

Term-Structure Models (constant, time, interest)

- Time-dependent: exponential
- Interest-dependent: mean-reversion, squared

Name	Formula $\Delta w \sim N(0, \Delta t)$	Drift	Volatility	Interest	Note
Model 1	$\Delta r = \sigma \Delta w$	No	Constant		
Model 2	$\Delta r = \lambda \Delta t + \sigma \Delta w$	Constant	Constant		
Ho-Lee	$\Delta r = \lambda_t \Delta t + \sigma \Delta w$	Time	Constant		
Vasicek	$\Delta r = k(\theta - r) \Delta t + \sigma \Delta w$	Interest: mean-reversion	Constant		
General	$\Delta r = \lambda_t \Delta t + \sigma_t \Delta w$	Time	Time		General version of Ho-Lee
Model 3	$\Delta r = \lambda_t \Delta t + e^{-\alpha t} \sigma \Delta w$	Time	Time: exponential		Specific version
CIR	$\Delta r = k(\theta - r) \Delta t + \sqrt{r} \sigma \Delta w$	Interest: mean-reversion	Interest: squared		Improved version of Vasicek
Model 4 Lognormal	$\Delta \ln r = \Delta r / r = \lambda \Delta t + \sigma \Delta w$	Constant	Constant	Log	Log version of Model 2
Lognormal Deterministic	$\Delta \ln r = \lambda_t \Delta t + \sigma \Delta w$	Time	Constant	Log	Log version of Ho-Lee
Lognormal Black-Karasinski	$\Delta \ln r = k_t (\ln \theta_t - \ln r) \Delta t + \sigma_t \Delta w$	Interest: Mean-reversion	Time	Log	Log version of Vasicek

- 升级：先调整 drift，再调整 volatility，再调整 interest 到 Log 空间
- Drift: model 1 (no drift) -> model 2 (constant) -> Ho-Lee (time dependent) -> Vasicek (interest-dependent)
- 记 lognormal 模型时，可以认为分别是 model2, Ho-lee, Vasicek 的 log 形式

- **Cox-Ingersoll-Ross (CIR)**
 - Basis-point volatility increase with short-term rate $\sqrt{r}(t)$
 - $dr = k(\theta - r) dt + \sigma \sqrt{r} dw$
- **Lognormal - Deterministic Shift Model 4**
 - $d \ln(r) = \lambda(t) dt + \sigma dw$
 - $dr = \lambda(t) r dt + \sigma r dw$
 - $\ln r_0 + \lambda dt + \sigma dw$
 - $r_0 \Rightarrow r_0 \exp(\lambda dt) \exp(\sigma dw)$, multiplicative
- **Lognormal with Mean Reversion ()**
 - $d[\ln(r)] = k(t) [\ln(\theta(t)) - \ln(r)] dt + \sigma(t) dw$
 - not recombining: the time intervals between interest rate changes are recalibrated to force the nodes to recombine.

The Art of Term Structure Models: Drift

- **Short-Term Interest Rate Tree Construction**
- **Parameters**
 - dt small interval in year, 1 month = $1/12$ year
 - s : volatility
 - Normal distribution $dw \sim N(0, \sqrt{dt})$
- **Model 1 – No Drift**
 - $dr = s * dw$ (expected rate change)
 - Change to rate \Rightarrow parallel shift, a flat term structure of volatility
 - Limitations
 - Not flexible, only one factor, volatility is flat, parallel shift
- **Negative Interest Rate**
 - Problem is greater when interest rate is low or the time get longer
 - Solutions
 - Lognormal or chi-squared distribution
 - But introduce Skewness or inappropriate volatilities
 - Set to zero (preferred)
 - Bond less affected, but option depends on asymmetric payoff affected more
- **Model 2 – Constant Drift**
 - $dr = \lambda * dt + s * dw$
 - Positive drift \rightarrow positive risk premium
 - Limitations
 - value of drift is high.
- **Ho-Lee Model – Time-dependent Drift**
 - $dr = \lambda_t * dt + s * dw$
- **Arbitrage-Free and Equilibrium Models**
 - Arbitrage models
 - Used to quote the prices of securities that are illiquid or customized.
 - **Constructed** using on-the-run Treasury securities, **predict** off-the-run securities
 - Pricing **derivative** based on observable prices of underlying **securities**
 - Assumption: Prices are **accurate**, subject to suitability of model.
 - Equilibrium
 - Used for relative analysis
- **Vasicek Model – Mean-Reversion**
 - $dr = k (\theta - r) dt + s * dw$
 - θ : **long-run equilibrium rate** value of short-term rate assuming risk neutrality
 - $\lambda = k (\theta - r_1)$ = annual drift
 - $\theta = r_1 + \lambda / k$, where r_1 is the long-run **true rate** of interest
 - **non-recombine**
 - r_{ud} : take the average of the up-then-down and down-then-up rates
 - modify up p and down probability $(1-p)$
 - modify up-and-up r_{uu} and down-and-down probability r_{dd}
 - Equations for computing p and r_{uu}
 - Mean: $p * r_{uu} + (1-p) * r_{ud} = r_0 + k(\theta - r)dt$
 - Variance: $p * (r_{uu} - m)^2 + (1-p) (r_{ud} - m)^2 = s^2 * dt$
 - **Exponentially Decay**
 - Difference decay exponentially $\exp(-k * t)$

- Interest Rate at time t
 - $r_t = r_0 * w + \theta * (1-w)$, where $w = \exp(-kt)$
 - $r_t = r_0 * \exp(-kt) + \theta * (1 - \exp(-kt))$
 - $\theta - r_t = (\theta - r_0) \exp(-kt)$
- half life
 - $\exp(kt) = 2 \Rightarrow t = \ln 2 / k$
- **Effectiveness**
 - It produces a term structure of volatility that is **declining**. The short-term volatility is **overstated** and long-term volatility is **understated**
 - **Nonparallel** shift: Upward shift in short term rate, short-term rate will be impacted more than long-term rate
 - Natural shock: larger (smaller) k, quicker (slower) the news is incorporated; smaller \rightarrow news is long-lived

The Art of Term Structure Models: Volatility and Distribution

- **Time-dependent volatility**
 - $dr = \lambda(t) dt + \sigma(t) dw$
- **Model 3**
 - $dr = \lambda(t) dt + \sigma * \exp(-\alpha * t) dw$
 - volatility decrease exponentially to 0 when $\alpha > 0$
 - Effectiveness
 - Caps and floors
- **Model 3 and Vasicek**
 - **Same STD**: The same initial volatility and decay rate (α) = mean-reverting rate (k), the **standard deviations** of the terminal distributions are the same.
 - Same **Distribution**: If time-dependent drift = average interest rate path in Vasicek Model, terminal distributions are **identical**.
 - **Difference**
 - Model 3 parallel shift, Vasicek nonparallel shift
 - **Application**
 - Price options on fixed income instruments, model 3
 - Value or hedge fixed income or options, Vasicek (mean reverting)
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