

# American Options and Stochastic Interest Rates

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- 3 **Do (possibly) negative stochastic interest rates** affect the optimal exercise policies of American equity call and put options?
  - Battauz et al. (2015) find that constant negative interest rates impact on American call and put options

# Novelties and Results

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- 1 A **new lattice-based approach** for the discretization of a financial market with equity and stochastic interest rates.
- 2 The characterization of the **optimal exercise policy** of American equity options under (possibly negative) stochastic interest rates;

## Section 2

# The Market



# The Market

- As in Vasicek (1977), we assume a mean reverting process for the short-term interest rate. Under a risk-neutral measure  $\mathbb{Q}$ :

$$dr(t) = \kappa (\theta - r(t)) dt + \sigma_r dW_r^{\mathbb{Q}}(t)$$

- $r(0) = r_0 \in (-1, +\infty)$ ,
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  - $\kappa$  speed of mean reversion,
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- A risky equity is traded. Under  $\mathbb{Q}$ :

$$dS(t) = S(t) (r(t) - q) dt + S(t) \sigma_S dW_S^{\mathbb{Q}}(t)$$

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  - $q$  constant annual dividend yield,
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- $S$  and  $r$  are correlated:  $\text{Cov}(dW_S^{\mathbb{Q}}, dW_r^{\mathbb{Q}}) = \rho dt$ .

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- The investor can trade frictionlessly in the following assets:
  - the lognormal risky security  $S$ ,

$$S(t) = S_0 \exp \left[ \int_0^t r(\tau) d\tau - \left( q + \frac{\sigma_S^2}{2} \right) t + \sigma_S W_S^{\mathbb{Q}}(t) \right];$$

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- a family of zero coupon bonds with maturity  $\tau$  up to  $T$ :

$$p(t, \tau) = \mathbb{E}_t^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \frac{1}{B(\tau)} \right] = \exp [A(t, \tau) - B(t, \tau)r(t)].$$

[more...](#)

# American options

- Let  $\varphi(S(T))$  be the payoff at maturity  $T$  of the option on  $S$ :  
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## Section 3

# The Quadrinomial Tree

# The quadrinomial tree

- Apply Itô's Lemma to  $Y(t) := \ln(S(t)/S_0)$ , we get:

$$\begin{cases} dY(t) &= \mu_Y dt + \sigma_S dW_S(t) \\ dr(t) &= \mu_r dt + \sigma_r dW_r(t) \end{cases}$$

where  $\mu_Y := (r(t) - q - \sigma_S^2/2)$  and  $\mu_r := \kappa(\theta - r(t))$ .

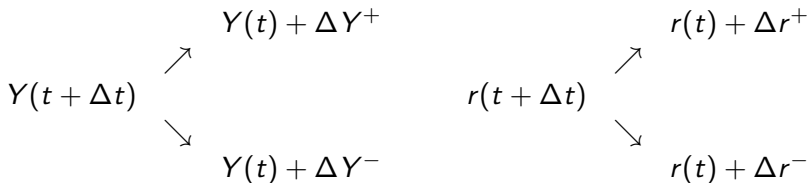
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- Consider the discretizations:



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$$(Y_{i+1}, r_{i+1}) = \begin{cases} (Y_i + \Delta Y^+, r_i + \Delta r^+) & \text{with probability } q_{uu} \\ (Y_i + \Delta Y^+, r_i + \Delta r^-) & \text{with probability } q_{ud} \\ (Y_i + \Delta Y^-, r_i + \Delta r^+) & \text{with probability } q_{du} \\ (Y_i + \Delta Y^-, r_i + \Delta r^-) & \text{with probability } q_{dd} \end{cases}$$

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- There are eight parameters to set:  $q_{uu}$ ,  $q_{ud}$ ,  $q_{du}$ ,  $q_{dd}$ ,  $\Delta Y^\pm$  and  $\Delta r^\pm$ .

# The quadrinomial discretization

- Therefore, we impose 8 conditions:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{llll}
 \mathbb{E}_t[\Delta Y] = & (q_{uu} + q_{ud})\Delta Y^+ + (q_{du} + q_{dd})\Delta Y^- & \stackrel{!}{=} & \mu_Y \Delta t \\
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- The solution is:

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$$q_{uu} = \frac{\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t + \mu_Y \Delta r^+ + \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 + \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S}$$

$$q_{ud} = \frac{-\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t + \mu_Y \Delta r^+ - \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 - \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S}$$

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with  $\mu_Y := (r(t) - q - \sigma_S^2/2)$  and  $\mu_r := \kappa(\theta - r(t))$ .

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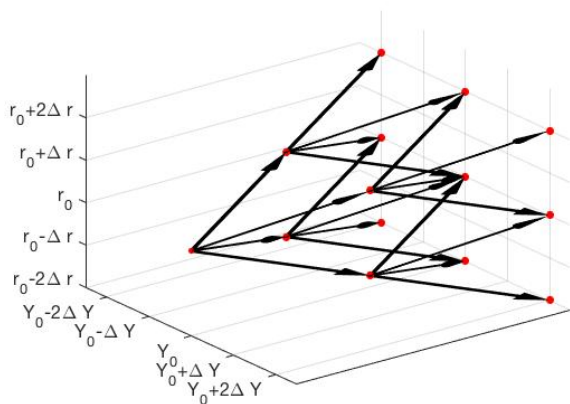
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with  $\mu_Y := (r(t) - q - \sigma_S^2/2)$  and  $\mu_r := \kappa(\theta - r(t))$ .

- $\Delta t \rightarrow 0 \implies q_{uu}, q_{dd} \rightarrow \frac{(1+\rho)}{4} > 0$  and  $q_{ud}, q_{du} \rightarrow \frac{(1-\rho)}{4} > 0$ .

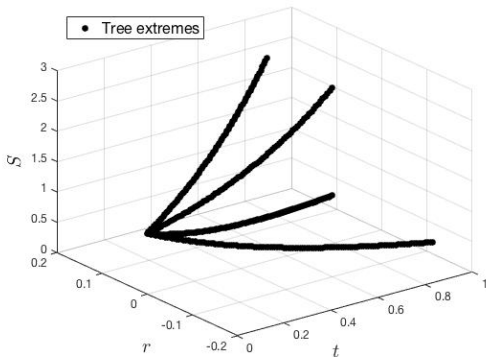
more...

# A graphical intuition





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$$T = 1, n = 125$$

$$S_0 = 1, \sigma_S = 0.05, r_0 = 0, \kappa = 0.7, \theta = 0.02, \sigma_r = 0.01, \rho = 0.5$$

- The computational complexity is **quadratic** in the number of steps. (e.g.  $125^2 = 15'625 \lll 2^{125} \sim 10^{38}$  possible final values)

# Convergence results

- Following Stroock and Varadhan (1997), based on Nelson and Ramaswamy (1990):

## Convergence of the bivariate approximation

The bivariate process defined above converges in distribution to the solution of the stochastic differential equations of  $S$  and  $r$ .

[more...](#)

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- Exploiting Mulinacci and Pratelli (1998):

## Convergence of the Snell envelope

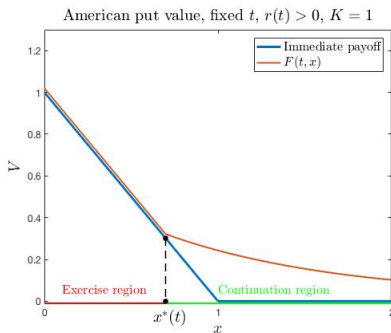
If the lattice-approximated underlying converges in distribution to a stochastic process, so does the American option value on the underlying.

## Section 4

# American Options

# The American Put Option, $r$ constant, $r > 0$

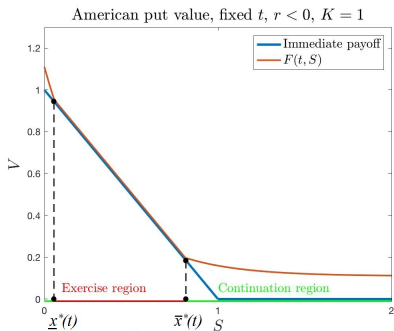
$$\pi_A(t) = \sup_{0 \leq \tau \leq T-t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} [(K - S(\tau))^+ e^{-r\tau}] = F(t, x), \quad x = S(t)$$



$$r \geq 0 \implies F(t, 0) = K$$

# The American Put Option, $r$ constant, $r < 0$

$$\pi_A(t) = \sup_{0 \leq \tau \leq T-t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} [(K - S(\tau))^+ e^{-r\tau}] = F(t, x), \quad x = S(t)$$



$$r < 0 \implies F(t, 0) > K$$

# The Free Boundaries, $r < 0$

- $\mu > 0 \iff q < r - \sigma_S^2/2$  : a tradeoff triggers optimal early exercise.
- The functions  $t \mapsto \bar{x}^*(t), \underline{x}^*(t)$  are called the **upper/lower free boundaries**.

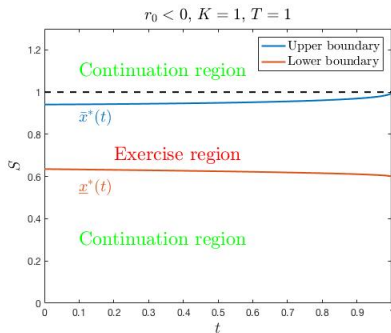
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- At any  $t \leq T$  the investor look at the current value of  $S$ ,  $S(t)$ :
  - if  $S(t) \leq \underline{x}^*(t) \cup S(t) \geq \bar{x}^*(t) \rightarrow$  **wait**
  - if  $\underline{x}^*(t) < S(t) < \bar{x}^*(t) \rightarrow$  **exercise**



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## Section 5

# Stochastic $r$

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The value of an American put option in the market with stochastic  $r$ :

$$\pi^A(t) = \text{ess sup}_{t \leq \tau \leq T} \mathbb{E}_t^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ (K - S(\tau))^+ e^{-\int_t^\tau r(z) dz} \right]$$

$$S(\tau) = S(t) \exp \left( \int_t^\tau r(z) dz - (q + \sigma_S^2/2)\tau + \sigma_S(W_S(\tau) - W_S(t)) \right).$$

# Stochastic $r$

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$V^A$  is a deterministic function

$$\pi^A(t) =: F(t, x, r)$$

where  $x = S(t)$  and  $r = r(t)$ .

more...

# Stochastic $r$ : properties of $F(t, x, r)$

- Fix  $t$  and  $r$ .  $F(t, x, r)$  is still  $\geq (K - x)^+$  and it is still decreasing and convex in  $x$ .

# Stochastic $r$ : properties of $F(t, x, r)$

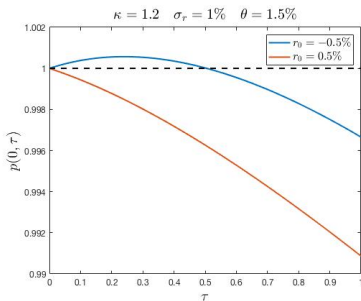
- Fix  $t$  and  $r$ .  $F(t, x, r)$  is still  $\geq (K - x)^+$  and it is still decreasing and convex in  $x$ .
- For  $x = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} F(t, 0, r) &= \sup_{0 \leq \eta \leq T-t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ K e^{-\int_0^{\eta} r(z) dz} \right] \\ &= \sup_{0 \leq \eta \leq T-t} K p(0, \eta) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $F(t, 0, r) > K \iff p(0, \eta) > 1$  for some  $\eta \in [0, T - t]$ .

# Stochastic $r$ : properties of $F(t, x, r)$

Plotting  $p(0, \tau)$



# $r$ stochastic

**Jointly necessary conditions for the existence of a double continuation region at  $t$  and given  $r(t) = r$ :**

[NC0] the current level of the interest rate  $r$  is such that

$r\alpha - \theta_\varphi(\alpha + (T - t)) > 0$  with  $\alpha = \frac{e^{-\kappa(T-t)} - 1}{\kappa} \leq 0$  where  $\theta_\varphi = \theta$  for the American put (resp.  $\theta_\varphi = \theta + \frac{\sigma_r \sigma_S \rho}{\kappa}$  for the American call);

[NC1] the dividend yield is non positive,  $q \leq 0$ ;

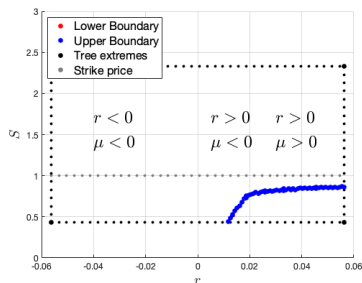
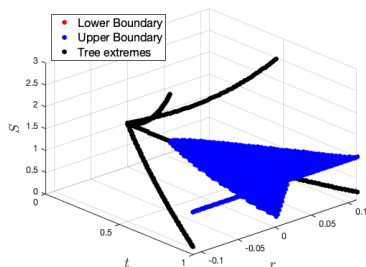
[NC2] for some  $S$ ,  $\pi_E(t, S, r) = \varphi(S)$ , where  $\pi_E(t, S, r)$  is the value of the European option, and  $\varphi(S)$  is the immediate option payoff.

more...



# American put, $r$ stochastic, $q = 2\%$

$$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$$

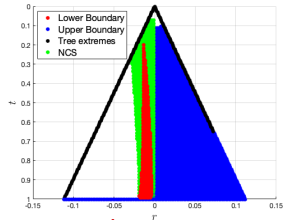
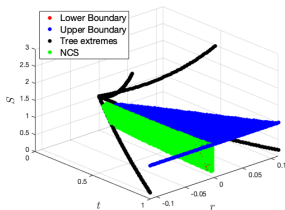
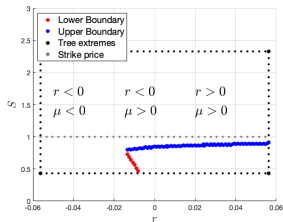
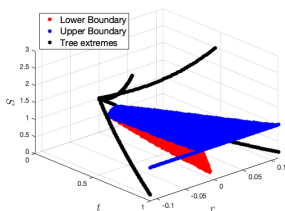


$$\pi^E = 6.565\%, \quad \pi^A = 6.973\%, \quad \pi_{r=0\%}^A = 6.570\%$$

The Early Exercise Region is increasing w.r.t.  $r$

# American put, $r$ stochastic, $q = -2\%$

$$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$$

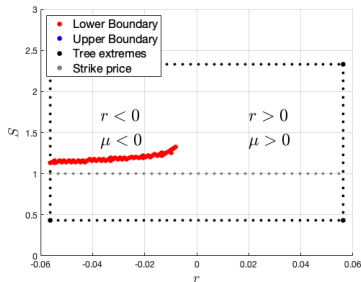
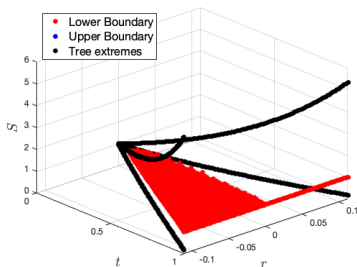


$$\pi^E = 4.763\%, \quad \pi^A = 5.240\%, \quad \pi_{r=0\%}^A = 5.030\%$$

more

# American call, $r$ stochastic, $q = 0\%$

$$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$$

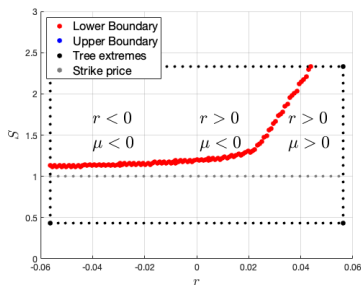
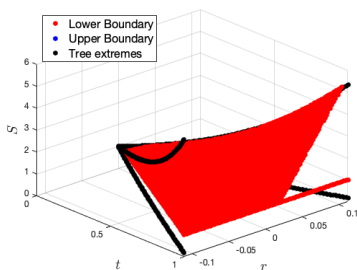


$$\pi^E = 6.339\%, \quad \pi^A = 6.339\%, \quad \pi_{r=0\%}^A = 5.979\%$$

The free boundary is increasing w.r.t.  $r$

# American call, $r$ stochastic, $q = 2\%$

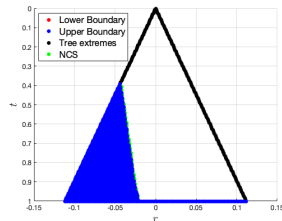
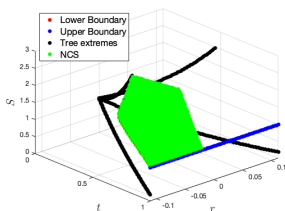
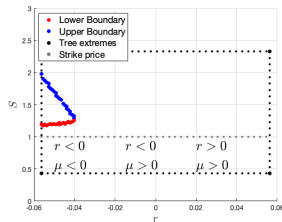
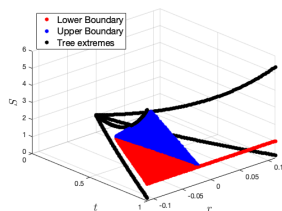
$$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$$



$$\pi^E = 5.314\%, \quad \pi^A = 5.396\%, \quad \pi_{r=0\%}^A = 5.163\%$$

# American call, $r$ stochastic, $q = -2\%$

$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$



$$\pi^E = 7.511\%, \quad \pi^A = 7.511\%, \quad \pi_{r=0\%}^A = 7.102\%$$

## Section 6

# Conclusions

# Our results:

- We developed the **quadrinomial tree**, a new lattice-based approach to discretize a financial market with a risky equity correlated with a stochastic interest rate.
- We investigated the properties of American options in the **stochastic interest rate framework**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **double continuation region**, **early exercise of American call options on zero-dividend equity**.
- We characterize the **optimal exercise policy** of such options for different sets of parameters.

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- We developed the **quadrinomial tree**, a new lattice-based approach to discretize a financial market with a risky equity correlated with a stochastic interest rate.
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Thanks for your attention!



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Thanks for your attention!

The bond pays 1 to its holder at  $T$  and its price at  $t \in (0, T)$  is labelled with  $p(t, T)$ . By no arbitrage valuation, we have

$$p(t, T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \frac{1}{B(T)} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right] = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \exp \left[ - \int_0^t r(s) ds \right] \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right],$$

that admits a closed formula solution as derived in Section 3.2.1 of Brigo, Mercurio (2007):

$$p(t, T) = e^{A(t, T) - B(t, T)r(t)}$$

where:

$$B(t, T) = \frac{1}{\kappa} (1 - e^{-\kappa(T-t)})$$
$$A(t, T) = \left( \theta - \frac{\sigma_r^2}{2\kappa^2} \right) (B(t, T) - (T - t)) - \frac{\sigma_r^2 B^2(t, T)}{4\kappa}.$$

back

# The probabilities

- Recall that  $\mu_Y := (r(t) - q - \sigma_S^2/2)$  and  $\mu_r := \kappa(\theta - r(t))$  and:

$$\begin{aligned}q_{uu} &= \frac{\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t + \mu_Y \Delta r^+ + \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 + \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S} \\q_{ud} &= \frac{-\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t + \mu_Y \Delta r^+ - \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 - \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S} \\q_{du} &= \frac{-\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t - \mu_Y \Delta r^+ + \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 - \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S} \\q_{dd} &= \frac{\mu_Y \mu_r \Delta t - \mu_Y \Delta r^+ - \mu_r \Delta Y^+ + (1 + \rho) \sigma_r \sigma_Y}{4 \sigma_r \sigma_S}\end{aligned}$$

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- Each inequality is quadratic in  $r(t)$ .

# The probabilities

- At any  $t$ , the four inequalities are satisfied when:

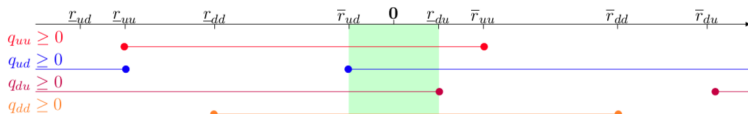
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{r}_{uu} \leq r \leq \bar{r}_{uu} \\ r \leq \underline{r}_{ud} \cup r \geq \bar{r}_{ud} \\ r \leq \underline{r}_{du} \cup r \geq \bar{r}_{du} \\ \underline{r}_{dd} \leq r \leq \bar{r}_{dd} \end{array} \right.$$

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- If  $\rho > 0$ :

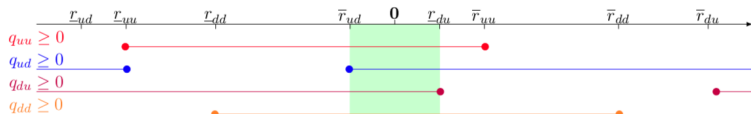


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- If  $\rho > 0$ :



- $q_{ud}$  and  $q_{du}$  may become negative!

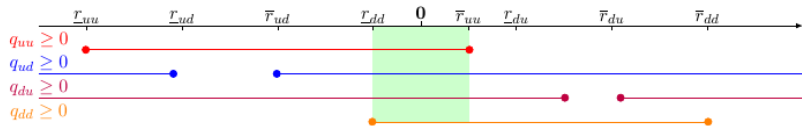


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- If  $\rho < 0$ :

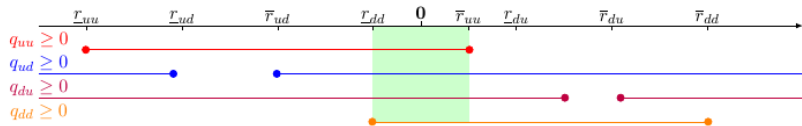


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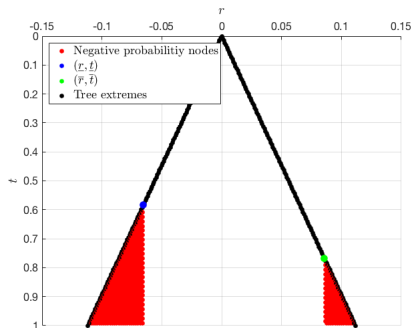
- If  $\rho < 0$ :



- $q_{uu}$  and  $q_{dd}$  may become negative!

# The probabilities

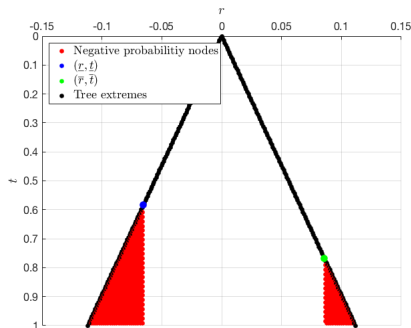
- When might negative probabilities appear?



Section at  $S = 0$ ;  $r(0) = 0$ ,  $\theta = 0.02$ ,  $\sigma_r = 0.01$ ,  $\kappa = 0.7$ ,  $S(0) = 1$ ,  
 $\sigma_S = 0.15$ ,  $q = 0$ ,  $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $T = 1$ ,  $n = 125$

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 $\sigma_S = 0.15$ ,  $q = 0$ ,  $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $T = 1$ ,  $n = 125$

- Nevertheless,  $\mathbb{Q}$ (“reaching the blue point”)  $\approx 10^{-6}$ .

# Convergence results

## Convergence of the discretization

Let **A1-A4** hold. Then  $X_j := (Y_j, r_j) \xrightarrow{d} X(t)$ .

**A1** the functions  $\mu(x, t)$  and  $\sigma(x, t)$  are continuous and  $\sigma(x, t)$  is non negative;

**A2** with probability 1 a solution  $(X_t)_t$  to the SDE:

$$X_t = X_0 + \int_0^t \mu(X_s, s) ds + \int_0^t \sigma(X_s, s) \cdot dW(s)$$

exists for  $0 < t < +\infty$  and it is unique in law;

**A3** for all  $\delta, T > 0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{\|x\| \leq \delta, 0 \leq t \leq T} |\Delta Y^\pm| = 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{\|x\| \leq \delta, 0 \leq t \leq T} |\Delta r^\pm| = 0;$$

# Convergence results

A4 let  $X_{i,j}$  indicate the  $j$ -th entry of  $X_i$  and let  $\mathcal{F}_i = \sigma(X_1, \dots, X_i)$  be the filtration generated by the discrete bivariate process  $(X_i)$ . Define:

$$\mu_i(x, t) := \begin{bmatrix} \mu_{i,1}(x, t) \\ \mu_{i,2}(x, t) \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \sigma_i^2(x, t) := \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{i,1}^2(x, t) \\ \sigma_{i,2}^2(x, t) \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\mu_{i,j}(x, t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[X_{i+1,j} - X_{i,j} | \mathcal{F}_i]}{\frac{T}{n}}$  and  $\sigma_{i,j}^2(x, t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[(X_{i+1,j} - X_{i,j})^2 | \mathcal{F}_i]}{\frac{T}{n}}$  for

$j = 1, 2$ . Let  $\rho_i(x, t) = \frac{\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[(X_{i+1,1} - X_{i,1})(X_{i+1,2} - X_{i,2}) | \mathcal{F}_i]}{\frac{T}{n}}$  and

$\rho(x, t) = \sigma_1(x, t) \cdot \sigma_2(x, t)'$  where  $\sigma_j(x, t)$  is the  $j$ -th row of  $\sigma(x, t)$ . Then, for all  $\delta, T > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{\|x\| \leq \delta, 0 \leq t \leq T} \|\mu_i(x, t) - \mu(x, t)\| = 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{\|x\| \leq \delta, 0 \leq t \leq T} \|\sigma_i^2(x, t) - \sigma^2(x, t) \cdot \mathbf{1}_2\| = 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{\|x\| \leq \delta, 0 \leq t \leq T} |\rho_i(x, t) - \rho(x, t)| = 0$$

where  $\mathbf{1}_n$  is the column vector with all of the  $n$  entries equal to one.

back

# The European Put Option

The price at  $t = 0$  of an European put option on  $S$  with strike  $K$  is equal to

$$\pi^E(0) = Kp(0, T)N(-\tilde{d}_2) - S_0e^{-qT}N(-\tilde{d}_1)$$

with:

$$\tilde{d}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Sigma_{0,T}^2}} \left( \ln \frac{S_0}{Kp(0, T)} - \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_{0,T}^2 - qT \right),$$

$$\tilde{d}_2 = \tilde{d}_1 - \sqrt{\Sigma_{0,T}^2},$$

$$\Sigma_{0,T}^2 = \sigma_S^2 T + 2\sigma_S\sigma_r\rho \left( \frac{-1 + e^{-\kappa T} + \kappa T}{k^2} \right) + \\ -\sigma_r^2 \left( \frac{3 + e^{-2\kappa T} - 4e^{-\kappa T} - 2\kappa T}{2k^3} \right).$$

# The European Call Option

The price at  $t = 0$  of an European put option on  $S$  with strike  $K$  is equal to

$$\pi^E(0) = S_0 e^{-qT} N(\tilde{d}_1) - K p(0, T) N(\tilde{d}_2)$$

with:

$$\tilde{d}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Sigma_{0,T}^2}} \left( \ln \frac{S_0}{K p(0, T)} - \frac{1}{2} \Sigma_{0,T}^2 - qT \right),$$

$$\tilde{d}_2 = \tilde{d}_1 - \sqrt{\Sigma_{0,T}^2},$$

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back



## $V^A$ as a deterministic function

In the market described above, the value of an American put option on  $S$  is of the form:

$$V^A = F(t, S(t), r(t))$$

with  $F : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+$  given by:

$$F(t, x, r) = \sup_{0 \leq \eta \leq T-t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_0^{\eta} r(s) ds \right) \cdot \left( K - x \exp \left( \int_0^{\eta} r(s) ds - \left( q + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_S^2 \right) \eta + \sigma_S W_S(\eta) \right) \right)^+ \right]$$

and  $r(0) = r$ .

# Proof of necessary conditions [NC0], [NC1], [NC2]

[NC0] for the put option  $\iff F(t, 0, r) > K$  iff

$$\sup_{0 \leq \eta \leq T-t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_0^{\eta} r(s) ds \right) \right] > 1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_0^{\eta} r(s) ds \right) \right] \geq \dots \\ & \geq \exp \left( - \int_0^{\eta} r e^{-\kappa s} + \theta(1 - e^{-\kappa s}) ds \right) = \exp(r\alpha - \theta(\alpha + \eta)) \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha := \frac{e^{-\kappa\eta} - 1}{\kappa}$ .

For  $\kappa \cdot \eta \approx 0$  the last inequality holds if

$$\left( -1 + \frac{\kappa\eta}{2} \right) (r - \theta) - \theta > 0.$$

- for  $r > \theta$  if  $T - t > \frac{2}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{r}{r - \theta}$
- for  $r < \theta$  if  $\kappa r < 0$  i.e.  $r < 0$ .

# Proof of necessary conditions [NC0], [NC1], [NC2]

Proof of [NC0] for the call option.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ (S(\tau) - K)^+ e^{-\int_0^\tau r(s) ds} \right] &= \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^S} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{K} - \frac{1}{S(\tau)} \right)^+ K e^{-q\tau} S(0) \right] \\ &\geq \left( S(0) e^{-q\tau} - K \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^S} \left[ \frac{e^{-q\tau} S(0)}{S(\tau)} \right] \right)^+\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^S} \left[ \frac{e^{-q\tau} S(0)}{S(\tau)} \right] = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^S} \left[ e^{-\int_0^\tau r(s) ds} \right] = p_\varphi(0, \tau)$$

## Proof of necessary conditions [NC0], [NC1], [NC2]

since with respect to the  $S$ -martingale measure  $\mathbb{Q}^S$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS(t)}{S(t)} = (r(t) - q + \sigma_S^2)dt + [\sigma_S \quad 0] \cdot dW^{\mathbb{Q}^S}(t) \\ dr(t) = \kappa(\theta - r(t) + \frac{\rho\sigma_S\sigma_r}{\kappa})dt + [\sigma_r\rho \quad \sigma_r\sqrt{1-\rho^2}] \cdot dW^{\mathbb{Q}^S}(t) \end{cases}$$

and Ito's formula delivers

$$d\left(\frac{1}{S(t)}\right) = \frac{1}{S(t)} \left( (q - r(t))dt - [\sigma_S \quad 0] \cdot dW^{\mathbb{Q}^S}(t) \right)$$

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# Free boundaries w.r.t. $t$

$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$

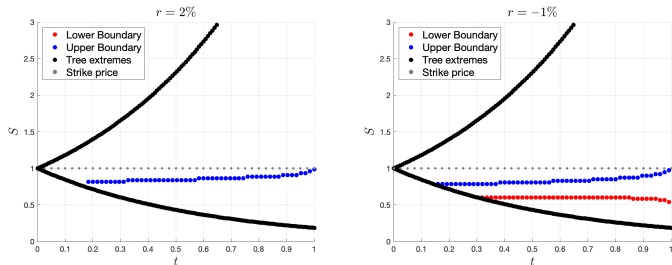
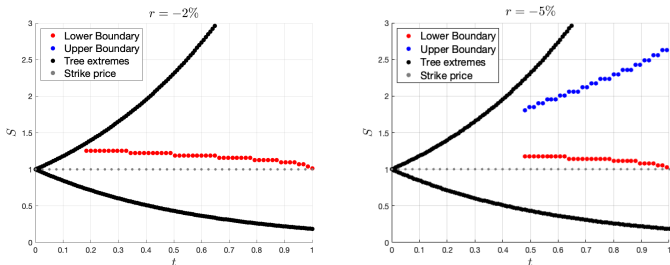


Figure:  $r$ -sections of free boundaries for the American put option. Left panel  $r = 2\%$  and  $q = 0\%$ . Right panel  $r = -1\%$  and  $q = -2\%$ .

# Free boundaries w.r.t. $t$

$T = 1, n = 125, S_0 = K = 1, \sigma_S = 10\%, r_0 = 0\%, \theta = 2\%, \kappa = 1, \sigma_r = 2\%, \rho = 0.05$

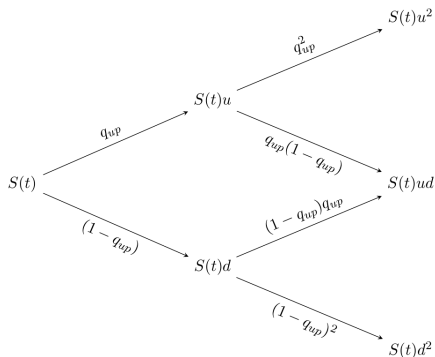


**Figure:**  $r$ -sections of free boundaries for the American call option. Left panel  $r = -2\%$  and  $q = 0\%$ . Right panel  $r = -5\%$  and  $q = -2\%$ .

back

# The binomial tree of CRR

In their seminal work Cox, Ross, Rubinstein (1979) provide a binomial discretization of the lognormal security  $S(t)$ .



where  $u = e^{\sigma\sqrt{\Delta t}}$ ,  $d = u^{-1}$ , and  $q_{up} = \frac{e^{(r-q)\Delta t} - d}{u - d}$ .