

# Mathematical Finance

Introduction to Binary Tree Models,  
Stochastic Calculus and Black-Scholes Theory

Solutions to Exercises

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AIMS  
4–22 January 2010

1. The payoff of the put option will be \$0 if the stock price goes up and \$10 if it goes down.

- (a) The value at  $T$  of the replicating portfolio  $(x, y)$  of cash and stock should be equal to the put payoff

$$1.05x + 125y = 0,$$

$$1.05x + 95y = 10.$$

The solution is  $y = -\frac{1}{3} \approx -0.3333$  and  $x \approx 39.6825$ .

- (b) The put price at time 0 should be equal to the initial value of the replicating portfolio

$$x + 100y \approx 6.3492.$$

- (c) The risk neutral probability is

$$p^* = \frac{105 - 95}{125 - 95} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

The put price is

$$\frac{1}{3} \frac{0}{1.05} + \frac{2}{3} \frac{10}{1.05} \approx 6.3492.$$

- (d) If the time 0 put price were \$5, then the portfolio consisting of
  - 3 put options,

- 1 share of stock,
- -\$115 in cash,

would be an arbitrage opportunity. It would have initial value \$0 and final value \$4.25 irrespective of whether stock goes up or down.

2. Suppose that

$$C(0) > P(0) + S(0) - \frac{K}{1+r}.$$

In such case, at time 0 we could:

- sell a call option for  $C(0)$ ,
- buy a put option for  $P(0)$ ,
- buy a share of stock for  $S(0)$ ,
- invest the cash amount  $\varepsilon = C(0) - P(0) - S(0) > -\frac{K}{1+r}$  at rate  $r$ .

The value of this portfolio at time 0 would be

$$V(0) = -C(0) + P(0) + S(0) + (C(0) - P(0) - S(0)) = 0.$$

The value of the portfolio at time  $T$  would be

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= -C(T) + P(T) + S(T) + (1+r)(C(0) - P(0) - S(0)) \\ &> -\max(S(T) - K, 0) + \max(K - S(T), 0) + S(T) - K = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which is an arbitrage opportunity. On the other hand, if

$$C(0) < P(0) + S(0) - \frac{K}{1+r},$$

then we could construct the opposite portfolio:

- buy a call option for  $C(0)$ ,
- sell a put option for  $P(0)$ ,
- sell a share of stock for  $S(0)$ ,
- invest the cash amount  $-C(0) + P(0) + S(0) > \frac{K}{1+r}$  at rate  $r$ .

The value of this portfolio at time 0 would be

$$V(0) = C(0) - P(0) - S(0) + (-C(0) + P(0) + S(0)) = 0.$$

The value of the portfolio at time  $T$  would be

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= C(T) - P(T) - S(T) + (1+r)(-C(0) + P(0) + S(0)) \\ &> \max(S(T) - K, 0) - \max(K - S(T), 0) - S(T) + K = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which once again is an arbitrage opportunity. If no arbitrage opportunities can exist, then the only possibility left is that  $C(0) = P(0) + S(0) - \frac{K}{1+r}$ .

3. See the file: `Exe_3_solution.ods`
4. Let assume that the expiry date of the options is  $T > 0$ . Using an arbitrage argument, we shall first show that we cannot have

$$C_E(0) > C_A(0). \quad (\text{S.10})$$

If we had (S.10), then our strategy at time  $t = 0$  is to hold  $v = -1$  of European options,  $w = 1$  American options, and invest  $x = C_E(0) - C_A(0) > 0$  in cash at rate  $r$ . The value of our strategy at time zero would be

$$V(0) = vC_E(0) + wC_A(0) + x = 0.$$

At time  $T$  the value of our strategy would be

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= vC_E(T) + wC_A(T) + (1+r)^N x \\ &= -(S(T) - K)^+ + (S(T) - K)^+ + (1+r)^N (C_E(0) - C_A(0)) \\ &> 0, \end{aligned}$$

which means that this would be an arbitrage opportunity.

Now we will show that we cannot have

$$C_E(0) < C_A(0). \quad (\text{S.11})$$

If we had (S.11) then our strategy at time  $t = 0$  is to hold  $v = 1$  of European options,  $w = -1$  American options, and  $x = C_A(0) - C_E(0) > 0$  in cash and  $y = 0$  shares of stock. The value of our strategy at time zero would be

$$V(0) = vC_E(0) + wC_A(0) + x = 0.$$

At time step  $n\delta \leq N\delta = T$  the holder of the American call option might wish to exercise it. In such case we take a short position in stock and sell it to the holder of the option for  $K$  and invest the amount  $K$  at rate  $r$ . We then have the following position

$$\begin{aligned} v' &= 1 \text{ of European options} \\ w' &= 0 \text{ of American options (since the holder has exercised his option)} \\ x' &= (1+r)^n (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) + K \text{ of bonds} \\ y' &= -1 \text{ of stock.} \end{aligned}$$

At time  $T$  the value of our portfolio will be

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= v'C_E(T) + w'C_A(T) + (1+r)^{N-n} x' + y'S(T) \\ &= (S(T) - K)^+ + 0 + (1+r)^N (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) + (1+r)^{N-n} K - S(T) \\ &\geq (S(T) - K)^+ + K - S(T) + (1+r)^N (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) \\ &= (X - S(T))^+ + (1+r)^N (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, if the holder of the American option does not exercise it at all, then we would be holding the original portfolio until time  $T$ , when its final value would be

$$\begin{aligned} V(T) &= vC_E(T) + wC_A(T) + (1+r)^N x + yS(T) \\ &= C_E(T) - C_A(T) + (1+r)^N (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) \\ &= (1+r)^N (C_A(0) - C_E(0)) \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

This means that we would have constructed an arbitrage opportunity. The only possibility left is that

$$C_E(0) = C_A(0).$$

5. We can assume without loss of generality that  $0 \leq s \leq t$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[B(s)B(t)] &= \mathbb{E}[B(s)(B(t) - B(s))] + \mathbb{E}[B(s)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[B(s)]\mathbb{E}[B(t) - B(s)] + \mathbb{E}[B(s)^2] \\ &= 0 \times 0 + s = s = \min(s, t). \end{aligned}$$

6. We need to verify that  $W(t)$  satisfies the four conditions in the definition of Brownian motion.

- $W(0) = \frac{1}{c}B(c^2 \cdot 0) = 0$ .
- If  $B(t)$  is continuous as a function of  $t$ , then so is  $W(t) = \frac{1}{c}B(c^2 t)$ .
- The independence of the increments  $W(u) - W(v) = \frac{1}{c}(B(c^2 u) - B(c^2 v))$  and  $W(t) - W(s) = \frac{1}{c}(B(c^2 t) - B(c^2 s))$  for  $0 \leq v \leq w \leq s \leq t$  follows from the independence of  $B(c^2 u) - B(c^2 v)$  and  $B(c^2 t) - B(c^2 s)$ .
- For any  $0 \leq s < t$

$$W(t) - W(s) = \frac{1}{c} [B(c^2 t) - B(c^2 s)].$$

Since  $B(c^2 t) - B(c^2 s) \sim N(0, c^2 t - c^2 s)$  we find immediately that  $W(t) - W(s) \sim N(0, t - s)$ .

7. We compute the second moment

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^2 - T \right)^2 \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left[ (B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^2 - (t_{i+1} - t_i) \right] \right)^2 \right] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( (B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^2 - (t_{i+1} - t_i) \right)^2 \right] \\
&\quad \text{the variance of a sum of independent random variables is the sum of variances} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ (B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^4 - 2(B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^2 (t_{i+1} - t_i) + (t_{i+1} - t_i)^2 \right] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left( 3(t_{i+1} - t_i)^2 - 2(t_{i+1} - t_i)^2 + (t_{i+1} - t_i)^2 \right) \\
&\quad \text{computing the 4th and 2nd moments of } B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i) \\
&= 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (t_{i+1} - t_i)^2 = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \left( \frac{T}{N} \right)^2 = 2N \left( \frac{T}{N} \right)^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty.
\end{aligned}$$

This shows that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (B(t_{i+1}) - B(t_i))^2 \rightarrow T \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

in  $L^2$ .

8. Take  $f(t, x) = Ce^{ax - \frac{1}{2}a^2t}$ . Then  $X(t) = f(t, B(t))$  and

$$f'_t(t, x) = -\frac{1}{2}a^2 f(t, x), \quad f'_x(t, x) = a f(t, x), \quad f''_{xx}(t, x) = a^2 f(t, x).$$

Substituting these into the Itô formula

$$df(t, B(t)) = \left( f'_t(t, B(t)) + \frac{1}{2} f''_{xx}(t, B(t)) \right) dt + f'_x(t, B(t)) dB(t),$$

we get

$$dX(t) = \left( -\frac{1}{2}a^2 X(t) + \frac{1}{2}a^2 X(t) \right) dt + aX(t) dB(t) = aX(t) dB(t).$$

9. For  $f(s, B(s)) = u(t - s, x + B(s))$  the Itô formula

$$\begin{aligned}
f(t, B(t)) &= f(0, B(0)) + \int_0^t \left( f'_s(s, B(s)) + \frac{1}{2} f''_{xx}(s, B(s)) \right) ds \\
&\quad + \int_0^t f'_x(s, B(s)) dB(s)
\end{aligned}$$

gives

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, x + B(t)) &= u(t, x) + \int_0^t \left( -u'_t(t-s, x + B(s)) + \frac{1}{2}u''_{xx}(t-s, x + B(s)) \right) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t u'_x(t-s, x + B(s))dB(s) \\ &= u(t, x) + \int_0^t u'_x(t-s, x + B(s))dB(s) \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\mathbb{E}[u(0, x + B(t))] = u(t, x).$$

Since  $u(0, x + B(t)) = \varphi(x + B(t))$ , we obtain

$$u(t, x) = \mathbb{E}[\varphi(x + B(t))].$$

10. Let  $X(t) = \int_0^t s dB(s) - \frac{1}{6}t^3$ , that is,  $dX(t) = t dB(t) - \frac{1}{2}t^2 dt$ , and let  $f(t, x) = e^x$ . Then

$$e^{\int_0^t s dB(s) - \frac{1}{6}t^3} = f(t, X(t))$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} de^{X(t)} &= df(t, X(t)) \\ &= \left( f'_t(t, X(t)) + \frac{1}{2}t^2 f''_{xx}(t, X(t)) \right) dt + f'_x(t, X(t))dX(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}t^2 e^{X(t)} dt + e^{X(t)} \left( t dB(t) - \frac{1}{2}t^2 dt \right) \\ &= e^{X(t)} t dB(t) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{X(T)} \right] = e^{X(0)},$$

which means that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\int_0^T t dB(t) - \frac{1}{6}T^3} \right] = 1.$$

As a result,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ e^{\int_0^T t dB(t)} \right] = e^{\frac{1}{6}T^3}.$$