

Term Structure Models

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From now on we will denote (B_t, S_t) by P_t .

What is Arbitrage?

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What is Arbitrage?

According to the Cambridge dictionary: Arbitrage is the method on the stock exchange of buying something in one place and selling it in another place at the same time, in order to make a profit from the difference in price in the two places.

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We use a more general definition and get in the language of mathematics the following:

Arbitrage

An (absolute) arbitrage opportunity is a self-financing predictable \mathbb{R}^{d+1} -valued process H such that

$$\begin{aligned}H_0 \cdot P_0 &\leq H_T \cdot P_T \quad a.s. \\ \mathbb{P}[H_T \cdot P_T > 0] &> 0\end{aligned}$$

for some $T > 0$.

1. Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing

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1. Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing

A market is a filtered probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ (where \mathbb{F} satisfies the usual conditions) with a semi martingale P describing the asset prices.

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1. Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing

If there exist an equivalent probability measure \mathbb{Q} such that the process $\frac{S}{B}$ is a \mathbb{Q} -local martingale then there is no arbitrage.

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We assume we have a \mathbb{R}^N -valued process Z given by

$$dZ_t = \beta(Z_t)dt + \sigma(Z_t)dW_t$$

called the economic factor where $\beta : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$, $\sigma : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{N \times m}$ and W is a m -dimensional \mathbb{Q} - Brownian motion.

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$$r_t = R(Z_t)$$

Model Set-up

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$$r_t = R(Z_t)$$

and a bank process given by

$$B_t = B_0 e^{\int_0^t r_s ds}$$

Arbitrage-free pricing

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We are now interested in introducing a European claim into the market.

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European claim

Fix a time $T > 0$. An European claim with maturity T is a \mathcal{F}_T -measurable random variable C .

By the Feynman-Kac Theorem we know

Feynman-Kac

Let $V : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a C^2 function which satisfies the following PDE

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \sum_i^N \beta^i \frac{\partial V}{\partial z^i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j}^N \alpha^{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^i \partial z^j} = rV$$

with terminal condition

$$V(T, z) = g(z)$$

where $g : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and $\alpha^{i,j} = (\sigma \sigma^{Tr})_{i,j}$. Then $\frac{V}{B}$ is a \mathbb{Q} - local martingale and thus we have no arbitrage.

Research Questions

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We want to price zero-coupon bonds for the case $N = 1$.

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$$V(t, z) = \sum_{k=0}^n g_k(t) z^k$$

with

$$V(T, z) = 1$$

satisfy the Feynman Kac Formula? and if so what are the constraints?

Extension of the Model

We now assume the economic factor has the following dynamics

$$dZ_t = \beta(Z_t)dt + \sigma(Z_t)dW_t + \gamma(Z_t)dN_t$$

where N is a Poisson process with intensity λ . Does the price process given by

$$V(t, z) = \sum_{k=0}^n g_k(t)z^k$$

with

$$V(T, z) = 1$$

satisfy the Feynman Kac Formula? If so what are the constraints? What about if we use a Levy process?.