

## Asset Pricing Theory

## Problem Set 6: Dynamic Arbitrage Pricing

## 1. First Theorem of Asset Pricing

Consider a discrete-time economy, as considered in the lecture notes, with two risky assets,  $B_t$  and  $S_t$ . Assume that both are strictly positive at all times and that ownership of  $S_t$  at  $t$  entitles you to a dividend  $D_{t+1}$  paid at  $t + 1$ .

1. Consider the value of a self-financing portfolio  $V_t = \Delta_t^0 B_t + \Delta_t^1 S_t$ . Write down its dynamics.
2. Consider the value  $V_t^* = \frac{V_t}{B_t}$  of the self-financing portfolio expressed in units of asset  $B_t$ , the numeraire asset. Write down its dynamics in terms of the discounted risky asset  $S_t^* = S_t/B_t$  and the discounted dividend  $D_t^* = D_t/B_t$ .
3. Formulate and then prove the first fundamental theorem of asset pricing for this economy. In particular, show that if there is no arbitrage, then there exists a measure  $Q$  equivalent to  $P$  under which the following holds:
  - $S_t^* = E_t^Q[S_{t+1}^* + D_{t+1}^*]$ , and equivalently,
  - for  $T > t$ :  $S_t^* = E_t^Q[\sum_{n=t+1}^T D_n^* + S_T^*]$
4. Show that if there is no arbitrage, then there exists a stochastic discount factor (or pricing kernel) process  $M_t$  that is strictly positive and such that :
  - $M_t S_t = E_t[M_{t+1}(S_{t+1} + D_{t+1})]$ , and equivalently,
  - $1 = E_t[\frac{M_{t+1}}{M_t} R_{t+1}]$  for the gross return  $R_{t+1} = \frac{S_{t+1} + D_{t+1}}{S_t}$ , as well as:
  - for  $T > t$ :  $M_t S_t = E_t[\sum_{n=t+1}^T M_n D_n + M_T S_T]$

## 2. Multiple Periods, Complete Markets: Cox, Ross Rubinstein

The purpose of this exercise is to take you through Cox, Ross, and Rubinstein's derivation of the Black and Scholes formula as a limit of the discrete-time multiperiod binomial model.

Suppose now that period  $T$  is subdivided into  $n$  periods of  $\Delta = T/n$ . At each time  $t_i = i\Delta \forall i = 0, \dots, n-1$ , the dynamics of the risky asset and the risk-free asset are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} S_{i+1} &= \tilde{w}_{i+1}^n \cdot S_i \\ S_{i+1}^0 &= R_n \cdot S_i^0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{w}_i^n \forall i = 1, \dots, n$  are i.i.d. random variables, which can take each of two values  $u_n$  with probability  $p$  and  $d_n$  with probability  $1 - p$ .

1. Show that the market  $(S^0, S)$  is dynamically complete, in the sense that any time- $T$  random variable  $h(S_T)$  can be perfectly replicated by a self-financing dynamic trading strategy in the risk-free and risky asset. Importantly, we impose the no-arbitrage restrictions

$$u_n > R_n > d_n.$$

Here,  $R_n$  and  $\tilde{w}_i^n$  indicates the dependence on  $n$  in the sense that  $n$  is the time frequency that controls the approximation to the *continuous time limit*.

*Hint: use a recursive argument.*

**Proof.** Please see item 6 at the end of this problem set: *Replication in binomial models: You find the optimal portfolio recursively.*

The equivalent martingale measure assigns probabilities  $1 - q = (u_n - R_n)/(u_n - d_n)$  and  $q = (R_n - d_n)/(u_n - d_n)$  to children nodes of the tree. Then, we can multiply these probabilities to get the full probability measure

$$dQ = \xi d\mathbb{P} \text{ with } \xi = \prod_{i=1}^n (q \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{w}_i^n = u_n} + (1 - q) \mathbf{1}_{\tilde{w}_i^n = d_n}) \quad (1)$$

Now, we know from item 6 below that markets are complete and

$$\tilde{X}_n = X_n/S_n^0 = E^Q[X_n] + \sum_i \pi_i (\tilde{S}_{i+1} - \tilde{S}_i), \quad \tilde{S}_i = S_i/S_i^0$$

and

$$\tilde{X}_{n-1} = E_{n-1}^Q[X_n] = qX_n(u) + (1 - q)X_n(d)$$

whereas

$$\tilde{X}_n = \tilde{X}_{n-1} + \pi_{n-1}(\tilde{S}_{i+1} - \tilde{S}_i)$$

implying that

$$\pi_{n-1} = \frac{\tilde{X}_n(u) - \tilde{X}_{n-1}}{(\tilde{S}_{i+1}(u) - \tilde{S}_i)} = \frac{\tilde{X}_n(d) - \tilde{X}_{n-1}}{(\tilde{S}_{i+1}(d) - \tilde{S}_i)}$$

where we use  $X_n(u)$  to denote the value of  $X_n$  is the node of the binomial tree corresponding to an up-move in  $S$ . Now,

$$\tilde{X}_n(u) - \tilde{X}_{n-1} = (1 - q)(\tilde{X}_n(u) - \tilde{X}_n(d))$$

and

$$\tilde{S}_{i+1}(u) - \tilde{S}_i = \tilde{S}_i(u/R_n - 1)$$

so that

$$\tilde{S}_{n-1}\pi_{n-1} = \frac{(\tilde{X}_n(u) - \tilde{X}_n(d))(u_n - R_n)}{(u/R_n - 1)(u_n - d_n)} = R_n^{-1} \frac{\tilde{X}_n(u) - \tilde{X}_n(d)}{u_n - d_n}$$

Clearly, the same works for any other  $i$ . This gives a constructive formula for the replicating portfolio: compute  $\tilde{X}_{i+1} = E_{i+1}[\tilde{X}_n]$  and then

$$\tilde{S}_i\pi_i = R_n^{-1} \frac{\tilde{X}_{i+1}(u) - \tilde{X}_{i+1}(d)}{u_n - d_n}$$

The same argument works for any Markov chain with two states.

2. Prove that there is a unique equivalent martingale measure. Find the distribution of  $\tilde{w}_1^n$  under the equivalent measure and define the associated probabilities  $\pi_n^Q$  and  $1 - \pi_n^Q$ .

3. We now want to find the price of a contingent claim with payoff:

$h(S_T) = \max(S_T - K, 0)$ , i.e. a European call option. And in particular, we would like to compute the limit of that formula as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for a given  $T$ , i.e.  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ .

Let us define  $Y_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(\tilde{w}_i^n)$ . Clearly  $S_T = S_0 \cdot \exp(Y_n)$ . We have to pick  $R_n, u_n, d_n$  so that the distribution of the stock price converges to that of a geometric brownian motion, for which we have:  $S_T = S_0 \exp\left((\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})T + \sigma Z(T)\right)$  where  $Z(T)$  is a normally distributed random variable with zero mean and variance  $T$  (i.e.,  $Z(T) \sim N(0, T)$ ).

Show that if we pick  $p = 0.5$ ,  $u_n = \exp(\alpha_n + \sigma_n)$ ,  $d_n = \exp(\alpha_n - \sigma_n)$  for appropriate  $\alpha_n, \sigma_n$  we get the desired convergence. Show that the natural choice of  $R_n$  is  $\exp(r\Delta)$  where  $r$  is the continuously compounded risk-free rate.

*Hint: prove it by showing the convergence of the characteristic function of  $Y_n$  to that of a standard normal distribution (recall that  $X$  is a standard normal if and only if its characteristic function  $\phi(t) = E[\exp(itX)] = \exp(-\frac{t^2}{2})$  - for the general theorem on characteristic functions see the book by Williams chap. 16 for example).*

4. We now turn to the convergence of the option price. Show that the call option price can be written as follows:

$$C(S_0, 0) = S_0 B(n, \eta, \pi_n^R) - \frac{K}{R_n^n} B(n, \eta, \pi_n^Q)$$

where  $B(n, \eta, \pi) = 1 - P\left(\frac{Y_n - E^\pi[Y_n]}{\sqrt{V^\pi[Y_n]}} < \frac{\eta - E^\pi[Y_n]}{\sqrt{V^\pi[Y_n]}}\right)$  Find  $\eta$  and  $\pi^Q, \pi^R$  the probability of an up realization for  $\tilde{w}_1^n$  under two different measures.

*Hint: Since markets are complete, the price of any payoff must equal the value of a self-financing trading strategy. The price of a call option  $C(S_0, 0)$  can then be expressed as an expectation of its discounted final payoff under the risk-neutral measure (why?). Then notice that the distribution of  $\exp(Y_n)$  under the historical measure is  $P(\exp(Y_n) = u_n^k d_n^{n-k}) = C_n^k p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \forall k = 0, \dots, n$ , where we use the standard notation  $C_n^k = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ .*

Notice that the formula could easily be implemented on a computer to find the values of a European call option. Here we are interested in the continuous-time limit of that formula.

5. Show that  $X_n = \frac{Y_n - E_n^\pi[Y_n]}{\sqrt{V_n^\pi[Y_n]}}$  converges in distribution towards a centered gaussian random variable.

*Hint: Prove the convergence of the characteristic function of  $X_n$ . Also remember that  $Y_n$  is the sum of i.i.d. random variables.*

6. Compute and find the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  of  $E^{\pi_n^Q}[Y_n]$ ,  $E^{\pi_n^R}[Y_n]$ ,  $V^{\pi_n^Q}[Y_n]$ ,  $V^{\pi_n^R}[Y_n]$  to derive the Black and Scholes formula as the limit of the discrete time price of the European call option.

*Hint: Remember  $Y_n$  is the sum of i.i.d random variables.*

7. Write the resulting limiting Option Pricing Formula.

### 3. Kolmogorov Equations I

Let  $X_t$  be a Markov chain with values  $x_i$  and transition probabilities  $\pi(x_i, x_j)$ . Prove Kolmogorov equations:

1.

$$E[g(X_T) | \mathcal{F}_t] = E[g(X_T) | X_t] = G(t, X_t)$$

satisfies

$$G(t, x_i) = \sum_j p(x_i, x_j) G(t+1, x_j)$$

We have by the law of iterated expectations that

$$\begin{aligned} E[g(X_T) | X_t] &\stackrel{\text{iterated expectations}}{=} E[E_{t+1}[g(X_T)] | X_t] \\ &\stackrel{\text{Markov property}}{=} E[E[g(X_T) | X_{t+1}] | X_t] \\ &= E[G(t+1, X_{t+1}) | X_t] = \sum_j p(x_i, x_j) G(t+1, x_j) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

2. define transition matrix  $\Pi$  with  $\Pi = (p(x_i, x_j))$ . Then, prove

$$G(t, x) = \Pi^{T-t} g(x)$$

This follows by induction: The above calculation implies

$$\begin{aligned} G(t, x) &= \Pi G(t+1, x) = \Pi^2 G(t+2, x) \\ &= \dots = \Pi^{T-t} G(T, x) = \Pi^{T-t} E[g(X_T) | X_T = x] = \Pi^{T-t} g(x). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

3. Let

$$V(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} E[X_t | X_0 = x]$$

Prove that

$$V(x) = x + e^{-r} \Pi V(x) \Leftrightarrow V(x) = (\text{Id} - e^{-r} \Pi)^{-1} x$$

There are two ways. First,

$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &= \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} E[X_t | X_0 = x] = E\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} X_t \mid X_0 = x\right] \\ &= E\left[E_1\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} X_t\right] \mid X_0 = x\right] \\ &= E\left[E\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} X_t \mid X_1\right] \mid X_0 = x\right] \\ &= E[X_0 + E\left[\sum_{t=1}^{\infty} e^{-rt} X_t \mid X_1\right] \mid X_0 = x] \\ &= x + e^{-r} E\left[E\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} X_{t+1} \mid X_1\right] \mid X_0 = x\right] \\ &= x + e^{-r} E[V(X_1) | X_0 = x] = x + e^{-r} \Pi V(x) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Alternatively,

$$E[X_t | X_0 = x] = \Pi^t x$$

by the above and therefore

$$V(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} e^{-rt} \Pi^t x = (\text{Id} - e^{-r} \Pi)^{-1} x.$$

## 4. Kolmogorov Equations II

1. Suppose  $X_t = Y_1 \cdots Y_t$  so that

$$X_{t+1} = X_t Y_{t+1} \quad (5)$$

2.  $Y_t$  is a Markov process with transition probabilities  $\Pi$
3.  $X_t$  is **not a Markov process**
4.  $(X_t, Y_t)$  is a two-dimensional Markov process
5.  $X_t$  takes “too many values”
6. Define

$$V(X_t, Y_t) = E_t \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-rs} X_{t+s} \right] = E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-rs} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \quad (6)$$

7. Derive Kolmogorov equation

$$V(X_t, Y_t) = X_t + e^{-r} E_t[V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})]$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} V(X_t, Y_t) &= E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-rs} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &= X_t + E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-rs} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &= X_t + e^{-r} E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-r(s-1)} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &\stackrel{\text{iterated expectations}}{=} X_t + e^{-r} E \left[ E_{t+1} \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-r(s-1)} X_{t+s} \right] | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &\stackrel{\text{Markov property}}{=} X_t + e^{-r} E \left[ E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-r(s-1)} X_{t+s} | X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1} \right] | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &= X_t + e^{-r} E \left[ \underbrace{E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-rs} X_{t+s+1} | X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1} \right]}_{=V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\ &= X_t + e^{-r} E_t[V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})] \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

8. Make an Ansatz

$$V(x, y) = xv(y)$$

to get that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \underbrace{V(X_t, Y_t)}_{=X_t v(Y_t)} \\
&= X_t + e^{-r} E_t[\underbrace{V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})}_{=X_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})}] \\
&= X_t + e^{-r} E_t[X_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})] \\
&\stackrel{(5)}{=} X_t + e^{-r} E_t[X_t Y_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})] \\
&= X_t + e^{-r} E_t[X_t Y_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})]
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

and therefore

$$v(Y_t) = 1 + e^{-r} E_t[Y_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})] = 1 + e^{-r} \sum_j p(Y_t, y_j) y_j v(y_j),$$

which in vector form becomes

$$v(y) = \mathbf{1} + e^{-r} \Pi \text{diag}(y) v(y)$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the vector of ones.

9. Prove

$$v(y) = (\text{Id} - e^{-r} \Pi \text{diag}(y))^{-1} \mathbf{1} = \sum_{\tau=0}^{\infty} e^{-r\tau} (\Pi \text{diag}(y))^\tau \mathbf{1}$$

**Theorem** This series converges if and only if the *spectral radius*

$$\rho(\Pi \text{diag}(y)) = \max(|\text{eig}(\Pi \text{diag}(y))|)$$

satisfies

$$\rho(\Pi \text{diag}(y)) < e^r \tag{9}$$

## 5. Kolmogorov Equations III

1. Suppose  $X_t = Y_1 \cdots Y_t$
2.  $Z_t$  is a Markov process with transition probabilities  $\Pi$ ,  $Y_t = Y(Z_t)$
3.  $r_t = r(Z_t)$  (monetary policy)
4.  $X_t$  is **not a Markov process**
5.  $(X_t, Y_t)$  is a two-dimensional Markov process
6.  $X_t$  takes “too many values”
7. Define

$$V(X_t, Z_t) = E_t \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} \right] = E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} | X_t, Z_t \right] \tag{10}$$

8. Derive Kolmogorov equation

$$V(X_t, Z_t) = X_t + e^{-r_t} E_t[V(X_{t+1}, Z_{t+1})]$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
V(X_t, Z_t) &= E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} | X_t, Z_t \right] \\
&= X_t + E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\
&= X_t + e^{-r} E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\
&\stackrel{\text{iterated expectations}}{=} X_t + e^{-r_t} E \left[ E_{t+1} \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=1}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} \right] | X_t, Y_t \right] \\
&\stackrel{\text{Markov property}}{=} X_t + e^{-r_t} E \left[ E \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=1}^{s-1} r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s} | X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1} \right] | X_t, Y_t \right] \\
&= X_t + e^{-r_t} E \left[ \underbrace{E \left[ \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} e^{-\sum_{\tau=0}^s r_{t+\tau}} X_{t+s+1} | X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1} \right]}_{=V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})} | X_t, Y_t \right] \\
&= X_t + e^{-r_t} E_t[V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1})]
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

9. We now make the Ansatz

$$V(X_t, Y_t) = X_t v(Y_t)$$

10. Substituting that  $X_{t+1} = X_t Y_{t+1}$  and  $V(X_t, Y_t) = X_t v(Y_t)$  and  $V(X_{t+1}, Y_{t+1}) = X_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1}) = X_t Y_{t+1} v(Y_{t+1})$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
X_t v(Y_t) &= X_t + e^{-r(Z_t)} E_t[X_t Y(Z_{t+1}) v(Z_{t+1})] \Leftrightarrow \\
v(Z_t) &= 1 + e^{-r(Z_t)} E_t[Y(Z_{t+1}) v(Z_{t+1})] = 1 + e^{-r(Z_t)} \sum_j p(Z_t, z_j) Y(z_j) v(z_j),
\end{aligned}$$

which in vector form becomes

$$v(z) = \mathbf{1} + \text{diag}(e^{-r(z)}) \Pi \text{diag}(Y(z)) v(z)$$

11. Prove

$$v(z) = (\text{Id} - \text{diag}(e^{-r(z)}) \Pi \text{diag}(Y(z)))^{-1} \mathbf{1} = \sum_{\tau=0}^{\infty} (\text{diag}(e^{-r(z)}) \Pi \text{diag}(Y(z)))^{\tau} \mathbf{1}$$

**Theorem** This series converges if and only if the *spectral radius*

$$\rho(\Pi \text{diag}(y)) = \max(|\text{eig}(\text{diag}(e^{-r(z)}) \Pi \text{diag}(Y(z)))|) < 1$$

## 6. Replication and Binomial Trees

### Stochastic Integrals

**Definition** Given a martingale  $M_t$ , the process

$$X_t = \sum_{s=0}^{t-1} \pi_s (M_{s+1} - M_s) = \pi \cdot M = \int_0^t \pi_s dM_s$$

is called the stochastic integral of  $\pi$  with w.r.t.  $M$

**Lemma**  $X_t$  is a Martingale

**Proof**  $X_{t+1} = X_t + \pi_t (M_{t+1} - M_t)$  implies

$$E_t[X_{t+1}] = X_t + \pi_t E_t[M_{t+1} - M_t] = X_t$$

### Self-Financing Portfolio Gains Processes

- there are two investment opportunities: risk-less with zero interest rate (bank account) and stock with price process  $M_t$
- $\pi_t$  is the number of shares of the stock purchased at time  $t$
- the total gains process change is

$$X_{t+1} - X_t = \pi_t (M_{t+1} - M_t)$$

- that is

$$X_t = X_0 + \pi \cdot M$$

### Replication and Martingale Representation for the Binomial Model

- Let

$$M_t = Y_1 \cdots Y_t$$

where  $Y_t$  are i.i.d.,  $Y_t = u$  or  $d$  with prob.  $p$  such that  $pu + (1-p)d = 1$ . Then,  $M$  is a martingale.

- $\mathcal{F}_t$  is the natural filtration of  $Y_t$
- $X_T$  is a  $\mathcal{F}_T$ -measurable random variable
- then,

$$X_{T-1} = E_{T-1}[X_T]$$

and solving

$$\begin{cases} X_{T-1} + \pi_{T-1} (u - 1) M_{T-1} = X_T(u, X_{T-1}) \\ X_{T-1} + \pi_{T-1} (d - 1) M_{T-1} = X_T(d, X_{T-1}) \end{cases}$$

gives the replicating portfolio  $\pi_{T-1}$

### Why is there a solution: first derivation

- 

$$pu + (1-p)d = 1 \Leftrightarrow p = \frac{1-d}{u-d}$$

- the system has a solution if and only if

$$\frac{X_T(u, X_{T-1}) - X_{T-1}}{(u-1)M_{T-1}} = \frac{X_T(d, X_{T-1}) - X_{T-1}}{(d-1)M_{T-1}}$$

- by direct algebraic calculation, this is equivalent to

$$\frac{1-d}{u-d}X_T(u, X_{T-1}) + \frac{u-1}{u-d}X_T(d, X_{T-1}) = X_{T-1} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$pX_T(u, X_{T-1}) + (1-p)X_T(d, X_{T-1}) = X_{T-1}$$

that is

$$X_{T-1} = E_{T-1}[X_T].$$

## Second Derivation

- for any  $\mathcal{F}_{T-1}$ -measurable random variable, we have

$$E_{T-1}[X_{T-1} + \pi_{T-1}(M_T - M_{T-1})] = X_{T-1} \quad (12)$$

- if  $E_{T-1}[X_T] = X_{T-1}$  then

$$X_T(d, X_{T-1}) = (X_{T-1} - p X_T(u, X_{T-1})) / (1 - p)$$

- thus, if we have two variables  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  that have the same value at the state  $u$  and both satisfy  $E_{T-1}[Z_1] = E_{T-1}[Z_2]$ , they have the same value in the state  $d$
- thus, if  $X_{T-1} + \pi_{T-1}(u-1)M_{T-1} = X_T(u, X_{T-1})$  then we get

$$X_{T-1} + \pi_{T-1}(d-1)M_{T-1} = X_T(d, X_{T-1})$$