, $N_- > 0$, and there are constants $\underline{\delta}, \bar{\delta}$ such that, for all $t \in [0, T]$, we have

$$0 < \underline{\delta} \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[N_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]}{N_t^2} \leq \bar{\delta} < \infty. \quad (3.5)$$

We say that S *admits a nice numeraire* if there is a self-financing strategy φ for S such that φS is a nice numeraire. $\square$

Recall the notion of the deflator in Definition 3.5.

PROPOSITION 3.2 (CONSEQUENCES OF NICE NUMERAIRE EXISTENCE). Suppose $X \equiv S^1$ is a nice numeraire. Then,

- (1) $\Theta(S, \mathbb{P}) = \Theta(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ and $\Theta^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) = \Theta^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ ;
- (2) S is locally square-integrable under $\mathbb{P}$ if and only if $\hat{S}$ is locally square-integrable under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$;
- (3) X is the wealth of a tame strategy for S under $\mathbb{P}$;
- (4) ZX is a $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale for any $Z \in \mathcal{M}_2(S, \mathbb{P})$;
- (5) $ZX/\hat{Z} \in \mathcal{M}_2(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ if and only if $Z \in \mathcal{M}_2(S, \mathbb{P})$, where $\hat{Z}_t = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$.

Proof. (1) We only give the proof for $\Theta(S, \mathbb{P}) = \Theta(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$; that for $\Theta^\tau(S, \mathbb{P}) = \Theta^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ follows by a straightforward modification of the arguments.

(i) Since X is nice, by Proposition 3.3 in [11] one has $\mathbb{E}[(\frac{X_T}{X_\tau})^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \leq \bar{\delta}$ for all stopping times $\tau \leq T$. Additionally,

$$\mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(X_T^{-1}/X_\tau^{-1})^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] = \mathbb{E}[X_\tau^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] / \mathbb{E}[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] = 1 / \mathbb{E}[(X_T/X_\tau)^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau]. \quad (3.6)$$

In view of (3.6), Proposition 3.3 of [11] applied to X^{-1} under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ yields that for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times τ one has $\mathbb{E}[(X_T/X_\tau)^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \geq \underline{\delta}$.

(ii) Consider an $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -semimartingale W . The identity

$$\mathbb{E}[X_T^2] \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(W/X)_\tau^2] = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2 (W/X)_\tau^2] = \mathbb{E}[W_\tau^2 \mathbb{E}[(X_T/X_\tau)^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau]]$$

and (i) yield $\underline{\delta} \mathbb{E}[W_\tau^2] \leq \mathbb{E}[X_T^2] \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(W/X)_\tau^2] \leq \bar{\delta} \mathbb{E}[W_\tau^2]$, for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times τ . Hence, W is an $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -semimartingale if and only if $\hat{W} = W/X$ is an $L^2(\hat{\mathbb{P}})$ -semimartingale. This shows that the tame strategies for $(S, \mathbb{P})$ and $(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$ coincide.

(2) This follows from step (ii) above by localization since local $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -semimartingales coincide with locally square-integrable semimartingales under $\mathbb{P}$ (and likewise for $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ in place of $\mathbb{P}$) by [7, Lemma A.2].

(3)–(4) Let $\varphi = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$. Since $\varphi \hat{S} = 1$, we have $\varphi \in \Theta(\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})$. The claims now follow from (1) together with Definition 3.8.

(5) By [22, Proposition III.3.8], $Z(\vartheta S)$ is a $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale if and only if $Z(\vartheta S)/\hat{Z}$ is a $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ -martingale. Since $S = X\hat{S}$, the claim follows. $\square$

We shall now state an easily verifiable sufficient condition for X to be nice.

PROPOSITION 3.3 (Nice numeraire with independent returns). *Suppose that $X > 0$, $X_- > 0$ and that $\mathcal{L}(X)$ is a semimartingale with independent increments satisfying $\mathcal{L}(X)_T \in L^2(\mathbb{P})$. Then X is a nice numeraire.*

Proof. By [22, Theorem II.2.29], one obtains that $\mathcal{L}(X)$ and $[\mathcal{L}(X)]$ are special. Černý and Ruf [9, Proposition 2.15 and Theorem 4.1] and Yor's formula then yield for $W = 2\mathcal{L}(X) + [\mathcal{L}(X)]$

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]}{X_t^2} = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{(t,T]} \bullet \mathcal{L}(X))_T^2] = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{(t,T]} \bullet W)_T] = \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{(t,T]} \bullet B^W)_T, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Since B^W is deterministic and of finite variation with $\Delta B^W > -1$, the claim follows. $\square$

The next example shows that the stochastic exponential of an Itô processes with bounded coefficients is a nice numeraire. These processes arise in applications of linear quadratic control and BSDE techniques to mean-variance portfolio selection.

EXAMPLE 3.1 (ITÔ PROCESS WITH BOUNDED COEFFICIENTS YIELDS A NICE NUMERAIRE). Suppose that S is an Itô process satisfying $dS_t = S_t(\mu_t dt + \sigma_t dW_t)$ for $t \in [0, T]$, where μ and σ are bounded predictable processes and $W = (W_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a 1-dimensional Brownian motion. For $A_t = t$, the semimartingale characteristics are then given by $b^{\mathcal{L}(S)} = \mu$, $c^{\mathcal{L}(S)} = \sigma^2$ and $F^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \equiv 0$. In this setting, we shall verify that S is a nice numeraire.

Indeed, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathbb{E}[S_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]}{S_t^2} &= \mathbb{E} \left[\left(e^{\int_t^T (\mu_s - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_s^2) ds + \int_t^T \sigma_s dW_s} \right)^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[e^{\int_t^T (2\mu_s + \sigma_s^2) ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T (2\sigma_s)^2 ds + \int_t^T 2\sigma_s dW_s} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \leq \left\| e^{\int_t^T (2\mu_s + \sigma_s^2) ds} \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{P})}, \end{aligned}$$

thanks to Hölder's inequality and $\mathbb{E}[e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int_t^T (2\sigma_s)^2 ds + \int_t^T 2\sigma_s dW_s} | \mathcal{F}_t] = 1$. By Jensen's inequality, one similarly obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S_t^2}{\mathbb{E}[S_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]} &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[\left(e^{\int_t^T (\mu_s - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_s^2) ds + \int_t^T \sigma_s dW_s} \right)^{-2} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[e^{\int_t^T (-2\mu_s + 3\sigma_s^2) ds - \frac{1}{2} \int_t^T (2\sigma_s)^2 ds - \int_t^T 2\sigma_s dW_s} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \leq \left\| e^{\int_t^T (-2\mu_s + 3\sigma_s^2) ds} \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{P})}. \end{aligned}$$

Since μ and σ^2 are bounded, this yields constants $\underline{\delta}, \bar{\delta}$ such that (3.5) holds for all $t \in [0, T]$ with N replaced by S . $\square$

3.5. Compatibility of the symmetric formulation with previous studies. Theorem 3.2 below recasts the results of [7, 12] in the symmetric form. It is of independent interest to specialists since it provides a new variational characterization of the so-called adjustment process and other important quantities that appear in the classical setting with $S^1 = X = 1$. However, in the context of this paper, it plays an auxiliary role as a key step in proving the main result of the paper, Theorem 4.1.

Recall $Y = S^{2:d}$ and that self-financing strategies ϑ for $S = (X, Y)$ are partitioned $\vartheta = (\chi, \eta)$.

PROPOSITION 3.4 (Transposition of admissibility from [7]). *Suppose that Y is an $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ -valued locally square-integrable semimartingale admitting an equivalent martingale measure with square-integrable density. Denote by $\bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P})$ the set of admissible strategies with zero initial wealth in the sense of [7]. Then,*

$$\bar{\Theta}_0(S, \mathbb{P}) = \left\{ \vartheta = (\chi, \eta) : \eta \in \bar{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P}) \text{ with } \chi = \eta \bullet Y_- - \eta Y_- \right\}$$

and $\vartheta S = v + \eta \bullet Y$ for all $\vartheta = (\chi, \eta) \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$.

Proof. We denote the set of all reduced form strategies corresponding to initial wealth v by $\overline{\Theta}_v^{2:d}(S, P) = \{\vartheta^{2:d} : \vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)\}$.

(i) Inclusion $\Theta^{\text{CK}}(Y, P) \subseteq \Theta_0^{2:d}(S, P)$. Consider $\vartheta^{2:d} = \vartheta_\sigma^{2:d} 1_{\llbracket \sigma, \tau \rrbracket} \in \Theta^{\text{CK}}(Y, P)$. Define now $\vartheta^1 = \vartheta_\sigma^{2:d}(S_\tau - S_{\sigma-}) 1_{\llbracket \sigma, \tau \rrbracket}$. Then, $\vartheta \in \Theta(S, P)$ since $\vartheta \bullet S = \vartheta S$, $\vartheta_0 S_0 = 0$, and $\vartheta \bullet S = \vartheta^{2:d} \bullet S^{2:d}$ is an $L^2(P)$ -semimartingale.

(ii) Inclusion $\Theta_0^{2:d}(S, P) \subseteq \overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P)$. The process $\vartheta^{2:d} \bullet S^{2:d} = \vartheta \bullet S$ is an $L^2(P)$ -semimartingale. By Lemma 3.1, $(\vartheta^{2:d} \bullet S^{2:d})Z$ is a martingale for every $Z \in \mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$. By [7, Corollary 2.5] we have $\vartheta^{2:d} \in \overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P)$.

(iii) From (i) and (ii) we know $\Theta^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P) \subseteq \Theta_0^{2:d}(S, P) \subseteq \overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P)$. On taking closures we obtain $\overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P) \subseteq \overline{\Theta}^{2:d}(S, P) \subseteq \overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(S^{2:d}, P)$. $\square$

On the way to establishing Theorem 4.1, we start with the case $X = 1$. When reading Theorem 4.1, observe that $X = 1$ is trivially a nice numeraire in the sense of Definition 3.8. Moreover, with $S = (1, Y)$, a positive element of $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ is simply the (square integrable) density process of an equivalent local martingale measure for Y ; see Definition 3.5. Observe also that the proof of Theorem 3.2 does not involve a numeraire change. We do not reproduce the lengthy statement of Theorem 4.1 here to avoid repetition.

THEOREM 3.2 (Results of [7, 12] in a symmetric form). *Theorem 4.1 holds if $X = 1$.*

Proof. See Appendix B. $\square$

3.6. Optimal hedging after numeraire change. As yet, we do not know how to obtain the solution of the hedging problem (1.2) for general X . The discussion in the introduction suggests that the optimizer for the price process S , payoff H , and probability measure P coincides with the one for the “discounted model” with the price process $\hat{S} = (1, \hat{Y})$, payoff $\hat{H} = H/X_T$ and probability measure $\hat{P}$ as in (1.7). Therefore, it makes sense to apply Theorem 3.2 to this discounted setup.

COROLLARY 3.1 (Quadratic hedging after numeraire change). *Suppose that S admits a nice numeraire and $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ contains a strictly positive element. Then $\hat{S}$ is a locally square-integrable semimartingale under $\hat{P}$ and $\mathcal{M}_2(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$ contains a strictly positive element. Moreover, Theorem 4.1 applies to $\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{P}$, i.e.,*

- (1) *The opportunity process $\hat{L}$ is the unique bounded semimartingale $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ such that*
 - (a) $\hat{L} > 0$, $\hat{L}_- > 0$, and $\hat{L}_T = 1$;
 - (b) $\frac{\hat{L}}{\mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}})} > 0$ is a martingale on $[0, T]$;
 - (c) $[\hat{S}, \hat{S}]$ is $\hat{P}^*$ -special for the measure $\hat{P}^* \sim \hat{P}$ defined by

$$\frac{d\hat{P}^*}{d\hat{P}} = \frac{\hat{L}_T}{\mathbb{E}^{\hat{P}}[\hat{L}_0] \mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}})_T} > 0,$$

which implies

$$b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} = \frac{b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}} + c^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})} + \int xy F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}}; \quad (3.7)$$

$$\tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} = \frac{c^{\hat{S}} + \int xx^\top (1 + y) F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}}. \quad (3.8)$$

- (d) *The set*

$$\hat{\Xi}_{\hat{a}} = \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \}$$

is non-empty.

(e) For some or, equivalently, any $\widehat{\Xi}_{\hat{a}}$ -valued predictable process $\hat{a}$, one has

$$\frac{b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \} = -\hat{a} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \hat{a}^\top + 2\hat{a} b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*};$$

$$-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}(-(\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet \hat{S}) \in \overline{\Theta}_1^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P}),$$

for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times τ .

(2) The optimal strategy $\hat{\varphi} \in \overline{\Theta}_{\hat{v}}(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$ for the quadratic hedging problems (1.9) is given in the feedback form by

$$\hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) = \hat{\xi} + \hat{a}(\hat{V}_- - \hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) \hat{S}_-), \quad (3.9)$$

where

$$\hat{V}_t = \frac{1}{\hat{L}_t} \mathbb{E}^{\hat{P}}[\mathcal{E}((-1)_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \hat{a}) \bullet \hat{S})_T \hat{H} | \mathcal{F}_t], \quad (3.10)$$

$\hat{a}$ is an arbitrary $\widehat{\Xi}_{\hat{a}}$ -valued predictable process, and $\hat{\xi}$ is an arbitrary predictable process taking values in

$$\widehat{\Xi}_{\hat{\xi}} = \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = \hat{V}_-} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{P}^*} \}$$

with

$$\tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{P}^*} = \frac{c^{\hat{S}\hat{V}} + \int xz(1+y)F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{V}, \hat{P}}(d(x, y, z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}}. \quad (3.11)$$

(3) For an arbitrary $\widehat{\Xi}_{\hat{\xi}}$ -valued predictable process $\hat{\xi}$, let

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_t^2(\hat{H}) = \mathbb{E}^{\hat{P}} \left[\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \hat{L}(\tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{P}^*} - 2\hat{\xi}^\top \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{P}^*} + \hat{\xi}^\top \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \hat{\xi}) \bullet A_T | \mathcal{F}_t \right], \quad (3.12)$$

with

$$\tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{P}^*} = \frac{c^{\hat{V}} + \int z^2(1+y)F^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{V}, \hat{P}}(d(y, z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}}. \quad (3.13)$$

Then, the hedging error of the optimal strategy is given by

$$\hat{\varepsilon}^2(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) := \mathbb{E}^{\hat{P}}[(\hat{\varphi}_T(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2] = \hat{L}_0(\hat{v} - \hat{V}_0)^2 + \hat{\varepsilon}_0^2(\hat{H}). \quad (3.14)$$

Conversely, but without the assumption that $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ contains a strictly positive element, if there exists a semimartingale $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ satisfying (1)(a)–(e), then $\hat{L}$ is the opportunity process and (2)–(3) hold.

Proof. Without loss of generality, let $S^1 = X$ be the nice numeraire for S under P . Then, $\hat{S}$ is locally square-integrable under $\hat{P}$ by Proposition 3.2(2). Recall that $\hat{S}^1 = 1$ by construction. Theorem 3.2 applied to the discounted model yields that Theorem 4.1 holds for the discounted model $(\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{P})$. Finally, when $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ contains a positive deflator Z , we have by Proposition 3.2(5) that $\frac{ZX}{Z} > 0$ belongs to $\mathcal{M}_2(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$, which completes the proof. $\square$

4. Optimal hedging without numeraire change. This section contains the main result of the paper, namely a numeraire-invariant explicit representation of optimal quadratic hedging strategies for the problem (1.2). Its *proof* relies on the simpler characterization in properly discounted markets, see [7], which was cast in a symmetric form in Subsection 3.6. From now on, we assume that $S = (X, Y)$ is a locally square-integrable semimartingale.

4.1. Main results. The first theorem reduces the hedging problem (1.2) to affinely constrained quadratic minimization in $\mathbb{R}^d$ involving the semimartingale characteristics of the price process. Its proof is to be found in Appendix C. Its conditions and applicability are illustrated in Section 6. The extent to which this theorem holds *without* an existence of a nice numeraire is the subject of an ongoing research.

THEOREM 4.1 (Quadratic hedging without numeraire change). *Suppose that S admits a nice numeraire. If $\mathcal{M}_2(S, \mathbf{P})$ contains a strictly positive element, the following statements hold.*

(1) *The opportunity process L is the unique bounded semimartingale $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ such that*

- (a) *$L > 0$, $L_- > 0$, and $L_T = 1$.*
- (b) *$\frac{L}{\mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(L)})} > 0$ is a martingale on $[0, T]$.*
- (c) *$[S, S]$ is $\mathbf{P}^*$ -special for the measure $\mathbf{P}^* \sim \mathbf{P}$ defined by*

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}^*}{d\mathbf{P}} = \frac{L_T}{\mathbb{E}[L_0] \mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(L)})_T} > 0,$$

which implies

$$b^{S^*} = \frac{b^S + c^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)} + \int xy F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}; \quad (4.1)$$

$$\tilde{c}^{S^*} = \frac{c^S + \int xx^\top (1+y) F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}. \quad (4.2)$$

(d) *The set*

$$\Xi_a := \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{S^*} \} \quad (4.3)$$

is non-empty.

(e) *For some or, equivalently, any Ξ_a -valued predictable process a , one has*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{b^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}} &= - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{S^*} \} = -a \tilde{c}^{S^*} a^\top + 2ab^{S^*}, \\ -a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}(-(a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S) &\in \overline{\Theta}_1^\tau(S, \mathbf{P}), \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times τ .

(2) *The optimal strategy $\varphi \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, \mathbf{P})$ for the quadratic hedging problems (1.9) is given in the feedback form by*

$$\varphi(v, H) = \xi + a(V_- - \varphi(v, H)S_-), \quad (4.5)$$

where

$$V_t = V_t(H) = \frac{1}{L_t} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}((- \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} a) \bullet S)_T H | \mathcal{F}_t], \quad (4.6)$$

a is an arbitrary Ξ_a -valued predictable process, and ξ is an arbitrary predictable process taking values in

$$\Xi_\xi := \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = V_-} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \tilde{c}^{SV^*} \} \quad (4.7)$$

with

$$\tilde{c}^{SV^*} = \frac{c^{SV} + \int xz(1+y) F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L), V}(d(x, y, z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}. \quad (4.8)$$

(3) *For an arbitrary Ξ_ξ -valued predictable process ξ , let*

$$\varepsilon_t^2(H) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} L (\tilde{c}^{V^*} - 2\xi^\top \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \xi^\top \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi) \bullet A_T | \mathcal{F}_t], \quad (4.9)$$

with

$$\tilde{c}^{V^*} = \frac{c^V + \int z^2(1+y) F^{\mathcal{L}(L), V}(d(y, z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}. \quad (4.10)$$

Then, the hedging error of the optimal strategy is given by

$$\epsilon^2(v, H) := \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(v, H)S_T - H)^2] = L_0(v - V_0)^2 + \epsilon_0^2(H). \quad (4.11)$$

Conversely, but without the assumption that $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ contains a strictly positive element, if there exists a bounded semimartingale $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ satisfying (1)(a)–(e), then L is the opportunity process and (2) and (3) hold.

REMARK 4.1 (MISCELLANEOUS). (1) Recall that the assumed existence of a positive deflator in $\mathcal{M}_2(S, P)$ is related to the absence of arbitrage, see Remark 3.5(2).

(2) The structure of the solution is reminiscent of the related simpler setup in [7] in that the optimal hedging strategy $\varphi(v, H)$ consists of two parts. The *pure hedge* ξ invests in S in order to reduce the random fluctuations caused by the hypothetical *value process* V of the option H . The second term in (4.5), on the other hand, takes care of the accrued hedging error from the past. It involves the *adjustment process* a which is – up to rescaling by current wealth and change of sign – the optimizer ϑ in (3.4).

(3) Identity (4.5) yields that $\varphi(v, H) = \xi + (V_- - W_-)a$, where the wealth process $W = \varphi(v, H)S$ solves the stochastic differential equation (SDE) $W = W_- \bullet (-a \bullet S) + v + (\xi + V_- a) \bullet S$. The unique solution to this affine SDE can be represented explicitly, see for example Eberlein and Kallsen [16, Proposition 3.48]. $\square$

In the second main result of this section, we provide explicit formulae for the sets (4.3) and (4.7) of all minimizers as well as a particular choice of minimizers in terms of semimartingale characteristics and the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse. The important role of the oblique projector $p\tilde{c}^{S^*}$ appearing in (4.12) below is examined in more detail in Appendix A.

THEOREM 4.2 (Explicit expressions).

- (1) If (4.1) and (4.2) are well-defined, then Ξ_a in (1)(d) is non-empty if and only if $b^{S^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) + \mathcal{R}(S_-)$, where $\mathcal{R}(\cdot)$ denotes the column space of a matrix. In this case,

$$\Xi_a = a + \mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top),$$

where

$$a = (b^{S^*})^\top p - \frac{S_-^\top}{S_-^\top S_-} (I - \tilde{c}^{S^*} p); \quad p = (m \tilde{c}^{S^*} m)^{-1}; \quad m = I - \frac{S_- S_-^\top}{S_-^\top S_-}. \quad (4.12)$$

and $\mathcal{N}(\cdot)$ is the null space of a matrix. Moreover, a is the minimum norm element of Ξ_a .

- (2) In the setting of Theorem 4.1, we have $\Xi_\xi = \xi + \mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$ with

$$\xi = \tilde{c}^{VS^*} p + V_- \frac{S_-^\top}{S_-^\top S_-} (I - \tilde{c}^{S^*} p) \quad (4.13)$$

and p, m as above. Furthermore, ξ is the minimum norm element of Ξ_ξ .

- (3) If $S_- \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*})$, then a, ξ in (4.12) and (4.13) can alternatively be written as

$$a = (b^{S^*})^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} - (1 + (b^{S^*})^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-) \frac{S_-^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1}}{S_-^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-}, \quad (4.14)$$

$$\xi = \tilde{c}^{VS^*} (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} + (V_- - \tilde{c}^{VS^*} (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-) \frac{S_-^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1}}{S_-^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-}. \quad (4.15)$$

- (4) If $S_- \notin \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*})$, let $\bar{m} = I - \tilde{c}^{S^*} (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1}$, $\alpha = \frac{S_-^\top \bar{m}}{S_-^\top \bar{m} S_-}$, and $r = \alpha b^{S^*}$. Then, a, ξ in (4.12) and (4.13) can be written as

$$a = (b^{S^*} - r S_-)^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} - (1 + (b^{S^*} - r S_-)^\top (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-) \alpha, \\ \xi = \tilde{c}^{VS^*} (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} + (V_- - \tilde{c}^{VS^*} (\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1} S_-) \alpha.$$

Here α is the instantaneously risk-free fully invested portfolio ($\alpha S_- = 1$) and r the instantaneously risk-free rate of return in the sense that the process $r \bullet A = \alpha \bullet S$ is continuous and satisfies $[\alpha \bullet S, \alpha \bullet S] = 0$.

Proof. By part (1) of Theorem A.2, $b^{S^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) + \mathcal{R}(S_-)$ if and only if Ξ_a in (4.3) is non-empty. Since $\tilde{c}^{SV^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*})$, this also yields that Ξ_ξ in (4.7) non-empty. Formulae (A.5), (A.6), and (A.7) now yield the explicit expressions for a and ξ . $\square$

REMARK 4.2 (STRUCTURE CONDITION AND THE NULL STRATEGIES). The condition

$$b^{S^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) + \mathcal{R}(S_-) \quad (4.16)$$

in item (1) is a weak form of an absence of arbitrage under P^* . In the discounted model, it reduces to the so-called structure condition (SC) introduced in Schweizer [30] when viewed under $\hat{P}^*$, i.e., $b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{M^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*}, \hat{P}^*}) = \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*})$. Condition (4.16) therefore represents an undiscounted form of the classical SC under P^* . Observe further that the set of $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$ -valued strategies coincides with the set of all self-financing strategies with zero wealth, here denoted by $\mathcal{N}$. Since the absence of arbitrage as well as the set of null strategies $\mathcal{N}$ are measure-invariant, one then obtains an equivalent undiscounted SC in terms of P -characteristics, i.e., $b^S \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^S) + \mathcal{R}(S_-)$ and $\mathcal{N}$ is equivalently characterized as the set of all $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^S) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$ -valued processes. $\square$

Proof. Under the condition that $b^{S^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) + \mathcal{R}(S_-)$, we need to argue that an $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued predictable processes $\varphi = (\varphi_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a self-financing trading strategy with zero wealth process, that is, $\varphi \in \mathcal{N}$, if and only if it is valued in $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$.

Suppose first that $\varphi \in \mathcal{N}$. Then, $\varphi S_- \equiv 0$ and $\varphi \bullet S \equiv 0$. The latter yields that $\langle \varphi \bullet S \rangle^{P^*} = (\varphi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \varphi^\top) \bullet A \equiv 0$ and therefore $\varphi \in \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top) \cap \mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*})$.

For the converse, assume that $\varphi = (\varphi_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is valued in $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$. Let $S = S_0 + M^{S^*} + B^{S^*}$ be the canonical decomposition of the locally square-integrable and hence special semimartingale S under P^* . Because $b^{S^*} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) + \mathcal{R}(S_-)$, all processes $\varphi = (\varphi_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ valued in $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{c}^{S^*}) \cap \mathcal{N}(S_-^\top)$ are also valued in $\mathcal{N}(b^{S^*})$. Then, it follows from the construction of the stochastic integral that $\varphi \in L(S)$ with $\varphi \bullet S \equiv 0$, since $|\varphi \bullet B^{S^*}| = |\varphi b^{S^*}| \bullet A \equiv 0$ and $\langle \varphi \bullet M^{S^*} \rangle^{P^*} \leq \langle \varphi \bullet S \rangle^{P^*} = (\varphi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \varphi^\top) \bullet A \equiv 0$. Hence, $\varphi S_- \equiv 0$ and $\varphi_0 S_0 + \varphi \bullet S_- \equiv 0$ and φ is therefore a self-financing strategy with zero wealth process by Proposition 3.1. $\square$

REMARK 4.3 (UNIVERSAL RESULTS AND SPECIAL CASES). The formulae in item (2) are universal. The special case (3) is relevant in ‘discrete-time models.’ It always applies when S has no quasi-left-continuous component, i.e., when S can be written as the (not necessarily absolutely convergent) sum of its jumps at predictable stopping times; see Černý and Ruf [10, Propositions 3.15 and 4.6]. There may or may not be an instantaneously risk-free asset in item (3); this makes no difference to the formulae (4.14)–(4.15).

The special case (4) may arise in quasi-left-continuous models, i.e., models where S does not jump at predictable times. It arises only when there is an instantaneously risk-free asset. This is the only occasion where the risk-free asset appears explicitly in Theorem 4.2. $\square$

4.2. Verification. For applications, we establish the following verification result. This will allow us to identify the opportunity process in models with independent increments, for example.

PROPOSITION 4.1 (Sufficient conditions for the opportunity process). *Suppose that S admits a nice numeraire. Let $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ be a semimartingale such that*

- (1) $L_T = 1$ and L is bounded from above and below by positive constants, which implies that the right-hand sides of (4.1) and (4.2) are well-defined.
- (2) Ξ_a in (4.3) is non-empty and (4.4) holds for some $a \in \Xi_a$.

Then L satisfies conditions (1)(a)–(e) in Theorem 4.1 and it is therefore the opportunity process.

Proof. Claim (1) follows from the local square-integrability of S together with the boundedness of jumps of $\mathcal{L}(L)$. By hypothesis, the joint semimartingale characteristics of (S, L) satisfy

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(L)} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \bar{b}^S \} = -a \bar{c}^S a^\top + 2a \bar{b}^S \quad (4.17)$$

for some $a \in \bar{\Xi}_a = \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \bar{b}^S \}$, where $\bar{\Xi}_a$ is non-empty and

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{b}^S &= b^S + c^S \mathcal{L}(L) + \int xy F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y)); \\ \bar{c}^S &= c^S + \int xx^\top (1 + y) F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y)). \end{aligned}$$

Without loss of generality, we may take $S^1 = X$ to be the nice numeraire, with $S = (X, Y)$. Furthermore, let $\hat{Z}_t = E[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$. We will proceed by verifying that the process $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ defined by

$$\hat{L}_t = \frac{L_t X_t^2}{\hat{Z}_t}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

is the opportunity process $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ in the discounted model with $\hat{S} = S/X = (1, \hat{Y})$.

To this end, we observe that, since X is a nice numeraire and hence

$$0 < \underline{\delta} \leq \frac{\hat{Z}_t}{X_t^2} \leq \bar{\delta} < \infty, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

and L is bounded above and below by positive constants by assumption, the process $\hat{L}$ is non-negative, bounded from above and below by positive constants. Then, it follows as in the proof of Theorem 4.1(1) via Lemma D.1 that L satisfies (4.17) if and only if $\hat{L}$ satisfies

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \hat{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \hat{b}^S \} = -\hat{a} \hat{c}^S \hat{a}^\top + 2\hat{a} \hat{b}^S = \hat{a} \hat{c}^S \hat{a}^\top,$$

for any $\hat{a} \in \hat{\Xi}_a = \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \hat{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \hat{b}^S \}$, where $\hat{\Xi}_a = X_- \bar{\Xi}_a$ is non-empty and

$$\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} = b^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} + c^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})} + \int yl F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}(d(y, l)), \quad (4.18)$$

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{S}} = c^{\hat{S}} + \int yy^\top (1 + l) F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}(d(y, l)). \quad (4.19)$$

Moreover, since $\hat{S}^1 \equiv 1$, we have that $b^{\hat{S}^1, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} = 0$, $c^{\hat{S}^1, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} = 0$ and $F^{\hat{S}^1, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} = 0$. Therefore, $\hat{a}^{2:d} = ((\hat{b}^{\hat{S}})^{2:d})^\top ((\hat{c}^{\hat{S}})^{2:d})^{-1}$ and $\hat{a}^1 = -1 - \hat{a}^{2:d} \hat{S}^{2:d}$, as explained in the proof of Theorem 3.2. This also yields that $\hat{a} \hat{c}^S \hat{a}^\top = ((\hat{b}^{\hat{S}})^{2:d})^\top ((\hat{c}^{\hat{S}})^{2:d})^{-1} (\hat{b}^{\hat{S}})^{2:d}$.

Because $b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}} = \hat{a} \hat{c}^S \hat{a}^\top$ is non-negative, $B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}$ and $\mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}})$ are non-decreasing. Therefore, $\frac{\hat{L}}{\mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}})}$ is a $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ -local martingale that is bounded from above and hence a true $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ -martingale. The latter allows to define a measure $\hat{\mathbb{P}}^* \sim \hat{\mathbb{P}}$ by $\frac{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}} = \frac{\hat{L}_T}{E^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[\hat{L}_0] \mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}})_T} > 0$. Since $\frac{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}}$ is bounded, $\hat{S}$ remains a locally square-integrable semimartingale under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}^*$ with canonical decomposition $\hat{S} = \hat{S}_0 + M^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} + B^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} b^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} &= \frac{b^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} + c^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})} + \int xy F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}} = \frac{\hat{b}^{\hat{S}}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}}, \\ \hat{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} &= \frac{c^{\hat{S}} + \int xx^\top (1 + y) F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}(d(x, y))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L})}} = \frac{\hat{c}^{\hat{S}}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}} \end{aligned}$$

by Girsanov's theorem. Therefore,

$$|\hat{a} \bullet B^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}| = |\hat{a} \hat{b}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}| \bullet A = \hat{a} \hat{c}^S \hat{a}^\top \bullet A = B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}},$$

$$\int \hat{a} d\langle M^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \rangle^{\hat{P}^*} \hat{a}^\top \leq (\hat{a} \hat{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \hat{a}^\top) \bullet A = (\hat{a} \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \hat{a}^\top) \bullet A = B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}},$$

are predictable and of finite variation so that $\hat{a} \in L(\hat{S})$ and the stochastic integral $\hat{a} \bullet \hat{S}$ is well defined.

Let τ be a $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time. By applying Yor's formula twice, we have that $\hat{L}(\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S}))^2 = \mathcal{E}(W)$, where

$$W = \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}) - 2(\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S} + [(a \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S}] - 2[\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), (\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S}] + [\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), [(a \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S}]].$$

Thanks to (4.17), (4.18) and (4.19), we obtain that $B^{W, \hat{P}} = 0$. Therefore, W is a local $\hat{P}$ -martingale. Hence, $\mathcal{E}(W) = \hat{L}(\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S}))^2$ is a non-negative, local $\hat{P}$ -martingale and therefore a $\hat{P}$ -supermartingale. By the optional sampling theorem, this yields that

$$\sup \left\{ \mathbb{E} \left[\hat{L}_\sigma (\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})_\sigma \right)^2 \right] : 0 \leq \sigma \leq T \text{ is a stopping time} \right\} < \infty.$$

Since $\hat{L}$ is bounded below by a positive constant, say $\hat{k} > 0$, we have, for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times σ , that $0 \leq (\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})_\sigma \leq \frac{\hat{L}_\sigma}{\hat{k}} (\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})_\sigma^2$. Therefore, $\mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})$ is an $L^2(\hat{P})$ -semimartingale. Hence, $\hat{\vartheta} = -\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})_-$ is a tame trading strategy on $[\tau, T]$ by Corollary D.1, since $\hat{a} \hat{S}_- = -1$, so that

$$\hat{\vartheta} = -\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \mathcal{E}(-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\tau, T}] \bullet \hat{S})_- \in \overline{\Theta}_1^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P}).$$

This yields that $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ satisfies the properties (1)(a)–(e) of Corollary 3.1 and is therefore the opportunity process for $(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$. It then follows as in the proof of Theorem 4.1 that $L = \hat{L} \frac{\hat{Z}}{\hat{X}^2}$ has the properties (1)(a)–(e) of Theorem 4.1. It is therefore the opportunity process for the undiscounted model (S, P) and, by the converse implication of Theorem 4.1, the conclusions (2)–(3) of Theorem 4.1 and (1)–(4) of Theorem 4.2 hold. $\square$

5. Efficient frontier. We shall call a strategy $\vartheta^* \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ *weakly efficient* (with initial value $v \in \mathbb{R}$) if ϑ^* minimizes $\text{Var}(\vartheta_T S_T)$ over all $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ satisfying $\mathbb{E}[\vartheta_T S_T] = \mathbb{E}[\vartheta_T^* S_T]$. Since ϑ^* is weakly efficient (with initial value $v \neq 0$) if and only if ϑ^*/v is weakly efficient (with initial value 1), it suffices to consider the case $v = 1$.

From Hansen and Richard [19, Lemma 3.3] it follows that the set of weakly efficient portfolios in $\overline{\Theta}_1(S, P)$ equals

$$\{\varphi(1, 0) + \lambda \varphi(0, 1) : \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

One gleans easily that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(1, 0) S_T + \lambda \varphi_T(0, 1) S_T)^2] &= \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(1, 0) S_T)^2] + \lambda^2 \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(0, 1) S_T)^2]; \\ \mathbb{E}[\varphi_T(1, 0) S_T] &= L_0 V_0(1); \quad \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(1, 0) S_T)^2] = L_0; \\ \mathbb{E}[\varphi_T(0, 1) S_T] &= \mathbb{E}[(\varphi_T(0, 1) S_T)^2] = 1 - \epsilon^2(0, 1) = 1 - L_0 V_0^2(1) - \epsilon_0^2(1), \end{aligned}$$

see (4.11), where $V(1)$ and $\epsilon^2(1)$ are given by (4.6) and (4.9), respectively. This can be used to determine the weakly efficient frontier.

For any $R \in \{\vartheta_T^* S_T : \vartheta^* \in \overline{\Theta}_1(S, P) \text{ weakly efficient}\}$ we have

$$\mathbb{E}[R^2] = L_0 + (1 - L_0 V_0^2(1) - \epsilon_0^2(1))^{-1} (\mathbb{E}[R] - L_0 V_0(1))^2. \quad (5.1)$$

Straightforward algebra then gives the equivalent formula (1.1) in $(\mathbb{E}[R], \text{Var}(R))$ -space. We conclude that the efficient frontier is characterized by three quantities, namely the initial value of the opportunity process, the initial value of the optimal hedge of the constant payoff 1 (called *tracking process* in the introduction), and its corresponding hedging error.

REMARK 5.1 (SIMPLIFICATIONS IN THE PRESENCE OF A RISK-FREE ASSET). When there is a risk-free asset with constant value one, then $V_0(1) = 1$ and $\varepsilon_0^2(1) = 0$, hence there is only one key quantity, say L_0 , driving the whole frontier. In a general setting, the value of L_0 does not determine $V_0(1)$ or $\varepsilon_0^2(1)$, hence the task of computing the frontier is roughly three times more demanding compared to the standard case where a risk-free asset of a constant value exists. $\square$

Recall that a strategy $\vartheta^* \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ is called *efficient* (with initial value $v \geq 0$) if one of the two equivalent statements holds:

1. ϑ^* maximizes $E[\vartheta_T S_T]$ over all $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ satisfying $\text{Var}(\vartheta_T S_T) \leq \text{Var}(\vartheta_T^* S_T)$,
2. ϑ^* minimizes $\text{Var}(\vartheta_T S_T)$ over all $\vartheta \in \overline{\Theta}_v(S, P)$ satisfying $E[\vartheta_T S_T] \geq E[\vartheta_T^* S_T]$.

Once again, it suffices to consider the case $v = 1$. On a moment's reflection, efficient strategies in $\overline{\Theta}_1(S, P)$ coincide with the weakly efficient strategies in $\overline{\Theta}_1(S, P)$ whose mean is above $\frac{L_0 V_0(1)}{\varepsilon^2(0,1)}$. For $V_0(1) > 0$ this yields $\{\vartheta^* \in \overline{\Theta}_1(S, P) \text{ efficient}\} = \{\varphi(1, 0) + \lambda \varphi(0, 1) : \lambda \geq \frac{L_0 V_0(1)}{\varepsilon^2(0,1)}\}$.

6. Examples. We provide two numerical examples, one in discrete and one in continuous time, that illustrate the numeraire-invariant approach to portfolio optimization. We then conclude with a third, theoretical example in an Itô semimartingale setting. In all three examples we shall assume that logarithmic returns have independent increments. We will now collect some considerations that apply generally in semimartingale models with independent returns.

To begin with, it is convenient to parametrize the trading strategies not in the number of shares ϑ , but rather in the dollar amounts invested in the individual assets

$$\pi^i = \vartheta^i S_-^i, \quad i = 1, \dots, d.$$

This gives $\pi = \vartheta \text{diag}(S_-)$, where $\text{diag}(S_-)$ is the diagonal matrix with S_- on the diagonal and 0 elsewhere. The formulae of Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 remain applicable if one replaces the characteristics of S by those of $\mathcal{L}(S) = \text{diag}(S_-)^{-1} \bullet S$, ϑ by π , and the conditions $\vartheta S_- = -1$ and $\vartheta S_- = V_-$ by $\pi \mathbb{1} = -1$ and $\pi \mathbb{1} = V_-$, respectively, where $\mathbb{1} = (1, \dots, 1)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is a column vector of ones.

Next, suppose $S > 0$, $S_- > 0$, and that $\mathcal{L}(S)$ is a semimartingale with independent increments which is locally-square integrable or equivalently, satisfies $\mathcal{L}(S)_T \in L^2(P)$, which in turn is equivalent to $\tilde{c}^{\mathcal{L}(S)}$ and $\tilde{c}^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \bullet A_T$ being finite. By Proposition 3.3 each of the assets S^i , $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ is a nice numeraire. Let

$$\Xi_\lambda = \underset{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \mathbb{1} = -1}{\text{argmin}} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \vartheta^\top - 2 \vartheta b^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \}.$$

By part (1) of Theorem A.2, Ξ_λ is non-empty if and only if the local no-arbitrage condition

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \in \mathcal{R}(\tilde{c}^{\mathcal{L}(S)}) + \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{1}) \tag{6.1}$$

holds. Observe that for any $\lambda \in \Xi_\lambda$ the process $\mathcal{E}(-\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S))$ is the wealth of a self-financing strategy and $-\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)$ is a locally square-integrable semimartingale with independent increments. Then, exactly as in the proof of Proposition 3.3, the process $K = \log(\mathcal{E}(B^{-2\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)} + [\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)]))$ is bounded on $[0, T]$.

Proposition 4.1 now yields that the deterministic process

$$L_t = \exp(K_T - K_t) = \mathcal{E}(B^{-2\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)} + [\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)])_t / \mathcal{E}(B^{-2\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)} + [\lambda \bullet \mathcal{L}(S)])_T$$

is the opportunity process, $P^* = P$, and $a = \lambda$. This allows us to compute the ingredients of the formulae (1.1) and (5.1) of the weakly efficient mean-variance frontier explicitly. To simplify the notation, we shall write in the rest of this section

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \equiv b; \quad \tilde{c}^{\mathcal{L}(S)} \equiv c.$$

EXAMPLE 6.1 (DISCRETE TIME, IID RETURNS). This example illustrates our general machinery on Example 1 in Li and Ng [24, Section 7]. There are 3 risky assets whose conditional mean rate of return, μ , and variance-covariance matrix, Σ , read

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0.162 \\ 0.246 \\ 0.228 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 146 & 187 & 145 \\ 187 & 854 & 104 \\ 145 & 104 & 289 \end{pmatrix} \times 10^{-4}.$$

The model has $T = 4$ times steps. For convenience we shall use an activity process with jumps of size $\Delta A_t = 1$ at the discrete dates $t \in \{1, \dots, T\}$. In process notation

$$b = \mu, \quad c = \Sigma + \mu\mu^\top = \begin{pmatrix} 4.0844 & 5.8552 & 5.1436 \\ 5.8552 & 14.5916 & 6.6488 \\ 5.1436 & 6.6488 & 8.0884 \end{pmatrix} \times 10^{-2}.$$

One then obtains the following values for the key quantities,

$$m = I - \frac{\mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}}; \quad p = (mcm)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{58\,640\,000}{816\,487} & -\frac{13\,445\,000}{816\,487} & -\frac{45\,195\,000}{816\,487} \\ -\frac{13\,445\,000}{816\,487} & \frac{11\,785\,000}{816\,487} & \frac{1\,660\,000}{816\,487} \\ -\frac{45\,195\,000}{816\,487} & \frac{1\,660\,000}{816\,487} & \frac{43\,535\,000}{816\,487} \end{pmatrix};$$

$$a = b^\top p - \frac{\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}}(I - cp) \approx [-6.9144 \ 1.6238 \ 4.2907];$$

$$b^\top pb = \frac{582\,399}{1632\,974} \approx 0.35665; \quad 1 - ab = \frac{3030\,887}{4082\,435} \approx 0.74242;$$

$$1 - 2ab + aca^\top = \frac{14\,224\,270\,253}{16\,329\,740\,000} \approx 0.87107;$$

$$L_t = (1 - 2ab + aca^\top)^{T-t}, \quad V_t(1) = \left(\frac{1 - ab}{1 - 2ab + aca^\top} \right)^{T-t}, \quad t \in \{0, 1, \dots, T\};$$

$$L_0 \approx 0.57571; \quad L_0 V_0(1) \approx 0.30381;$$

$$\varepsilon_0^2(1) = \left(1 - bpb^\top - \frac{(1 - ab)^2}{1 - 2ab + aca^\top} \right) \sum_{t=1}^T L_t V_t^2(1) \approx 0.024179.$$

From (5.1) the equation for the weakly efficient frontier in the $(\mathbb{E}[R], \mathbb{E}[R^2])$ -space reads

$$\mathbb{E}[R^2] \approx 0.57571 + 1.2262(\mathbb{E}[R] - 0.30381)^2,$$

while an equivalent formula (1.1) in $(\mathbb{E}[R], \text{Var}(R))$ -space gives

$$\text{Var}(R) \approx 7.5446 \times 10^{-2} + 0.22625(\mathbb{E}[R] - 1.6466)^2. \quad (6.2)$$

All numerical values shown here are accurate to the last digit. However, the corresponding result in [24, p. 403] has a small rounding error in the last digit of the last figure in (6.2). $\square$

EXAMPLE 6.2 (ITÔ SEMIMARTINGALE WITH INDEPENDENT INCREMENTS). Suppose $\mathcal{L}(S)$ is a locally square-integrable Itô semimartingale with independent increments. Letting $A_t = t$, $t \in [0, T]$, one has by Theorem 4.2(2)

$$a = b^\top p - \frac{\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}}(I - cp); \quad p = \left(\left(I - \frac{\mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}} \right) c \left(I - \frac{\mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}} \right) \right)^{-1}.$$

In the Itô semimartingale setting

$$\zeta = \frac{\mathbb{1}^\top}{\mathbb{1}^\top\mathbb{1}}(I - cp)$$

is the myopic minimum variance portfolio, i.e., ζ minimizes the instantaneous variance rate $\pi c \pi^\top - (\pi b)^2 \Delta A$ over fully invested portfolios π (i.e., $\pi \mathbb{1} = 1$).

By Theorem A.2(3) we have

$$\zeta c \zeta^\top = a c a^\top - (\zeta + a) c (\zeta + a)^\top = a c a^\top - b^\top p b \geq 0.$$

Hence, there is a locally risk-free asset with the risk-free rate

$$r = \zeta b = b^\top p b - a b$$

if and only if $a c a^\top - b^\top p b = 0$.

Theorem 4.1 and [9, Theorem 4.1] further yield for all $t \in [0, T]$ that

$$\begin{aligned} L_t &= \mathbb{E} \left[\mathcal{E} \left(-(a \mathbf{1}_{(t,T]}) \bullet \mathcal{L}(S) \right)_T^2 \right] = e^{\int_t^T (-2a_s b_s + a_s c_s a_s^\top) ds}, \\ L_t V_t(1) &= \mathbb{E} \left[\mathcal{E} \left(-(a \mathbf{1}_{(t,T]}) \bullet \mathcal{L}(S) \right)_T \right] = e^{-\int_t^T a_s b_s ds}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, $\tilde{c}^{V(1)} = 0$ and $\tilde{c}^{V(1)\mathcal{L}(S)} = 0$, since $V(1)$ is continuous and deterministic. Item (2) of Theorem 4.2 hence also gives

$$\xi(1) = V(1)\zeta; \quad \xi(1)c\xi(1)^\top = V^2(1)\zeta c \zeta^\top; \quad \varepsilon_0^2(1) = \int_0^T L_s V_s^2(1) \zeta_s c_s \zeta_s^\top ds.$$

Let us illustrate these results with the numerical inputs from [34, Section 7]:

$$T = 5; \quad b^\top = [0.2042 \quad 0.5047 \quad 0.1059 \quad 0.0359]; \quad c = \sigma^2,$$

where the half-vectorized form of the symmetric 4×4 matrix σ reads

$$\text{vech}(\sigma) = [1.8385 \quad 0.3389 \quad -0.5712 \quad 0 \quad 5.8728 \quad 0.8157 \quad 0.1766 \quad 1.0503 \quad -0.1164 \quad 0.4604].$$

With these inputs one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vech}(p) &\approx [0.3716 \quad -0.0548 \quad 0.2913 \quad -0.6082 \quad 0.0490 \quad -0.1221 \quad 0.1279 \quad 0.7933 \quad -0.9625 \quad 1.4428]; \\ a &\approx [-0.1172 \quad 0.0852 \quad -0.3132 \quad -0.6548]; \quad \zeta \approx [0.1745 \quad -0.0799 \quad 0.3605 \quad 0.5450]; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a c a^\top &\approx 0.08405358; \quad \zeta c \zeta^\top \approx 0.06865944; \quad a b \approx -0.03762131; \\ L_0 &\approx 2.21772301; \quad L_0 V_0(1) \approx 1.20696211; \quad \varepsilon_0^2(1) \approx 0.28028620. \end{aligned}$$

One may now chart the weakly efficient frontier using the formulae (5.1) and (1.1), obtaining

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[R^2] &\approx 2.21772 + 15.9127(\mathbb{E}[R] - 1.20696)^2; \\ \text{Var}(R) &\approx 0.66328 + 14.9127(\mathbb{E}[R] - 1.28790)^2. \end{aligned}$$

□

EXAMPLE 6.3 (ITÔ SEMIMARTINGALES WITH INDEPENDENT INCREMENTS: SPECIAL CASES).

Suppose $\mathcal{L}(S)$ is a locally square-integrable Itô semimartingale with independent increments.

(A) In the case $\mathbb{1} \in \mathcal{R}(c)$, Theorem 4.2(3) yields that

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= \frac{\mathbb{1}^\top c^{-1}}{\mathbb{1}^\top c^{-1} \mathbb{1}}; \quad a = b^\top c^{-1} - (1 + b^\top c^{-1} \mathbb{1}) \zeta; \quad \xi(1) = V(1)\zeta; \\ L_t &= e^{\int_t^T \left(\frac{(1+b_s^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1})^2}{\mathbb{1}^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}} - b_s^\top c_s^{-1} b_s \right) ds}; \quad V_t(1) = e^{-\int_t^T \frac{1+b_s^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}}{\mathbb{1}^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}} ds}; \\ L_t V_t(1) &= e^{\int_t^T \left(\frac{(1+b_s^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}) b_s^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}}{\mathbb{1}^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}} - b_s^\top c_s^{-1} b_s \right) ds}; \quad L_t V_t^2(1) = e^{\int_t^T \left(\frac{(b_s^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1})^2 - 1}{\mathbb{1}^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}} - b_s^\top c_s^{-1} b_s \right) ds}; \\ \varepsilon_0^2(1) &= (L\xi(1)c\xi(1)^\top) \bullet A_T = \int_0^T \frac{L_s V_s^2(1)}{\mathbb{1}^\top c_s^{-1} \mathbb{1}} ds. \end{aligned}$$

Since we have excluded predictable jump times, there cannot be a risk-free asset, i.e., in the Itô semimartingale setting the assumption $\mathbb{1} \in \mathcal{R}(c)$ yields

$$\zeta c \zeta^\top = \frac{1}{\mathbb{1}^\top c^{-1} \mathbb{1}} > 0.$$

(B) If $\mathbb{1} \notin \mathcal{R}(c)$, then there is a locally risk-free portfolio

$$\zeta = \frac{\mathbb{1}^\top (I - cc^{-1})}{\mathbb{1}^\top (I - cc^{-1}) \mathbb{1}}$$

with the risk-free rate of return $r = \zeta b$. From (4) of Theorem 4.2 we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} a &= (b - r\mathbb{1})^\top c^{-1} - (1 + (b - r\mathbb{1})^\top c^{-1} \mathbb{1}) \zeta; & \xi(1) &= V(1)\zeta; \\ L_t &= e^{\int_t^T (2r_s - (b_s - r_s\mathbb{1})^\top c_s^{-1} (b_s - r_s\mathbb{1})) ds}; & V_t(1) &= e^{\int_t^T -r_s ds}; \\ L_t V_t^2(1) &= e^{\int_t^T -(b_s - r_s\mathbb{1})^\top c_s^{-1} (b_s - r_s\mathbb{1}) ds}; & \varepsilon_0^2(1) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Appendix A: Oblique projections in constrained quadratic optimization. In this appendix, we shall analyse certain oblique projectors arising in finitely-dimensional affinely constrained quadratic optimization that forms part of the quadratic hedging problem in (4.3) and (4.7). The oblique projectors of interest to us will be of the form

$$E = U(VU)^{-1}V, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

featuring the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse here denoted $(\cdot)^{-1}$.

We shall proceed in stages. After discussing basic properties of the pseudoinverse, we will observe that in some circumstances the leftmost U or the rightmost V in (A.1) can be dropped (Proposition A.1). We then provide brief overview of projectors, concluding with the full characterization of the projector $U(VU)^{-1}V$ (Theorem A.1). As the final preparatory step, Proposition A.2 describes the solution of constrained least squares with oblique projectors in plain view. We then state and prove the main result, Theorem A.2.

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. For $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, one commonly defines the null space (kernel) and the column space (range) of A , respectively,

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^n : Ax = 0\}; \quad \mathcal{R}(A) = \{Ax \in \mathbb{C}^m : x \in \mathbb{C}^n\}.$$

If $\mathcal{X}$ is a linear subspace of $\mathbb{C}^m$, we denote by $\mathcal{X}^\perp$ its orthogonal complement,

$$\mathcal{X}^\perp = \{y \in \mathbb{C}^m : y^* x = 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{X}\}.$$

Here $*$ denotes conjugate transpose. For example, $\mathcal{R}(A)^\perp = \mathcal{N}(A^*)$.

For a given $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, consider the following equalities:

$$AXA = A; \quad XAX = X; \quad AX = X^* A^*; \quad XA = A^* X^*. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

We shall denote by A^{-1} the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse of A , i.e., the unique matrix X satisfying conditions (A.2) above; see Ben-Israel and Greville [2, Exercise 1.1].

The following properties of the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse will be used routinely.

PROPOSITION A.1 (Properties of the pseudoinverse). *The following statements hold:*

- (1) $(A^*)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^*$;
- (2) $\mathcal{R}(A^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(A^*)$;
- (3) $U(VU)^{-1} = (VU)^{-1}$ if U is an orthogonal projector (i.e., if $U^2 = U$ and $U^* = U$);
- (4) $(VU)^{-1}V = (VU)^{-1}$ if V is an orthogonal projector;

$$(5) \quad A^{-1} = A^*(AA^*)^{-1} = (A^*A)^{-1}A^*.$$

Proof. (1) This follows easily from the conditions (A.2) above.

(2) One has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(A^{-1}) &\supseteq \mathcal{R}(A^{-1}A) \supseteq \mathcal{R}(A^{-1}AA^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(A^{-1}); \\ \mathcal{R}(A^*) &\supseteq \mathcal{R}(A^*(A^*)^{-1}) \supseteq \mathcal{R}(A^*(A^*)^{-1}A^*) = \mathcal{R}(A^*). \end{aligned}$$

This yields $\mathcal{R}(A^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(A^{-1}A) = \mathcal{R}(A^*(A^{-1})^*) = \mathcal{R}(A^*(A^*)^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(A^*)$. The second equality follows from the last property in (A.2) for A^{-1} . The third equality follows from part (1) of this proposition.

(3) From (2), we have $\mathcal{R}(A^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(A^*)$ for all A and therefore

$$\mathcal{R}((VU)^{-1}) = \mathcal{R}(U^*V^*) \subset \mathcal{R}(U^*) = \mathcal{R}(U).$$

Since U is, by assumption, an orthogonal projector with range $\mathcal{R}(U)$, the claim follows.

(4) By part (3), $V^*(U^*V^*)^{-1} = (U^*V^*)^{-1}$. It now suffices to take the conjugate transpose on both sides.

(5) It is straightforward to check that both $X = A^*(AA^*)^{-1}$ and $X = (A^*A)^{-1}A^*$ satisfy the conditions (A.2) above. The statement now follows by the uniqueness of A^{-1} . $\square$

We now move to the description of projectors. Two subspaces $L, M \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ are *complementary*, if $L + M = \mathbb{C}^n$ and $L \cap M = \{0\}$. For such subspaces, each element $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ has a unique decomposition $x = y + z$ with $y \in L$ and $z \in M$. We then call y the *oblique projection* of x onto L along M and write $y = P_{L,M}x$. Observe that a projector is by necessity idempotent, i.e., $P_{L,M}^2 = P_{L,M}$. Conversely, every idempotent matrix $E^2 = E$ projects onto $\mathcal{R}(E) = L$ along $\mathcal{N}(E) = M$. The matrix $U(VU)^{-1}V$ is idempotent thanks to the properties of the pseudoinverse.

The orthogonal projector onto L is denoted by $P_L = P_{L,L^\perp}$. By the properties of the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse in (A.2), AA^{-1} is idempotent and Hermitian with range $\mathcal{R}(A)$, hence $AA^{-1} = P_{\mathcal{R}(A)}$. By Proposition A.1(2) one then has $A^{-1}A = P_{\mathcal{R}(A^*)}$. The next result describes the projector $U(VU)^{-1}V$.

THEOREM A.1 (Properties of the oblique projector $U(VU)^{-1}V$). *Let $n, p, q \in \mathbb{N}$. Given two arbitrary matrices $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times p}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{q \times n}$, the matrix $E = U(VU)^{-1}V$ is idempotent with range and null space given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(E) &= \mathcal{R}(UU^*V^*) = \mathcal{R}(UU^*V^*V) = \mathcal{R}(U) \cap ((UU^*)^{-1}(\mathcal{R}(U) \cap \mathcal{N}(V)))^\perp, \\ \mathcal{N}(E) &= \mathcal{N}(U^*V^*V) = \mathcal{N}(UU^*V^*V) = \mathcal{N}(V) \oplus (V^*V)^{-1}(\mathcal{R}(U) + \mathcal{N}(V))^\perp, \end{aligned}$$

where “ $\oplus$ ” denotes the direct sum.

Proof. See [5, Theorem 3.1]. $\square$

We next proceed with the description of constrained least squares. We shall write $r(A)$ for the dimension of $\mathcal{R}(A)$; $r(A)$ is commonly called the (column) rank of A . It is known that the column rank and the row rank coincide, i.e., $r(A) = r(A^*)$.

PROPOSITION A.2 (Affinely constrained least squares; [5, Corollary 4.3]). *For $k, m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $A_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $b_1 \in \mathbb{C}^m$, $A_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times n}$, and $b_2 \in \mathbb{C}^k$ such that $r(A_2) = k$. Then, the solution of the constrained least squares minimization*

$$\arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{C}^n} \|A_1x - b_1\|^2, \quad \text{subject to } A_2x = b_2$$

is the set $\Xi = \xi + \mathcal{N}(A_1) \cap \mathcal{N}(A_2)$, where

$$\xi = (A_1 M)^{-1} A_1 A_1^{-1} b_1 + (I - (A_1 M)^{-1} A_1) A_2^{-1} b_2$$

with $M = I - A_2^{-1} A_2$. Furthermore, ξ is the element of Ξ with the smallest Euclidean norm.

The prominent role of the oblique projector $(A_1 M)^{-1} A_1$ in the preceding result indicates we are now ready to state and prove the main theorem. In Theorem A.2 the key projector is somewhat hidden; it turns out to be JC , thanks to the identity $JCJ = J$. Its role in the solution is fully revealed in step (4) of the proof, where JF is rewritten as $(JC)C^{-1}(CJ)F$. Special cases then follow by suitably reassembling the null space and range of JC .

THEOREM A.2 (Affinely constrained quadratic optimization). *For $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $F \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and let $C \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a symmetric positive semidefinite matrix. Consider a quadratic form $q(x) = x^\top Cx - 2x^\top F$ constrained to an affine subspace $\mathcal{A} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax = b\}$ with $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ such that $r(A) = k$. The following assertions hold:*

(1) *The quadratic form q is bounded from below on $\mathcal{A}$ if and only if*

$$F \in \mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C). \quad (\text{A.3})$$

(2) *Provided condition (A.3) holds, the minimal value of $q(x)$ on $\mathcal{A}$ is attained on the set*

$$\Xi = \hat{x} + \mathcal{N}(C) \cap \mathcal{N}(A), \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where $J = (MCM)^{-1}$, $M = (I - A^{-1}A)$, and

$$\hat{x} = JF + (I - JC)A^{-1}b. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Furthermore, $\hat{x}$ has the smallest Euclidean norm among all minimizers of q on $\mathcal{A}$.

(3) *For any $x \in \mathcal{N}(A)$ one has $q(\hat{x} - x) = q(\hat{x}) + x^\top Cx$. Specifically, for $x = JF$ one obtains*

$$q(\hat{x}) = q((I - JC)A^{-1}b) - F^\top JF.$$

(4) *The following alternative expressions for $\hat{x}$ and $q(\hat{x})$ apply:*

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x} &= (I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}})C^{-1}(I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}^\top)F + P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}A^{-1}b; \\ q(\hat{x}) &= q(P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}A^{-1}b) - F^\top (I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}})C^{-1}(I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}^\top)F, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where

$$P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}} = \begin{cases} \frac{C^{-1}A^\top A}{AC^{-1}A^\top} & \text{for } A^\top \in \mathcal{R}(C) \\ \frac{(I - CC^{-1})A^\top A}{A(I - CC^{-1})A^\top} & \text{for } A^\top \notin \mathcal{R}(C) \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

with $\bar{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{N}(A)$ and $\bar{\mathcal{Y}} = (I - CC^{-1})\mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus^\perp C^{-1}(\mathcal{R}(A^\top) \cap \mathcal{R}(C))$. Here “ $\oplus^\perp$ ” denotes the direct orthogonal sum.

Proof. (1) We first show the “only if” direction. Completion of squares yields

$$q(x) = (x - C^{-1}F)^\top C(x - C^{-1}F) - F^\top C^{-1}F - 2x^\top (I - CC^{-1})F.$$

Denote by y the orthogonal projection of F onto $(\mathcal{R}(C) + \mathcal{R}(A^\top))^\perp$. Condition (A.3) is not satisfied if and only if $y \neq 0$. We have $A^{-1}b + \lambda y \in \mathcal{A}$ for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} q(A^{-1}b + \lambda y) &= (A^{-1}b - C^{-1}F)^\top C(A^{-1}b - C^{-1}F) - F^\top C^{-1}F \\ &\quad - 2(A^{-1}b)^\top (I - CC^{-1})F - 2\lambda \|y\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

which is unbounded from below as $\lambda \rightarrow +\infty$. Therefore, q is unbounded from below on $\mathcal{A}$ if (A.3) is not satisfied.

To show the “if” direction of (1), assume that (A.3) is met. Consider the decomposition

$$F = C J F + (I - C J) F.$$

By Proposition A.1,

$$\begin{aligned} J C &= M (M C M)^{-1} M C = M ((C^{1/2} M)^\top C^{1/2} M)^{-1} M C^{1/2} C^{1/2} \\ &= M (C^{1/2} M)^{-1} C^{1/2} = (C^{1/2} M)^{-1} C^{1/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

By Theorem A.1, $J C = P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}}$ projects onto

$$\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{R}(M C) = \mathcal{N}(A) \cap (\mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{N}(C))^\perp \quad (\text{A.9})$$

along

$$\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{N}(M C) = \mathcal{N}(C) \oplus^\perp C^{-1} (\mathcal{N}(A) + \mathcal{N}(C))^\perp. \quad (\text{A.10})$$

Thus one obtains that $C J = (J C)^\top = P_{\mathcal{Y}^\perp, \mathcal{X}^\perp}$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}^\perp &= \mathcal{R}(C M) = \mathcal{R}(C) \cap (C^{-1} (\mathcal{R}(C) \cap \mathcal{R}(A^\top)))^\perp; \\ \mathcal{X}^\perp &= \mathcal{N}(C M) = \mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus^\perp (\mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C))^\perp. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

Since $\mathcal{Y}^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{R}(C)$, we have $\mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C) \supseteq \mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus \mathcal{Y}^\perp$, whereby the complementarity of $\mathcal{Y}^\perp$ and $\mathcal{X}^\perp$ yields

$$\mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C) = \mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus \mathcal{Y}^\perp \quad (\text{A.12})$$

as well as

$$\mathbb{R}^n = (\mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus \mathcal{Y}^\perp) \oplus^\perp (\mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C))^\perp. \quad (\text{A.13})$$

Since $I - C J = P_{\mathcal{X}^\perp, \mathcal{Y}^\perp}$, in view of (A.11), (A.12), and (A.13) one obtains

$$(I - C J)(\mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C)) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(A^\top). \quad (\text{A.14})$$

Condition (A.3) now yields

$$(I - C J) F \in \mathcal{R}(A^\top). \quad (\text{A.15})$$

Next, observe that $A^{-1} A = A^\top (A^{-1})^\top = P_{\mathcal{R}(A^\top)}$. By virtue of (A.15), for all $x \in \mathcal{A}$ one has

$$x^\top (I - C J) F = x^\top A^\top (A^{-1})^\top (I - C J) F = (A^{-1} b)^\top (I - C J) F.$$

Hence, for all $x \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\begin{aligned} q(x) &= x^\top C x - 2x^\top C J F - 2x^\top (I - C J) F \\ &= \|C^{1/2}(x - J F)\|^2 - F^\top J F - 2(A^{-1} b)^\top (I - C J) F \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.16})$$

is bounded from below if (A.3) holds.

(2) By (A.16), on $\mathcal{A}$ the minimizers of q coincide with the minimizers of $\|C^{1/2}(x - J F)\|^2$. By Proposition A.2 and in view of $\mathcal{N}(C^{1/2}) = \mathcal{N}(C)$, these minimizers are of the form (A.4) with

$$\hat{x} = (C^{1/2} M)^{-1} C^{1/2} (C^{1/2})^{-1} C^{1/2} J F + (I - (C^{1/2} M)^{-1} C^{1/2}) A^{-1} b = J C J F + (I - J C) A^{-1} b,$$

where the second equality follows from (A.8). Finally, the identity $J = J C J$ yields (A.5).

(3) For any $x \in \mathcal{N}(A)$

$$\begin{aligned} q(\hat{x} - x) &= q(\hat{x}) + x^\top Cx - 2x^\top (C\hat{x} + F) \\ &= q(\hat{x}) + x^\top Cx - 2x^\top (I - CJ)(CA^{-1}b + F) = q(\hat{x}) + x^\top Cx, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from (A.14). The rest of the claim follows easily.

(4) First, note that $\hat{x} = JCJF + (I - JC)A^{-1}b = JCC^{-1}CJF + (I - JC)A^{-1}b$. We have shown previously $JC = P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}}$ with $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$ given in (A.9) and (A.10). By virtue of Lemma A.1, $\mathcal{N}(C)$ has the following orthogonal decomposition

$$\mathcal{N}(C) = (\mathcal{N}(C) \cap \mathcal{N}(A)) \oplus^\perp (I - CC^{-1})\mathcal{R}(A^\top).$$

Consider now the following complementary subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^n$ obtained by “moving” the subspace $\mathcal{N}(C) \cap \mathcal{N}(A)$ from $\mathcal{Y}$ to $\mathcal{X}$,

$$\bar{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{X} \oplus^\perp (\mathcal{N}(C) \cap \mathcal{N}(A)) = \mathcal{N}(A); \quad \bar{\mathcal{Y}} = (I - CC^{-1})\mathcal{R}(A^\top) \oplus^\perp C^{-1}(\mathcal{R}(A^\top) \cap \mathcal{R}(C)).$$

By construction, $JCz = P_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}}z = P_{\bar{\mathcal{X}}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}z$ for all $z \in \mathcal{R}(A^\top) + \mathcal{R}(C)$. This means one can replace JC with $P_{\bar{\mathcal{X}}, \bar{\mathcal{Y}}}$ in the formula for $\hat{x}$,

$$\hat{x} = JCC^{-1}CJF + (I - JC)A^{-1}b = (I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}})C^{-1}(I - P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}^\top)F + P_{\bar{\mathcal{Y}}, \bar{\mathcal{X}}}A^{-1}b.$$

Since $\bar{\mathcal{X}}$ and $\bar{\mathcal{Y}}$ are complementary, Theorem A.1 with $V = A$ yields (A.7). The alternative formula for $q(\hat{x})$ follows similarly from item (3). $\square$

LEMMA A.1 (Orthogonal complement of $L \cap M$ in L). *For any two subspaces L, M of $\mathbb{C}^n$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the following equalities hold:*

$$L = (L \cap M) \oplus^\perp (L \cap (L \cap M)^\perp) = (L \cap M) \oplus^\perp P_L M^\perp.$$

Proof. The first equality is obvious. The second equality follows from

$$P_L M^\perp = \mathcal{R}(P_L(I - P_M)) = \mathcal{N}((I - P_M)P_L)^\perp = (L^\perp \oplus^\perp (L \cap M))^\perp = L \cap (L \cap M)^\perp. \quad \square$$

Appendix B: Proof of Theorem 3.2. We write $x^{2:d} = (x_2, \dots, x_d)$ for $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $c^{2:d} = (c_{ij})_{2 \leq i, j \leq d}$ for $c = (c_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$. For any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ let

$$\bar{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}, \tau}(Y, P) = \left\{ \eta \in \bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, P) : \eta = 0 \text{ on } \llbracket 0, \tau \rrbracket \right\}.$$

Since

$$L_t = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\vartheta \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(S, P)} \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta_T S_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t] = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\eta \in \bar{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}, t}(Y, P)} \mathbb{E}[(1 - \eta \bullet Y_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$$

by Proposition 3.4, we have that the current definition of the opportunity process in (3.4) coincides with that given in [7, Definition 3.3] and [12, Proposition 6.1].

By [7, Lemma 3.17 and Theorem 3.25], it follows, under the assumption that Y admits an equivalent local martingale measure with square integrable density, that the opportunity process L is the unique semimartingale $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ such that the following statements hold.

(A) $L > 0$, $L_- > 0$, $L_T = 1$, and L is bounded. (It then follows from item (B) below that L and L_- are in fact $(0, 1]$ -valued. Indeed, because $L > 0$ and $L_- > 0$ by (A), we have that $1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)} > 0$. Hence, $b^L \geq 0$ by (B) so that L is a non-negative submartingale with $L_T = 1$ and therefore bounded above by 1.)

(B) The joint $\mathbb{P}$ -semimartingale characteristics of (Y, L) solve the equation

$$\frac{b^L}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}} = -L_- \min_{\vartheta^{2:d} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \{ \vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{Y*} (\vartheta^{2:d})^\top - 2\vartheta^{2:d} b^{Y*} \} = L_- (b^{Y*})^\top (\tilde{c}^{Y*})^{-1} b^{Y*}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where

$$b^{Y*} = \frac{b^Y + c^{Y\mathcal{L}(L)} + \int y l F^{Y\mathcal{L}(L)}(d(y, l))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}},$$

$$\tilde{c}^{Y*} = \frac{c^Y + \int y y^\top (1 + l) F^{Y\mathcal{L}(L)}(d(y, l))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}.$$

In particular, (B.1) implies that b^{Y*} is in the range (column space) of $\tilde{c}^{Y*}$.

(C) For $a^{2:d} = (b^{Y*})^\top (\tilde{c}^{Y*})^{-1}$, we have that

$$-(\lambda^{(\tau)})^{2:d} = -a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_- \in \overline{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P})$$

holds for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ . In particular, $a^{2:d}$ meets the conditions of the adjustment process from [7, Definition 3.8].

From Lemma 3.27 and Definition 3.28 in [7], it follows that

$$L_t = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\eta \in \overline{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}, t}(Y, \mathbb{P})} \mathbb{E}[(1 - \eta \bullet Y_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[(1 - (\lambda^{(t)})^{2:d} \bullet Y_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t] = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_T\right)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t\right]$$

and hence, for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ , the process $(\lambda^{(\tau)})^{2:d}$ solves the minimization problem

$$\mathbb{E}[(1 - \eta \bullet Y_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_\tau] \rightarrow \min_{\eta \in \overline{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}, \tau}(Y, \mathbb{P})} ! \quad (\text{B.2})$$

Conversely, it follows from part (3) of Proposition 6.1 of [12] that a process $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ with the properties (A)–(C) is the opportunity process and, for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ , the strategy $(\lambda^{(\tau)})^{2:d} = a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_-$ solves the minimization problem (B.2). Note that this conclusion does not require the existence of an equivalent martingale measure for Y , but is, by Theorem 6.2 of [12], equivalent to the weaker condition that Y is a $(\mathcal{E}(N), L)$ -martingale for a suitable locally square-integrable local $\mathbb{P}$ -martingale N such that $(\mathcal{E}(N), L)$ is regular and square-integrable in the sense of Definitions 2.7 and 2.11 of [12], respectively. Then, Theorem 2.16 of [12] yields that the space of stochastic integrals $\{v + \eta \bullet Y_T : \eta \in \overline{\Theta}_0^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbb{P})\}$ is closed in $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ for any $v \in L^2(\mathcal{F}_0, \mathbb{P})$ and hence a solution to the quadratic hedging problem exists and the conclusions of [7] hold.

By the self-financing condition and the definition of the stochastic exponential, we have on $\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket$ that

$$-(\lambda^{(\tau)})^1 = \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_- - \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_- (-\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} a^{2:d}) Y_-$$

$$= \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_- (1 + \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} a^{2:d} Y_-).$$

Recall that $Y = S^{2:d}$. Hence, setting $a^1 = -1 - a^{2:d} S_-^{2:d}$ yields that

$$-\lambda^{(\tau)} = -a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S)_-$$

is a self-financing trading strategy on $\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket$ starting with initial wealth 1 at time τ such that $-\lambda^{(\tau)} S = \mathcal{E}((-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S)$. By Proposition 3.4,

$$-\lambda^{(\tau)} = -a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S)_- \in \overline{\Theta}_1^\tau(S, \mathbb{P})$$

if and only if

$$-(\lambda^{(\tau)})^{2:d} = -a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet Y)_- \in \bar{\Theta}^{\text{CK}}(Y, \mathbf{P}).$$

Next, we observe that $S^1 = X = 1$ has $b^X = 0$, $c^X = 0$ and $F^X = 0$ and hence

$$b^{X^*} = 0; \quad \tilde{c}^{X^*} = 0; \quad \tilde{c}^{XY^*} = 0. \quad (\text{B.3})$$

Therefore, since $aS_- = -1$ and

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(L)} = (b^{Y^*})^\top (\tilde{c}^{Y^*})^{-1} b^{Y^*} = - \min_{\vartheta^{2:d} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \{ \vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{Y^*} (\vartheta^{2:d})^\top - 2 \vartheta^{2:d} b^{Y^*} \}$$

by the properties of the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse, we obtain that

$$a \in \Xi_a = \arg \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2 \vartheta b^{S^*} \}$$

and that

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(L)} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta^\top \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta - 2 \vartheta^\top b^{S^*} \} = -a^\top \tilde{c}^{S^*} a + 2a^\top b^{S^*}.$$

Moreover, because $S^1 = 1$, we have that $\mathcal{E}((-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S) = \mathcal{E}((-a^{2:d} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S^{2:d})$ for all $[0, T]$ -valued stopping times τ and hence

$$L_t = \mathbf{E} \left[\left(\mathcal{E}((-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S)_T \right)^2 \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right].$$

Since L and L_- are $(0, 1]$ -valued, we have that $\mathcal{L}(L)$ is a special semimartingale and $\frac{L}{\mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}})}$ is a martingale on $[0, T]$. As in [7, Lemma 3.15], this allows the definition of the opportunity neutral measure $\mathbf{P}^* \sim \mathbf{P}$ by setting

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}^*}{d\mathbf{P}} = \frac{L_T}{L_0 \mathcal{E}(B^{\mathcal{L}(L)})_T}.$$

By (B), b^{Y^*} is in the range of $\tilde{c}^{Y^*}$ and therefore b^{S^*} is in the range of $\tilde{c}^{S^*}$ by (B.3). Consequently, any predictable process ψ valued in the kernel of $\tilde{c}^{Y^*}$ with $\psi S_- = 0$ is in $L(S)$ with $\psi \bullet S = 0$. This yields that $\tilde{a} \bullet S = a \bullet S$ for any $\tilde{a} \in \Xi_a$.

To sum up, in the special case $S = (1, Y)$ a stochastic process L is the opportunity process in the sense of (3.4) if and only if it satisfies conditions (A)–(C) above. Conditions (A)–(C) are equivalent to conditions (a), (c) and (e) of Theorem 4.1. Properties (b) and (d) of Theorem 4.1 then follow from (B). We have therefore shown that a stochastic process L is the opportunity process if and only if it satisfies the conditions (1)(a)–(e) of Theorem 4.1.

In order to determine the quadratic hedging strategy $\varphi(v, H)$ for the contingent claim H with initial capital $v \in \mathbb{R}$ under $\mathbf{P}$, we need to characterize the mean value process $V = (V_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ and the pure hedge coefficient $\xi = (\xi_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$.

By [7, Definition 4.2], the mean value process V is given by

$$V_t = \mathbf{E} \left[\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \bullet N)_T H \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right], \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

where

$$N = \mathcal{L}(L) - a^{2:d} \bullet Y - [a^{2:d} \bullet Y, \mathcal{L}(L)] = \mathcal{L}(L) - a \bullet S - [a \bullet S, \mathcal{L}(L)]$$

is the variance-optimal logarithm process. Therefore, it follows from Yor's formula and $L_T = 1$ that $V_t = \mathbf{E} \left[\mathcal{E}((-1_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} a) \bullet S)_T \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \bullet \mathcal{L}(L))_T H \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] = \frac{1}{L_t} \mathbf{E} \left[\mathcal{E}((-1_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} a) \bullet S)_T H \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]$, which yields (4.6).

Recall $Y = S^{2:d}$. Combining [7, Definition 4.6] with

$$\langle Y, Y \rangle^{P^*} = \tilde{c}^{Y^*} \bullet A; \quad \langle Y, V \rangle = \tilde{c}^{YV^*} \bullet A,$$

where

$$\tilde{c}^{SV^*} = \frac{c^{SV} + \int xz(1+y)F^{S,\mathcal{L}(L),V}(d(x,y,z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}$$

by formula (4.16) of [7], gives

$$\xi^{2:d} = \tilde{c}^{VS^*}(\tilde{c}^{S^*})^{-1}$$

for the pure hedge coefficient ξ . By Theorem 4.10 of [7], we then have

$$\varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) = \xi_t^{2:d} + (V_{t-} - v - \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) \bullet S_{t-}^{2:d}) a_t^{2:d}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

for the optimal hedging strategy $\varphi(v, H)$.

From the self-financing condition, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_t^1(v, H) &= v + \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) \bullet S_{t-}^{2:d} - \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) S_{t-}^{2:d} \\ &= v + \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) \bullet S_{t-}^{2:d} - (\xi_t^{2:d} + (V_{t-} - v - \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) \bullet S_{t-}^{2:d}) a_t^{2:d}) S_{t-}^{2:d} \\ &= (V_{t-} - \xi_t^{2:d} S_{t-}^{2:d}) + (V_{t-} - v - \varphi_t^{2:d}(v, H) \bullet S_{t-}^{2:d}) (-1 - a_t^{2:d} S_{t-}^{2:d}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T. \end{aligned}$$

Since $a^1 = -1 - a^{2:d} S_{-}^{2:d}$, setting $\xi^1 = V_{-} - \xi^{2:d} S_{-}^{2:d}$ gives

$$\varphi(v, H) = \xi + (V_{-} - \varphi(v, H) S_{-}) a.$$

Moreover, by the properties of the Moore–Penrose pseudoinverse, $\xi^{2:d} = \tilde{c}^{VY^*}(\tilde{c}^{Y^*})^{-1}$ is the solution to

$$\vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{Y^*} (\vartheta^{2:d})^\top - 2\vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{YV^*} \rightarrow \min_{\vartheta^{2:d} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1}} !$$

Since $\tilde{c}^{VX^*} = \tilde{c}^{VS^1} = 0$, $\tilde{c}^{XY^*} = (\tilde{c}^{YX^*})^\top = 0$, and $\xi S_{-} = V_{-}$, we have that ξ solves the constrained minimisation problem $\vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \tilde{c}^{SV^*} \rightarrow \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_{-} = V_{-}} !$ and

$$\min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_{-} = V_{-}} \{\vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \tilde{c}^{SV^*}\} = \min_{\vartheta^{2:d} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1}} \{\vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{Y^*} (\vartheta^{2:d})^\top - 2\vartheta^{2:d} \tilde{c}^{YV^*}\} = -\tilde{c}^{VY^*} (\tilde{c}^{Y^*})^{-1} \tilde{c}^{YV^*}.$$

For any self-financing trading strategy, $v + \varphi(v, H) \bullet S_{-} = \varphi(v, H) S_{-}$ by Proposition 3.1(2) and hence (4.5) holds.

By Theorem 4.12 of [7], the mean squared hedging error of the optimal strategy is given by $L_0(v - V_0)^2 + \mathbb{E}[L \bullet \langle V - \xi^{2:d} \bullet Y \rangle_T^{P^*}]$. Because $Y = S^{2:d}$, $\xi^{2:d} = \tilde{c}^{VY^*}(\tilde{c}^{Y^*})^{-1}$, and $\langle V, V \rangle^{P^*} = \tilde{c}^{V^*} \bullet A$, where

$$\tilde{c}^{V^*} = \frac{c^V + \int z^2(1+y)F^{\mathcal{L}(L),V}(d(y,z))}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}},$$

by formula (4.17) of [7], we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V - \xi^{2:d} \bullet Y \rangle^{P^*} &= \langle V, V \rangle^{P^*} - \xi^{2:d} \bullet \langle Y, V \rangle^{P^*} = (\tilde{c}^{V^*} - \tilde{c}^{VY^*}(\tilde{c}^{Y^*})^{-1} \tilde{c}^{YV^*}) \bullet A \\ &= \left(\tilde{c}^{V^*} + \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_{-} = V_{-}} \{\vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \tilde{c}^{SV^*}\} \right) \bullet A = (\tilde{c}^{V^*} - 2\xi \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \xi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi^\top) \bullet A. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\mathbb{E}[L \bullet \langle V - \xi^{2:d} \bullet Y \rangle^{P^*}] = \mathbb{E}[L(\tilde{c}^{V^*} - 2\xi \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \xi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi^\top) \bullet A_T]$, which proves (4.11).

This completes the proof of the properties (1)–(3) in Theorem 4.1 for $S = (1, Y)$.

Appendix C: Proof of Theorem 4.1. Without loss of generality, let $S^1 = X$ be a nice numeraire. Observe that (1.11) holds thanks to Proposition 3.2(1). Corollary 3.1 yields the solution for the discounted model $(\hat{S}, \hat{H}, \hat{P})$. We shall now exploit the equalities (1.9) and (1.10) to obtain the solution for the undiscounted model (S, H, P) .

(1) Because X is a nice numeraire, we have that $\Theta^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P}) = \Theta^\tau(S, P)$ by Proposition 3.2. Since $X_\tau \in (0, \infty)$ is $\mathcal{F}_\tau$ -measurable, this implies $\tilde{\vartheta} \in \Theta_1^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$ if and only if $\tilde{\vartheta}/X_\tau \in \Theta_1^\tau(S, P)$ from Proposition 3.1(3) and hence

$$\frac{1}{X_\tau} \bar{\Theta}_1^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P}) = \bar{\Theta}_1^\tau(S, P). \quad (\text{C.1})$$

Combining this with the definition of $\hat{P}$ via $\frac{d\hat{P}}{dP} = \frac{X_T^2}{\mathbb{E}[X_T^2]}$ and $\hat{Z}_t = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$, we obtain using Bayes' formula and $X_T \tilde{\vartheta}_T \hat{S}_T = \tilde{\vartheta}_T S_T$ for $\tilde{\vartheta} \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{L}_t &= \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\tilde{\vartheta} \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(\hat{S}, \hat{P})} \mathbb{E}^{\hat{P}} \left[(\tilde{\vartheta}_T \hat{S}_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\ &= \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\tilde{\vartheta} \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(\hat{S}, \hat{P})} \left(\frac{X_t^2}{\hat{Z}_t} \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{\tilde{\vartheta}_T}{X_t} S_T \right)^2 \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] \right) = \frac{X_t^2}{\hat{Z}_t} \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{\tilde{\vartheta} \in \bar{\Theta}_1^t(S, P)} \mathbb{E} \left[(\tilde{\vartheta}_T S_T)^2 | \mathcal{F}_t \right] = \frac{X_t^2}{\hat{Z}_t} L_t. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, under the assumption that X is a nice numeraire, L is the opportunity process for the price process S under P if and only if $\hat{L} = \frac{X^2}{\hat{Z}} L$ is the opportunity process for the price process $\hat{S}$ under $\hat{P}$. Moreover, by the invariance of semimartingales under equivalent changes of measure and because of the uniform bounds $0 < \underline{\delta} \leq \frac{X^2}{\hat{Z}} \leq \bar{\delta} < \infty$ in (3.5), we have that L is a bounded semimartingale $L = (L_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ with $L, L_- > 0$ and $L_T = 1$ if and only if $\hat{L} = \frac{X^2}{\hat{Z}} L$ is a bounded $\hat{P}$ -semimartingale $\hat{L} = (\hat{L}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ with $\hat{L}, \hat{L}_- > 0$ and $\hat{L}_T = 1$.

In addition, under the assumption that X is a nice numeraire, we have that

$$(1, 0, \dots, 0) \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \in \bar{\Theta}_1^\tau(S, P).$$

Hence, $L \leq \frac{\hat{Z}}{X^2}$ and $\hat{L} \leq 1$. For $L = \frac{\hat{Z}}{X^2} \hat{L}$ bounded, the expressions in (4.1) and (4.2) are well defined because S is locally square-integrable under P .

It follows from (3.7), (3.8), (4.1), (4.2), and (D.6) in Lemma D.1 that for all $\vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1$ one has

$$\begin{aligned} b^{\mathcal{L}(L)} + (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}) (X_-^{-2} \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2X_-^{-1} \vartheta b^{S^*}) \\ = b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}} + (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}) (\vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*}). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\hat{\Xi}_a$ is non-empty by Corollary 3.1, this shows $\Xi_a = \hat{\Xi}_a / X_-$ is non-empty. Furthermore,

$$\frac{b^{\mathcal{L}(L)}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta S_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{S^*} \} = 2ab^{S^*} - a \tilde{c}^{S^*} a^\top, \quad a \in \Xi_a,$$

if and only if

$$\frac{b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}}{1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}} = - \min_{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^d: \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1} \{ \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \} = 2\hat{a} b^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} - \hat{a} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{P}^*} \hat{a}^\top, \quad \hat{a} \in \hat{\Xi}_a.$$

Next, setting $a = \hat{a} / X_-$ for any $\hat{a} \in \hat{\Xi}_a$, we have, by Corollary D.1, that

$$\mathcal{E}((- \hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet \hat{S}) X / X^\tau = \mathcal{E}((- \hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} / X_-) \bullet S) = \mathcal{E}((- a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S) \quad (\text{C.2})$$

for any $[0, T]$ -valued stopping time τ . Thanks to (C.1), $-a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((- a \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet S)_- \in \bar{\Theta}_1^\tau(S, P)$ if and only if $-\hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \mathcal{E}((- \hat{a} \mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket}) \bullet \hat{S})_- \in \bar{\Theta}_1^\tau(\hat{S}, \hat{P})$.

It follows that L satisfies (1) for the price process S under $\mathbb{P}$ if and only if $\hat{L}$ satisfies item (1) of Corollary 3.1. Hence, L satisfies (1) if and only if it is the opportunity process for the price process S under $\mathbb{P}$.

(2)–(3): Combining $\hat{H} = \frac{H}{X_T}$ and $L = \frac{\hat{Z}}{X^2} \hat{L}$ with (C.2) and Bayes' formula, (3.10) and (4.6) yield that

$$V_t = \frac{1}{L_t} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}((-1_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} a) \bullet S)_T H | \mathcal{F}_t] = X_t \frac{1}{\hat{L}_t} \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[\mathcal{E}((-1_{\llbracket t, T \rrbracket} \hat{a}) \bullet \hat{S})_T \hat{H} | \mathcal{F}_t] = X_t \hat{V}_t. \quad (\text{C.3})$$

From (3.8), (3.11), (3.13), (4.2), (4.8), (4.10), and (D.7) in Lemma D.1 one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}) X_-^{-2} (\vartheta \tilde{c}^{S^*} \vartheta^\top - 2_- \vartheta \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \tilde{c}^{V^*}) \\ = (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})}) (\vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} \vartheta^\top - \vartheta \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} + \tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.4})$$

which shows $\Xi_\xi = \hat{\Xi}_\xi$. From (1.10) one has $\hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) = \varphi(v, H)$. Earlier, we have established $\Xi_a = \hat{\Xi}_a/X_-$ and in (C.3) also $\hat{V} = V/X$. These observations and (3.9) now yield

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(v, H) &= \hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) = \hat{\xi} + (\hat{V}_- - \hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) \hat{S}_-) \hat{a} \\ &= \hat{\xi} + (V_- - \varphi(v, H) S_-) \hat{a} / X_- = \xi + (V_- - \varphi(v, H) S_-) a, \end{aligned}$$

where ξ and a are arbitrary elements of Ξ_a and Ξ_ξ , respectively. This proves (4.5).

For the unconditional hedging error, we have from (1.9)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(\varphi(v, H) S_T - H)^2] &= \mathbb{E}[X_T^2] \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(\varphi(v, H) \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2] = \hat{Z}_0 \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}}[(\hat{\varphi}(\hat{v}, \hat{H}) \hat{S}_T - \hat{H})^2] \\ &= \hat{Z}_0 \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} \left[\hat{L}_0 (\hat{v} - \hat{V}_0)^2 + \hat{L} (\hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} \hat{\xi}^\top - 2 \hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} + \tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}) \bullet A_T \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from (3.14). Since $(\hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} \hat{\xi}^\top - 2 \hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} + \tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}) \bullet A$ is predictable, non-decreasing and starting at 0 and hence locally of integrable variation, combining Rogers and Williams [28, Theorem VI.21.1] with an application of the monotone convergence theorem and a localisation argument yields

$$\mathbb{E}[(\varphi(v, H) S_T - H)^2] = \hat{Z}_0 \mathbb{E}^{\hat{\mathbb{P}}} \left[\hat{L}_0 (\hat{v} - \hat{V}_0)^2 + {}^{\mathbb{P}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} \hat{L} (\hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} \hat{\xi}^\top - 2 \hat{\xi} \tilde{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*} + \tilde{c}^{\hat{V}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}^*}) \bullet A_T \right] \quad (\text{C.5})$$

for the predictable projection ${}^{\mathbb{P}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}}(\hat{L})$ of $\hat{L}$ under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$.

Because ${}^{\mathbb{P}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}}(\hat{L}) = \hat{L}_- (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}, \hat{\mathbb{P}})}) = L_- X_-^2 \hat{Z}_-^{-1} (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)})$, $\frac{d\hat{\mathbb{P}}}{d\mathbb{P}} = \frac{\hat{Z}_T}{\hat{Z}_0}$, and $\Xi_\xi = \hat{\Xi}_\xi$, we obtain from (C.4) that (C.5) equals

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\hat{Z}_T \left(L_0 X_0^2 \hat{Z}_0^{-1} (\hat{v} - \hat{V}_0)^2 + L_- \hat{Z}_-^{-1} (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)}) (\xi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi^\top - 2 \xi \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \tilde{c}^{V^*}) \bullet A_T \right) \right]$$

and hence also $\mathbb{E}[L_0(c - V_0)^2 + L(\xi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi^\top - 2 \xi \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \tilde{c}^{V^*}) \bullet A_T]$ for arbitrary $\xi \in \Xi_\xi$. The latter follows by applying [28, Theorem VI.21.1] twice together with the monotone convergence theorem and a localisation argument, since $(\xi \tilde{c}^{S^*} \xi^\top - 2 \xi \tilde{c}^{SV^*} + \tilde{c}^{V^*}) \bullet A$ is predictable and non-decreasing and hence locally of integrable variation. In the first application of [28, Theorem VI.21.1], we use that $\hat{Z}$ is a martingale under $\mathbb{P}$ so that ${}^{\mathbb{P}}(\hat{Z}_T) = \hat{Z}_-$ holds for the predictable projection and in the second that ${}^{\mathbb{P}}L = L_- (1 + \Delta B^{\mathcal{L}(L)})$. This shows (4.11), which completes the proof.

Appendix D: Auxiliary statements for Theorem 4.1. In this appendix, $S = (X, Y)$ is locally square-integrable under $\mathbb{P}$, $X > 0$, $X_- > 0$, $X_T^2 \in L^1(\mathbb{P})$, $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ is defined by $d\hat{\mathbb{P}}/d\mathbb{P} = X_T^2/\mathbb{E}[X_T^2]$, $\hat{Z}_t = \mathbb{E}[X_T^2 | \mathcal{F}_t]$ for $0 \leq t \leq T$, and $\hat{S} = S/X$ is locally square-integrable under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$.

LEMMA D.1. *Let $(\hat{L}, \hat{V})$ and (L, V) be semimartingales under $\hat{\mathbb{P}}$ and $\mathbb{P}$, respectively, such that $\hat{L}_- > 0$, $L_- > 0$,*

$$\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} = b^{\hat{S}, \hat{\mathbb{P}}} + c^{\hat{S}\mathcal{L}(\hat{L})} + \int y l F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{\mathbb{P}}}(\mathrm{d}(y, l)),$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{c}^{\hat{S}} &= c^{\hat{S}} + \int yy^\top (1+l) F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}}(d(y, l)), \\ \hat{c}^{\hat{V}\hat{S}} &= c^{\hat{V}\hat{S}} + \int x^\top z (1+y) F^{\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{V}, \hat{P}}(d(x, y, z)), \\ \hat{c}^{\hat{V}} &= c^{\hat{V}} + \int z^2 (1+y) F^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{V}, \hat{P}}(d(y, z)),\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{b}^S &= b^S + c^{S\mathcal{L}(L)} + \int xy F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y)) \\ \bar{c}^S &= c^S + \int xx^\top (1+y) F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L)}(d(x, y)) \\ \bar{c}^{VS} &= c^{VS} + \int x^\top z (1+y) F^{S, \mathcal{L}(L), V}(d(x, y, z)), \\ \bar{c}^V &= c^V + \int z^2 (1+y) F^{\mathcal{L}(L), V}(d(y, z))\end{aligned}$$

are well-defined. Then, if $L = \frac{\hat{L}\hat{Z}}{X^2}$ and $V = X\hat{V}$, we have that

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}} = b^{\mathcal{L}(L)} + 2X_-^{-1}\bar{b}^X + X_-^{-2}\bar{c}^X; \quad (D.1)$$

$$\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} = X_-^{-1}(\bar{b}^S + X_-^{-1}\bar{c}^{SX} - X_-^{-1}S_- (\bar{b}^X + X_-^{-1}\bar{c}^X)); \quad (D.2)$$

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{S}} = X_-^{-2}(\bar{c}^S - X_-^{-1}(S_- \bar{c}^{XS} + \bar{c}^{SX} S_-^\top) + X_-^{-2}\bar{c}^X S_- S_-^\top); \quad (D.3)$$

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}} = X_-^{-2}(\bar{c}^{SV} - X_-^{-1}(S_- \bar{c}^{VX} + \bar{c}^{SX} V_-) + X_-^{-2}\bar{c}^X V_- S_-); \quad (D.4)$$

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{V}} = X_-^{-2}(\bar{c}^V - 2\hat{V}_- \bar{c}^{VX} + \hat{V}_-^2 \bar{c}^X). \quad (D.5)$$

Moreover, we have

$$\vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \hat{b}^{\hat{S}} + b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}} = X_-^{-2} \vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2X_-^{-1} \vartheta \bar{b}^S + b^{\mathcal{L}(L)}, \quad \text{for all } \vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1, \quad (D.6)$$

and

$$\vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}} + \hat{c}^{\hat{V}} = X_-^{-2} (\vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \bar{c}^{SV} + \bar{c}^V), \quad \text{for all } \vartheta \hat{S}_- = \hat{V}. \quad (D.7)$$

Proof. Observe that

$$\bar{b}^S \bullet A = B^{S+[S, \mathcal{L}(L)]}; \quad \bar{c}^S \bullet A = B^{[S, S]+[[S, S], \mathcal{L}(L)]}; \quad (D.8)$$

$$\bar{c}^{VS} \bullet A = B^{[V, S]+[[V, S], \mathcal{L}(L)]}; \quad \bar{c}^V \bullet A = B^{[V, V]+[[V, V], \mathcal{L}(L)]}. \quad (D.9)$$

By Lemma D.2 one has

$$b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \hat{P}} = b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}) + [\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z})]} = b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{Z}) + \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}) + [\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z})]} = b^{\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}\hat{Z})} = b^{\mathcal{L}(LX^2)},$$

where the second equality holds due to $\hat{Z}$ being a local P-martingale, the third follows from the Yor formula, and the last from the identity $\hat{L}\hat{Z} = LX^2$. A double application of the Yor formula yields

$$\mathcal{L}(LX^2) = \mathcal{L}(L) + 2\mathcal{L}(X) + [\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(X)] + [2\mathcal{L}(X) + [\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(X)], \mathcal{L}(L)].$$

On matching individual terms to expressions in (D.8) one finally obtains (D.1).

Analogously,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} \bullet A &= B^{\hat{S} + [\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \hat{P}}; & \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \bullet A &= B^{[\hat{S}, \hat{S}] + [[\hat{S}, \hat{S}], \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \hat{P}}; \\ \hat{c}^{\hat{V}\hat{S}} \bullet A &= B^{[\hat{V}, \hat{S}] + [[\hat{V}, \hat{S}], \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \hat{P}}; & \hat{c}^{\hat{V}} \bullet A &= B^{[\hat{V}, \hat{V}] + [[\hat{V}, \hat{V}], \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \hat{P}},\end{aligned}$$

whereby, in view of $\hat{L}\hat{Z} = LX^2$, Lemma D.2 yields

$$\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} \bullet A = B^{\hat{S} + [\hat{S}, \mathcal{L}(LX^2)]}; \quad \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \bullet A = B^{[\hat{S}, \hat{S}] + [[\hat{S}, \hat{S}], \mathcal{L}(LX^2)]}; \quad (D.10)$$

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{V}\hat{S}} \bullet A = B^{[\hat{V}, \hat{S}] + [[\hat{V}, \hat{S}], \mathcal{L}(X^2)]}; \quad \hat{c}^{\hat{V}} \bullet A = B^{[\hat{V}, \hat{V}] + [[\hat{V}, \hat{V}], \mathcal{L}(X^2)]}. \quad (\text{D.11})$$

From Yor's formula,

$$\mathcal{L}(X) + \mathcal{L}(X^{-1}) + [\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})] = 0, \quad (\text{D.12})$$

and integration by parts one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{S} - \hat{S}_0 &= X^{-1} \bullet S + S_- \bullet X^{-1} + [S, X^{-1}] \\ &= X^{-1} \bullet (S + S_- \bullet \mathcal{L}(X^{-1}) + [S, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})]) = X^{-1} \bullet (\tilde{S} + [\tilde{S}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})]), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.13})$$

with $\tilde{S} = S - S_- \bullet \mathcal{L}(X)$. Likewise, one obtains

$$\hat{V} = \hat{V}_0 + X^{-1} \bullet (\tilde{V} + [\tilde{V}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})]) \quad (\text{D.14})$$

with $\tilde{V} = V - V_- \bullet \mathcal{L}(X)$. From (D.10), (D.13), and Lemma D.3 with $\tilde{W} = X^{-1} \bullet \tilde{S}$ one obtains

$$\hat{b}^{\hat{S}} \bullet A = B^{\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)], \mathcal{L}(L)]}. \quad (\text{D.15})$$

In view of $\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] = X^{-1} \bullet (S - S_- \bullet \mathcal{L}(X) + [S, \mathcal{L}(X)] - S_- \bullet [\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(X)])$, a combination of (D.8) and (D.15) yields (D.2).

Similarly, from (D.13) and (D.14), one has

$$[\hat{V}, \hat{S}] = X^{-2} \bullet \left([\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}] + 2[\tilde{V}, [\tilde{S}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})]] + [[\tilde{V}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})], [\tilde{S}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})]] \right),$$

which one can rephrase as

$$[\hat{V}, \hat{S}] = \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})], \quad (\text{D.16})$$

with $\tilde{W} = X^{-2} \bullet ([\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}] + [[\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}], \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})])$.

To obtain (D.4), apply Lemma D.3 to (D.11), making use of (D.16). This then yields

$$\hat{c}^{\hat{V}\hat{S}} \bullet A = B^{\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)], \mathcal{L}(L)]} = X^{-2} \bullet B^{[\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}] + [[\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}], \mathcal{L}(L)]}$$

on observing that thanks to (D.12) one has $\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] = X^{-2} \bullet [\tilde{V}, \tilde{S}]$. Formula (D.4) now follows by substituting for $\tilde{S}, \tilde{V}$ and matching terms in (D.8)–(D.9). Formulae (D.3) and (D.5) are obtained analogously.

For $\vartheta \hat{S}_- = -1$, one has $\vartheta S_- = -X_-$ and therefore by (D.2) and (D.3)

$$2\vartheta \hat{b}^{\hat{S}} - \vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \vartheta^\top = 2X_-^{-1} \vartheta \bar{b}^S - X_-^{-2} \vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top + 2\bar{b}^X X_-^{-1} + \bar{c}^X X_-^{-2}.$$

Together with (D.1) this yields (D.6).

Since $V = X\hat{V}$, we have that $\vartheta S_- = V_-$ if and only if $\vartheta \hat{S}_- = \hat{V}_-$. Therefore, for $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued ϑ with $\vartheta S_- = V_-$ and hence $\vartheta \hat{S}_- = \hat{V}_-$, one obtains from (D.3) and (D.4) after simplifications

$$\vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}} \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \hat{c}^{\hat{S}\hat{V}} = X_-^{-2} \left(\vartheta \bar{c}^S \vartheta^\top - 2\vartheta \bar{c}^{SV} + 2\hat{V}_- \bar{c}^{VX} - \hat{V}_-^2 \bar{c}^X \right).$$

Together with (D.5) this yields (D.7). $\square$

LEMMA D.2. For any $\hat{L}, \hat{Z}$ as above and any semimartingale $\hat{W}$, the following are equivalent.

- (1) $\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})]$ is $\hat{\mathbf{P}}$ -special.
- (2) $\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}\hat{Z})]$ is $\mathbf{P}$ -special.

If one (hence both) conditions hold, then $B^{\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \hat{\mathbf{P}}} = B^{\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}\hat{Z})]}.$

Proof. By Girsanov's theorem for equivalent measures, $\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})]$ is $\hat{\mathbf{P}}$ -special if and only if $\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})] + [\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z})]$ is $\mathbf{P}$ -special, in which case the $\mathbf{P}$ compensator of the former equals the $\mathbf{P}$ -compensator of the latter. A simple manipulation together with Yor's formula now yield

$$\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})] + [\hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L})], \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z})] = \hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}) + \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z}) + [\mathcal{L}(\hat{L}), \mathcal{L}(\hat{Z})]]$$

$$= \hat{W} + [\hat{W}, \mathcal{L}(\hat{L}\hat{Z})],$$

which completes the proof. $\square$

LEMMA D.3. For $X, X_- > 0$, $L, L_- > 0$ and any semimartingale $\tilde{W}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})], \mathcal{L}(LX^2)] &= \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(LX)] \\ &= \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)], \mathcal{L}(L)]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By direct calculation one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} &\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1})], \mathcal{L}(LX^2)] \\ &= \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X^{-1}) + \mathcal{L}(LX^2) + [\mathcal{L}(X^{-1}), \mathcal{L}(LX^2)]] = \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(LX)] \\ &= \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X) + \mathcal{L}(L) + [\mathcal{L}(X), \mathcal{L}(L)]] = \tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)] + [\tilde{W} + [\tilde{W}, \mathcal{L}(X)], \mathcal{L}(L)]. \end{aligned}$$

Here the second and third equality follow from the Yor formula. $\square$

LEMMA D.4. Suppose $\alpha \in L(S)$ and $\alpha S_- = 1$. Then $\vartheta = \alpha \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)_-$ is a self-financing strategy with $\vartheta S = \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)$. Furthermore, for $\hat{\alpha} = \alpha X_-$ one has $\hat{\alpha} \in L(\hat{S})$ and

$$\mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S) = \mathcal{E}(\hat{\alpha} \bullet \hat{S})X/X_0. \quad (\text{D.17})$$

Proof. By assumption, we have $\vartheta_0 S_0 = 1$ and $\vartheta S_- = \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)_-$. From the properties of stochastic exponential one obtains $\vartheta S_- = 1 + \vartheta \bullet S_-$, hence ϑ is self-financing by Proposition 3.1. This also yields $\vartheta S = 1 + \vartheta \bullet S = \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)$, which completes the proof of the first assertion.

Since $\alpha \in L(S)$ and $\alpha S_- = 1$, we have $\hat{\alpha} \in L((1/X_-) \bullet S) \cap L([S, 1/X]) \cap L(S_- \bullet (1/X))$. This yields $\hat{\alpha} \in L(S/X)$ through integration by parts. By Proposition 3.1(3) we have $\vartheta \in L(\hat{S})$ and $\vartheta S/X = \vartheta_0 S_0/X_0 + \vartheta \bullet \hat{S}$. Multiplying by X_0 and substituting $\vartheta S = \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)$ gives

$$X_0 \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)/X = 1 + \alpha X_0 \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)_- \bullet \hat{S} = 1 + (X_0 \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)_-/X_-) \bullet (\hat{\alpha} \bullet \hat{S}),$$

yielding $X_0 \mathcal{E}(\alpha \bullet S)/X = \mathcal{E}(\hat{\alpha} \bullet \hat{S})$. $\square$

COROLLARY D.1. Let τ be a stopping time such that $\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \hat{\alpha} \in L(\hat{S})$ and $\hat{\alpha} \hat{S}_- = 1$ on $\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket$. Then

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \hat{\alpha} / X_- \bullet S) = \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \hat{\alpha} \bullet \hat{S})X/X^\tau.$$

Proof. On $\llbracket 0, \tau \rrbracket$ let $\hat{\alpha} = [1, 0, \dots, 0]$ and denote $\alpha = \hat{\alpha}/X_-$. Then $\alpha S_- = 1$ on $[0, T]$ and (D.17) applies. By the Yor formula $\mathcal{E}(Z) = \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket 0, \tau \rrbracket} \bullet Z) \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket \tau, T \rrbracket} \bullet Z)$ for any semimartingale Z , while $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{1}_{\llbracket 0, \tau \rrbracket} \alpha \bullet S) = X^\tau/X_0$. Since $X > 0$, the statement follows. $\square$

Appendix E: Glossary of mathematical notation and terminology.

A	activity process (predictable, increasing, and integrable)
B, b	cumulative drift and its rate relative to A
C, c	continuous quadratic variation and its rate relative to A
$\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{L}$	stochastic exponential, stochastic logarithm
L	the opportunity process
$L(X)$	the set of predictable X -integrable processes
$L^\infty(\mathbb{P}), L^2(\mathbb{P})$	the set of bounded (resp., square-integrable) random variables
$\mathcal{M}_2(S, \mathbb{P})$	the set of deflators for S under $\mathbb{P}$
ν, F	predictable compensator of the jump measure and its rate relative to A
$\mathcal{N}$	null space of a matrix
$\mathcal{N}$	null strategies (trading strategies whose wealth is identically 0)

$P, P^*, \hat{P}, \hat{P}^*, \tilde{P}$	probability measures
${}^P L, {}^{P, \hat{P}} \hat{L}$	predictable projection of L under P , resp., that of $\hat{L}$ under $\hat{P}$
$\mathcal{R}$	range of a matrix
ρ, σ, τ	stopping times
T	terminal date
$S, \hat{S}$	price processes
$\perp$	orthogonal complement
$\oplus, \oplus^\perp$	direct sum (resp., direct orthogonal sum) of two subspaces
$\top$	matrix transpose
$\Theta, \bar{\Theta}$	tame and admissible trading strategies
$\vartheta \bullet S_t$	stochastic integral $\int_{(0,t]} \vartheta_u dS_u$
$[\![\tau, T]\!], [\![\tau, T]\!]$	stochastic intervals
$\mathbb{1}$	column vector of ones
$\mathbf{1}$	indicator function
<i>truncation function</i>	function used to split jumps into small vs. large
<i>localization</i>	the procedure of stopping a process at a sequence of stopping times increasing to ∞
<i>locally square-integrable</i>	process that becomes square-integrable after localization
<i>local martingale</i>	process that becomes a martingale after localization

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