

Modeling the dynamics of asset prices

Discrete modeling

$$[0, T] \quad \Delta t = T/N$$

$$S_l = S \text{ at time } l \Delta t$$

$$(1) \quad S_{l+1} = u_l S_l$$

(2) u_l are non-negative random variables, S_0 given

(3) u_l are i.i.d.

$$\text{Set } Z_l = \log u_l$$

$$(4) \quad \log S_{l+1} = \log S_l + Z_l$$

$$(5) \quad z_l \sim \mathcal{N}(\nu \delta t, \sigma^2 \delta t)$$

Thus u_l is lognormally distributed

Obs: a) $\log S_l = \log S_{l-1} + z_{l-1} = \log S_{l-2} + z_{l-2} + z_{l-1}$

$$\log S_l = \log S_0 + z_0 + z_1 + \dots + z_{l-1}$$

b) $\log S_l \sim \mathcal{N}(\log S_0 + \nu l \delta t, \sigma^2 \delta t l)$

$$l \delta t = t \quad S_l = S(t)$$

$$\log S(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(\log S_0 + \nu t, \sigma^2 t)$$

Continuous time modeling

$$dt = \delta t \quad t = l \delta t$$

$$(6) \quad \log S(t+dt) - \log S(t) = z_\ell$$

$$\text{Set } z_\ell = \gamma dt + \sigma (W(t+dt) - W(t)) \quad (7)$$

$$\text{Then } \sigma (W(t+dt) - W(t)) = z_\ell - \gamma dt \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 dt)$$

Def: $X(t)$ is a stochastic process if $X(t)$ is a random variable for each t .

Notation $dX(t) = X(t+dt) - X(t)$

$$(8) \quad d \log S(t) = \gamma dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

Notation: $\int_s^t dX(r) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} dX(s+i dt) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} X(s+(i+1)dt) - X(s+i dt) =$
 $= X(t) - X(s) \quad \text{where} \quad dt = \frac{t-s}{N}$

Obs: $\sigma(W(t) - W(s)) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \sigma dW(s+idt) =$
 $\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \sigma(W(s+(i+1)dt) - W(s+idt)) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 N dt) = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 (t-s))$

Def: $W(t)$ stochastic process is a standard Wiener process if

1) $W(0) = 0$

2) $W(t) - W(s) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t-s)$

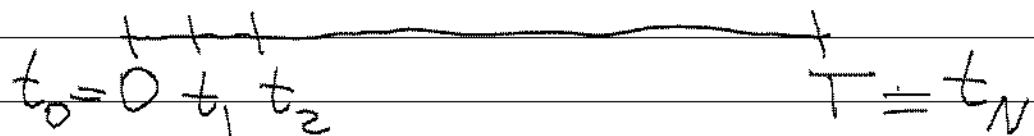
3) $t_1 < t_2 \leq t_3 < t_4$ then $W(t_2) - W(t_1)$ and $W(t_4) - W(t_3)$ are independent

Obs: 3) comes from the z_k being independent

Stochastic integrals

Def: $W(t)$ Wiener process. $X(t)$ stochastic process that depends on $W(s)$ for $0 \leq s < t$.

Set $t_k = \frac{kT}{N}$



$t_0=0 \quad t_1 \quad t_2 \quad \dots \quad T=t_N$

$$\int_0^T X(t) dW(t) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X(t_k) [W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)]$$

Obs: $X(t_k)$ and $W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)$ are independent

Thus

$$E \left[\int_0^T X(t) dW(t) \right] \approx E \left[\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X(t_k) [W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)] \right] =$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} E[X(t_k)] \underbrace{E[W(t_{k+1}) - W(t_k)]}_{=0} = 0$$

Ito's lemma $W = \text{Wiener process}$

$$(a) \quad dX = a(X, t) dt + b(X, t) dW$$

$G = G(x, y)$ a function of two variables

Taylor expansion

$$dG = \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} dy + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial x^2} (dx)^2 + \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial x \partial y} dx dy + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial y^2} (dy)^2 + \dots$$

$F = F(X, t)$, where X satisfies (a)

Note: $dW = W(t+dt) - W(t) \sim \sqrt{(0, dt)}$

thus $dW = \phi(t) \sqrt{dt}$ where $\phi(t) \sim \sqrt{(0, 1)}$

Back to F

$$dF = \frac{\partial F}{\partial X} dX + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} dt + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial X^2} (dX)^2 + O(dt)^{3/2}$$

$$dF = \frac{\partial F}{\partial X} (a dt + b dW) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} dt + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial X^2} b^2 (dW)^2 + O(dt)^{3/2}$$

$$(dW)^2 \rightarrow dt$$

Ito's lemma: W Wiener

$$dX = a(X, t) dt + b(X, t) dW$$

$F = F(X, t)$. Then

$$dF = \left(a \frac{\partial F}{\partial X} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} b^2 \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial X^2} \right) dt + b \frac{\partial F}{\partial X} dW$$

Geometric Brownian motion This is defined by the stochastic differential equation

$$dS(t) = \mu S(t) dt + \sigma S(t) dW(t)$$

W Wiener

$$X = S \quad a = \mu S \quad b = \sigma S$$

μ & σ are constants $\mu = \text{drift}$ $\sigma = \text{volatility}$

Let $F(S, t) = \log S$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial S} = \frac{1}{S} \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = 0 \quad \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial S^2} = -\frac{1}{S^2}$$

$$dF = \left(\mu S \frac{1}{S} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S^2 \frac{1}{S^2} \right) dt + \sigma S \frac{1}{S} dW$$

$$d \log S = \left(\mu - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) dt + \sigma dW$$

Integrate

$$\log S(t) = \log S(0) + \left(\mu - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) t + \sigma W(t)$$

$$\log S(t) \sim N \left[\log S(0) + \left(\mu - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) t, \sigma^2 t \right]$$

$$S(t) = S(0) e^{\left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) t + \sigma W(t)}$$

$S(t)$ is lognormally distributed

$$E[S(t)] = S(0) e^{\mu t}$$

Application of the no arbitrage principle

1) Price of a forward contract

A forward contract is an agreement to sell an asset at a specified future date at a predetermined price F .

r = risk free interest rate

Portfolio 1 (person selling the asset at time T for F)

- a) Borrow $S(0)$ at time 0 to buy the asset
- b) Sell for F at time T
- c) Pay back the loan, i.e. pay back $S(0)e^{rT}$

If $F > S(0)e^{rT}$, then he made a risk free profit from zero investment. Not allowed by the no arbitrage principle

Thus $F \leq S(0) e^{rT}$

Portfolio 2 (person buying the asset at time T for F)

- a) Sell short the asset at time 0 to get $S(0)$
- b) Invest that money with the risk free interest to have $S(0)e^{rT}$ at time T
- c) Buy the asset at time T for F

If $S(0)e^{rT} - F > 0$, then he made a risk free profit with 0 initial investment. Not allowed by the no arbitrage principle, thus $F \geq S(0)e^{rT}$

Thus

$$F = S(0)e^{rT}$$

Put-call parity (No arbitrage principle. Example)

C and P are the prices of a call and a put, both European, with the same exercise price K and maturity T .

Portfolio P_1 at $t=0$

one call option + Ke^{-rT} in cash

Portfolio P_2 at $t=0$

one put option + 1 share of the underlying

Value of P_1 at $t=0$
Value of P_2 at $t=0$

$$C + Ke^{-rT}$$

$$P + S(0)$$

$$\boxed{\text{Value of } P_1 \text{ at } t=T} = \begin{cases} S(T) - K + K e^{-rT} e^{rT} & \text{if } S(T) > K \\ K e^{-rT} e^{rT} & \text{if } S(T) \leq K \end{cases}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Value of } P_1 \text{ at } t=T} = \max \{ S(T), K \}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Value of } P_2 \text{ at } t=T} = \begin{cases} 0 + S(T) & \text{if } S(T) > K \\ K - S(T) + S(T) & \text{if } S(T) \leq K \end{cases}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Value of } P_2 \text{ at } t=T} = \max \{ S(T), K \}$$

$$\text{Value of } P_1 \text{ at } T = \text{Value of } P_2 \text{ at } T$$

thus, no arbitrage principle implies

Value of P_1 at time 0 = Value of P_2 at time 0

$$C + Ke^{-rT} = P + S(0)$$