

Computational Finance

FIN-472

Homework 4 and Take Home Exam 2

October 14, 2022

- The exercises of Take Home Exam 2 are marked by (*). They are Exercises 2 and 4.
- Please upload your solutions on moodle by Friday 28.10.2022 at 8h15.
- You should upload one PDF file containing the solutions to the theoretical exercises as well as one PDF file with the Matlab code and results you obtained for Exercises 4.
- In addition, for Exercise 4, do not forget to upload the Matlab codes to moodle. You should submit only one Matlab file for each part.
- For the theoretical exercises you can either scan your handwritten solutions or write them using a math typesetting software such as LaTeX.

Exercise 1: For the

- call option (payoff function defined as $g(x) = (S_0 e^x - K)^+$ for a certain initial price $S_0 = e^{x_0}$ and strike K), and the
- put option (payoff function defined as $g(x) = (K - S_0 e^x)^+$),

find the real values for the dampening parameter η such that $g_\eta := e^{\eta x} g(x) \in L^1 \cap L^2(\mathbb{R})$ and derive the corresponding Fourier transform $\hat{g}_\eta(z)$.

Exercise 2: (*) part of Take Home Exam 2 (*)

The *Ornstein Uhlenbeck process* is defined as a solution of the Stochastic Differential Equation (SDE)

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \lambda dW_t. \quad (1)$$

If we let

$$v(t, x) := \mathbb{E}[\exp(i\nu X_T) | X_t = x]$$

then v satisfies the PDE

$$v_t + \mathcal{G}v = 0$$

with terminal condition $v(T, x) = e^{i\nu x}$, where

$$\mathcal{G}v = \kappa(\theta - x)v_x + \frac{\lambda^2}{2}v_{xx}.$$

Suppose that

$$v(t, x) = \exp(\varphi(T - t, \nu) + \psi(T - t, \nu)x).$$

- Deduce a system of Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs) for the functions φ and ψ .
- Solve this system and write explicitly the form of the characteristic function of X_t given $X_0 = x$.
- Deduce that X_t is normally distributed. Write explicitly the mean and variance of X_t .
- Using Itô's formula solve (1) explicitly and explain why this is consistent with the results in the previous part.

Exercise 3: Using the Variance Gamma model and the following parameters

$$S_0 = 100, \quad \nu = 0.2, \quad \theta = -0.14, \quad r = 0.1, \quad \sigma = 0.12$$

- Compute the price of the European put options with maturities

$$T \in \{1/12, 1/6, 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5\}$$

and strikes

$$K \in \{50, 80, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 120, 150\},$$

using the FFT approach proposed by Carr and Madan (1999) with $e^{\alpha k}$ as damping factor. Here e^k denotes the strike of the option.

- Graph the implied volatility surface obtained in the previous part. This is the graph of the implied volatilities as a function of K and T . Recall that the implied volatility is the value $\sigma(K, T)$ such that

$$P(K, T) = P^{BS}(K, T; \sigma(K, T))$$

where $P(K, T)$ is the price of the put (in this case obtained by the FFT method) and $P^{BS}(K, T; \sigma^{BS})$ is the price of a put in the Black-Scholes model with parameter σ^{BS} . If you want, you can use the function `blsimpv` already implemented in Matlab.

- Redo a) and b), but this time use the Simpson rule instead of the trapezoidal rule. Compare the results.

Exercise 4: (*) part of Take Home Exam 2 (*)

Calibrate the Heston model using the prices of the European call options on the S&P 500 observed on January 3, 2005. The prices are available in the file `call_20050103.mat`, where the call prices, strikes, time-to-maturities (in days) and implied volatilities are in the first, second, third and fourth column, respectively. To calibrate the model, find the Heston parameters that minimize the root-mean-squared error of the differences between the Heston prices and the observed prices. For the interest rate and the price of the S&P 500, take $r = 0.015$ and $S = 1202.10$. If needed, you can use the Matlab functions `Call_Heston.m` and `fminsearchcon.m` for the pricing and optimization routine, respectively. Finally, depending on the optimization technique chosen, you can take the following initial values for the Heston parameters

$$\theta = 0.04, \quad \kappa = 1.5, \quad \sigma = 0.3, \quad \rho = -0.6, \quad V_0 = 0.0441.$$